

**Presidential Communications Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH
OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE HANDOVER OF LOOSE FIREARMS AND PRESENTATION OF ABU SAYYAF
SURRENDEREES**

[Delivered at Multi-purpose Gym, Capitol, Patikul Sulu | 26 March 2018]

Thank you for your courtesy. Kindly sit down.

I have a prepared speech, two pages. It will not solve the problem of our problem here.

The Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, the one who introduced me; the members of the Cabinet, 'yung sumama sa akin para tulungan ako; Sulu Governor Abdusakur Tan II; AFP Chief of Staff General Rey Leonardo Guerrero, he's here with us; elected and appointed officials of the Province of Sulu; officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines; nagbalik loob sa ating --- we just say that gusto natin na medyo kapayapaan na buhay muna; mga kababayan.

I came here because I've been reading it, hearing it, seeing it on TV of the number --- iilan sa ating mga kapatid nagsu-surrender this time en masse.

Just like the NPAs, it used to be na 'yung mag-surrender ka ng armas na ikaw okay, pero dalhin mo ang armas, it's taboo. Talagang bawal 'yan.

But at the rate they are surrendering maybe kung maawa si Allah, next year we might experience a better environment in the Philippines.

I came here to know if the surrenderees, 'yung nag-surrender are treated just like what we are doing with NPAs. Na pag-surrender nila, is there somebody presiding over the ceremony that will take care of them, alagaan muna sila and usually in the mainland Mindanao, binibigyan sila ng bahay. At in the meantime, are they're learning 'yung trabaho kung ano ang gusto nilang mangyari after the surrender.

Kaya naman nandito si Atty. Gene Mamondiong. Would you kindly stand up, sir? *[applause]* He is a Maranao. Dala ko siya because he is the TESDA and training na sakali kung gustong mag-aral ng bagong technique na pamumuhay maturuan kaagad.

And in the meantime, meron silang sweldo to learn a new trade so that they can better survive kung umalis na sila sa giyera.

Alam mo sa totoo lang historically, sinabi ko nga doon sa conference, ang life span ng isang Joloano, 'yung hindi dito, those guys in the hinterlands --- alam mo kung ganito ang life span on the average is about 40.

They... Kawawa eh. You know, I am also a Mindanaoan. Nasasaktan ako nitong... Wala naman talaga 'yang alam. Hindi nga nakapag-aral. Kung sabihin mo talaga ignorante, ignorante.

And they only know how to fish with limited resources and everything. And they are swayed by the fervor of I don't know. It is not religion. We are not... There is no war of religion in this country. It is not an issue. It never has been. It is not now.

Ngayon, ang ano talaga dito is parang napabayaan. And Sulu since time immemorial, it has suffered violence every now and then. Walang katahimikan ang tao sa Jolo.

Meron man sanang magagandang opportunities, napaka-gandang bayan. I've been here many times. May mga brod ako na taga-rito. I've been to Tawi-Tawi even during my student days. Ganun pa rin ang sitwasyon.

Wala akong galit sa inyo. Wala akong galit sa mga Abu Sayyaf. I understand the situation. But alam mo sa totoo lang understanding is that --- does not mean that you have to take it legally. Presidente kasi ako eh.

So if there is a way that I can help you, help me, make it through the night sa presidency ko, magpasalamat talaga ako kasi wala akong ibang hangarin kung hindi bigyan ng kapayapaan ang Moro sa Mindanao. *[applause]*

Kaya nga medyo napabilis ito nating sitwasyon ngayon. Huwag kayong magalit sa akin if I misinterpret it because I am not quite familiar. Hindi ko kayo kapa lahat ang dibdib ninyo.

Pero noon pa man eh I'm a grandson of a Maranao. Ang pagka-ano ko, intindi ko lang, in my own little way, magtribo-tribo kasi tayo dito.

Now ngayon itong BBL tignan nating mabuti. Pero it is going on in Congress, tumatakbo 'yan. But ako prangka-prangka lang, bobo ako diyan sa true sentiment.

Pero ito ngayon ang pagka --- nangangamba ako would it do well to mix it all in one pot. Meaning to say, kayo bang mga Joloano handa na mamumuno ang isang Maranao? Kagaya ng ARMM ngayon. Ayaw ko namang sabihin saktan 'yung kayo pero marami naman ang medyo nagalit sa gobyerno bakit ganun ang sitwasyon especially 'yung pera.

Huwag na tayong magbolahan. Iyon 'yon eh. It is not really distributed ideally. And that problem does not end there.

Ang totoo talaga noon, noong si Misuari ang pinili ng gobyerno to lord it over Mindanao kasi si Cory ang pumunta dito at promised him a federal system. Gusto talaga nila 'yung federal 'yung -- ang organization ng MN.

But apparently noong maplantsa na sana pagdating doon sa mainland doon na namin --- ng gobyerno. I was the mayor... I've been mayor for 23 years. Tumulong rin ako.

Pero suddenly ang MI which is more of a religious color, nag-sprout so hindi natuloy 'yung solidarity. But you know, as we are all Moro brothers eh 'di iyo 'yan, gumawa ka diyan, gumawa kami dito.

'Yan ang problema kung ngayon while the BBL is being processed in Congress. Pagdating ng panahon, who heads what? Magkanya-kanya ba o pwede bang isang ilagay mo sa isang governing authority and who would it be?

Kasi I do not see any problem, o Maranao, si Gene --- with Maranao, Maguindanao o Iranun --- parang same language 'yan.

Pero pagdating dito sa baba, mga --- pati 'yung Davao, 'yung Kagan, the Sama, Yakan, Tausug, would it also be good? Whether we do it by the regions of the tribe or iba dito and a separate governing authority. I have to fathom it.

Ibig sabihin, da-dive pa ako tapos kunin ko 'yung ilalim talaga kung ano ang solusyon.

That's why I need to talk to you and I want to finish it at this year, ngayon na.

Hindi ako mahilig niyang committee-committee ganun at saka 'yung matagalan. I want to have a result of this by the end of the year.

Hindi ko sinasabi... But at no other time na may dumaan na presidente na talagang ang puso niya talagang 'yung --- kalahating puso siya nandiyan.

I want it solved to the best way that is acceptable to everybody. Na walang magsabi ganun, "ayaw namin 'yan kasi 'pag sila, sila-sila lang."

Then it would not really promote anything and we would be back to square one. Eh kung mag-solusyon lang naman ako. Alam mo, 'pag dumaan ako dito, Presidente at walang kasolusyon, wala na 'yan.

It will remain ganito. Every president promised you everything including me. Sana naman po sa panahon ko makakaya ko.

Wala akong ibang... Wala akong galit sa mga Abu Sayyaf, wala --- okay lang.

Alam ko naitindihan ko kung ano ang nasa loob ninyo. Eh itong pobrang Moro ganun lang 'yung makuha niya and maybe in his little knowledge he hates the waste of --- ang pera. Hindi naman sila natutulungan.

Kaya ganun eh. Parang those who were left behind. 'Yung pagdaan mo, hindi mo napuna na nandiyan sila sa tabing daan.

So gusto kong malaman kung gaano talaga katindi itong naiwan na problema. Whether we can...

Hindi naman ako nag... I'm not dreaming. Only those who would want to surrender. Those who'd want to fight, wala naman tayong magawa. Ginusto mo. Sabihin mo, "huwag." Kung gusto niya, wala ka ring magawa.

Gusto mong sabihin, "sige gawin mo." Kung ayaw rin niya, wala man rin tayong magawa. But for those interested, government is ready.

Kaya nga, bahay --- malaki man itong Sulu. Hindi ako mag-condo-condo. Gawa na ako konting mga bahay-bahay. And I can accommodate you. Just give me about two years.

Less... Noong pumunta akong Basilan, nakita ko 'yung ospital and I had that money. I remember... You must have heard of it obviously. May ibinigay sa akin na 10 billion noon ang PAGCOR.

Sabi ko na --- tinanong nila kung anong gawin ko sa pera. I promised it, sabi ko, "sa Johnston." Doon sa ospital ng... Mary Johnston, Tondo.

Tapos sabi ko, "I want to repair or build an altogether a new one sa Basilan and sa Jolo." I never got really to --- because in between I was caught by the --- tied of so many work to do.

But this time at this early, nandiyan na kasi 'yung BBL. It's running in the grid sa Congress and we must have the answer by the time it is ready.

Kaya kailangan kong kausapin kayo. Gusto ko kausapin ko kayong lahat. Kung kaya ninyong magpunta ng Malacañang lahat, kausapin ko. Kung hindi, lilipad ako dito.

O maski saan ninyo gusto tayo mag-usap. Sabi ko wala man akong ano. Patayin ninyo ako? Ano naman makuha ninyo?

That's why I've been telling the communists, "you want me killed? For what?" Gusto ko ako na magluglog sa harap mo? Anong makuha mo kung patay ako? I'm more useful to you alive.

So ang akin is, we have to talk. Talk and talk until we find the solution. I cannot give you a timeline now simply because busy ako. But next week, I will expect you the whole day para mag-usap tayo. Isang araw talaga 'yan, isang araw.

Then hopefully, by the --- at the end of the day, we should come up with something that's very solid. And that's the time that I would talk to Nur and talk to Murad.

Same consultation before that thing goes out of Congress. Kailangan meron na tayo. Ano bang gawain natin nito? O magtanga-tangahan na lang tayo?

'Pag nagtanga-tangahan na lang ako ganun, eh maghanap kayo ng ibang leader, hindi ako 'yan. Look for another leader.

But at no other time is an opportunity really to get the things that you want. Wala akong drama. I'll do it for my grandson. I will do it for my granddaughter and I will do it for another grandson and their descendants. Gawain ko 'yan para sa kanila para makabalik sila dito sa Jolo.

Balang araw, 'yung mga descendants ko makapag-pasyal dito o tumira dito. Maraming resources dito eh. *[applause]*

Hindi maubusan 'tong --- properly utilized. Sabi ko sa inyo, if you start just to be industrious, 10 years time, if there is peace in the land, especially in Jolo, you will reap what you would have planted.

I will see if I can implement the --- itong barter. But, alam mo, I could not --- I do not control the finance people. Kasi 'yan si Dominguez taga-Zamboanga 'yan. 'Yung Finance Secretary natin, taga-Zamboanga 'yan.

Wala masyado akong ano pero marami 'yan sa akin ang mga Maranao, si Nabil is one. Pero we are all agreed that we have this Moro commonality and that we should help each other.

Ako, I can only provide maybe the houses, temporary relief, ba mag-aral kayo ng hanap-buhay o kung gusto ninyo 'yung sanay na --- 'yung mga kababayan natin na hindi nakarating rito, nandoon kasi takot naman kasi Abu Sayyaf nga sila, wala man akong ano diyan. Maski magpunta sila ngayon dito, lamanuhin ko lang sila.

Wala akong interes maghuli-huli ngayon ng tao. Wala akong ipakain. Maproblema pa ako. Totoo. At kung saan man sila ilagay? Sabihin ko muna, "o wala pa naman, hindi ka pa naman sintensyado, diyan ka muna ha."

Pagdaan ng barko ng Indonesia nandiyan, i-hijack. Sige na naman tawag si Widodo baka ganun...

So because you know, 'yung maliit na bagay 'pag hindi ko na-solve medyo magsugat 'yan.

Mga Malaysians pinatay, Vietnamese. Eventually, mawalaan 'yan ng kumpiyansa sa akin. Ultimately, masisira ang bayan natin, kayo kasali. It will create an uncertainty. Mawalaan ng kumpiyansa sa akin.

Kaya mo ba itong Pilipinas? Kaya mo bang kontrolin 'yang NPA? Kaya mo ba itong Abu Sayyaf na kidnap dito, kidnap doon, especially 'yang --- to decapitate a person in public?

I'd like to tell you now, if somebody is listening: Stop it. Stop it.

Tatala they are there for --- dahil lang man sa baka may pera. Kung walang pera 'yung tao, bakit mo patayin? Stop it. It does not look good. I am not angry at you but stop it kasi hindi maganda 'yan.

Ultimately, 'pag sinabi, "what caused the fall of the Philippines economically and everything?" "It's because of the Abu Sayyaf and the NPA." "Who are they?" "Moro and Kristiyanos, mga Pilipino."

Wala talaga. Meron akong bagong jets. So about 12 of them, F50. Kung talagang galit ako sa inyo, nag-planting rice na ako ng bomba sa totoo lang.

Eh kung nandiyan sila, sabihin ko, "bombahan mo 'yan araw-araw, i-planting rice mo." I never did it. I resisted it. And I will never do it.

One life, you take for another life, it does not prove anything.

Gusto ko kayong makausap para magkaintindihan tayo. Please try to do it my time. Kasi 'pag hindi ko na panahon, hindi ko na kontrolado. And even the military, I cannot say, "stop muna ang operation o slow down ka muna dito to allow an atmosphere of..."

Hindi na eh. Kung anong sabihin ng presidente 'yung panahon na 'yun, 'yun ang masusunod. Sabihin ng presidente, "t*** i**, ano 'yang eroplano ninyo? Bakit hindi niyo ginagamit? 'Di ubusin mo 'yang... You flatten the everything including the coconut trees."

But it did not happen simply because sila 'yung military, naniwala sa akin. 'Yung paniwala namin sa inyo, bigyan mo rin ng importansiya.

I am not saying, "war or go to war or go to peace." Come to me and I will listen and you also listen to me and let's have a good dialogue. So that pagdating ng BBL, alam ko ang gawin ko.

Sabihin ko, "adre hindi talaga pwede itong iyo lahat kasi ganito. Buti ito iyo diyan na lang o ganun."

Huwag mong kainin lahat kasi 'yung iba-iba ang stakes dito eh. Para magkaprangka-prangkahan, tatala madali na 'yang hilutin. Tanggapin mo na 'yan kay walang ibang solution na sa buhay natin.

There will never be a time that these opportunities would come for us given a space where we can --- saksak na lang natin sa...

Anong... What does federalism mean? It means that you have more control of your resources. Inyo na lahat. Mina, if you want to destroy your environment, fine.

Eh 'pag minahan ninyo 'yan na butas-butas doon pera, ang business lang naman namin is you give your contribution sa federal setup para pang-sweldo lang 'yan.

But if there is one thing na I would like to make it clear to you now, is when you start a new system, wobbly 'yan. Parang bata na bagong nakalakad, nakakarang --- kailangan pa ng konting ala...

I do not mean that I do not trust you. But I also mean what I say. Now, sa ayaw ninyo at sa hindi, may isang bagay talaga na hindi ko maibigay --- 'yang regional armed forces pati regional police, it stays with the commander-in-chief.

Para... Alam mo, halos independent na kanyang sarili eh. And you can easily see, kaya kita mo, mainit noon sila Pichay noon. Itong si Speaker, "aalis na lang tayo ng Mindanao." Kaya? Nakausap mo na ang Moro?

O walang problema tayo dito, tayo nagkita-kita dito. Ang Moro, pumayag ba? Ang Lumads, pumayag? 'Yan ang problema kasi may kanya-kanya ng sarili eh.

And if it's a new ano medyo ano pa 'yan lupaypay. Kaya 'yung pulis pati military, in the meantime, it's belong to one.

And I suggest that you elect a President na hindi g***. Hindi agawin ang gobyerno, gamitin ang military, he will rebel against his own government.

Huwag kayong matakot sa akin hanggang ano lang --- matanda na ako eh, matanda na ako. At wala akong bisyo niyang pag-extend nang extend ng term. Hindi lang ninyo alam gaano kapagod.

Mag-interest na lang ako 'yung apo ko maging mayor ng Davao, okay na 'yan.[*applause*] At least may dumaang mayor na Muslim.

Davao, neutral naman eh. It's because kami. Ang Davao neutral wala 'yang --- wala 'yang Muslim-Muslim, walang Moro-Moro diyan walang...

Lalo na si Inday, ayaw ng bigotry 'yan. Kasi they know, I know na part of us belongs to the Moro people.

Wala na sana tayong mag-away. Kasi itong mga generals ko, gusto na itong umuwi. 'Yung iba matanda na hindi pa nagka-anak. Wala man silang panahon. Hindi man 'yan pwede shot by shot lang. Inuman talaga 'yan.

You know, a woman is fertile only 72 hours. Eh kung aabutin 'yan puro duty, 'yung mga anak niyan isa, dalawa.

Dito, magalit ako minsan kasi may Tausug. Dito 'yon sabi ko, "ilan ang anak mo?" Ang sabi, "Sir, isa." "Spacing mo lang ha?" Eh sundalo eh, ganun, akkk.

Ngayon sabi ko, ito 'yung --- malibog na Tausug, sabi ko, "ilan ang anak mo?" Sabi niya, "anim". p***** j**.

Sabi ko, "diyan ka. Huwag niyong palabasin 'yan sa kampo ha? Diyan ka na. T*** j** ka, mag-guardya ka diyan. L***** ka, maka-damay ka ng..." Eh kung mamatay ka, sinong mag-alaga? Kalibog mo. [*applause*]

Totoo 'yan. Sabi ko, "huwag mo nang palabasin ng kampo." 'Yun siguro isang asawa lang, 'yung asawa na alam ng commander. Hindi ko pa alam kung ang g*** ilan ang... Kung may tatlong

asawa pa 'yung buang na 'yun ha ipakulong ko na lang 'yan. Diretso ka ng stockage, I*****. Hahanap ka lang ng damay ng kapwa tao.

So 'yun ang ano ko dito. Sadya ko talaga una, I just want to see if everybody is treated equally, an opportunity is also available to everybody. And the same standard, no favoritism.

'Yan lang ang... I'm pleading for peace. Talagang hinihingi ko sa inyo buong puso, kapayapaan lang para sa lahat. *[applause]*

Hayaan mo na kaming --- to deal with this NPA kasi tatapusin ko 'yan. So matindi ang away ko sa kanila kasi suplado kasi 'yan si Sison.

Akala mo mas marunong pa. Eh kung mas marunong ka, eh 'di ikaw 'yung presidente. *[applause]* T***** i***. You think you are wise then... Obviously kung tigas ka, ikaw 'yung presidente ngayon.

So 'yun ang ano ko. But we will have a series... I'm getting old but --- I tire easily but I can work... Pwede pa ito hanggang --- and after that, mag-deteriorate na ako. I'm 73. Tapos matanda na at my age.

So wala na akong hangarin. Power? Wala ng power pagka... Alam mo, ang tao 'pag wala ng babaeng kasama, wala ng power 'yan. *[cheers and applause]* Bago 'yang power patapang tapangan ganun...

Ang real power, 'yung managhoy (whistle) ang babae. *[whistles]* "Tigas ka Rody ah." 'Yun ang power. 'Yung power, temporary lang 'yang baril-barilan diyan, mamatay ka pa diyan.

Dito ka sana sa... Ako wala na. Hungaw na ang taghoy. *[whistles]* Wala na lalabas sa...

Hindi na ako magtagal kasi habulin ko sunset time, and besides, I have a very important appointment tonight also with some businessmen sa Davao, magdating sila. So tamang-tama pag-landing ko, we can have the meeting.

But I would like to call for a meeting with you. Kung makapunta kayo lahat, wala mang problema.

Malacañan, they call it a Palace, it's big pero kung magpunta this crowd kayong lahat if I invite you, kung imbitahan ko kayo lahat, pwede man, pagkain; pero ang pagtulog, magtindig lang siguro tayong lahat. *[laughter]*

But anyway, I'll be back if need be. If need be, I will be back. I just want to see...*[applause]*

Hindi na ako magtagal and I hope we will have the blessings of Allah. Salaam, salaam.

--- END ---