

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE 2019 EID'L FITR CELEBRATION**

**[Delivered at Arcadia Active Lifestyle Center in New Matina,  
Davao City | 06 June 2019]**

Shukran. Kindly sit down.

The Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and the other members of the Cabinet; Excellencies of the Diplomatic Corps; Secretary Saidamen Pangarungan; distinguished members of the Senate and the House of Representatives; officials of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao; other invited guests; ladies and gentlemen; Assalamu alaikum

I join the entire Muslim-Filipino community in thanksgiving as we mark the solemn culmination of the Holy Month of Ramadhan. [applause]

Eid'l Fitr, or the "Festival of Breaking of the Fast," is a testament [to] the strength, faithfulness and solidarity of our dear Muslim brothers and sisters across the nation and around the world.

Indeed, this important occasion—marked by deep devotion [to] prayer and unqualified dedication to religious obligations—serves as an inspiration for the rest of us to be firm and committed to our own convictions, religious or otherwise.

To our Muslim brothers and sisters, I hope that this time of fervent [communion] with God that you will not just be strengthened spirituality, but also enrich your relationships with your fellowmen, especially those who are weak, oppressed and marginalized.

May this be an opportunity for the practice of generosity, tolerance, and love for our fellowmen regardless of their religious belief,

political affiliation, socio-economic status, gender,

ethnicity or physical condition.

I urge the entire nation to contemplate upon the true meaning of Ramadhan. May this time of joy remind us of our shared pursuit to establish lasting peace and stability across the country, especially in Mindanao.

Allow me to take this moment to assure you that this administration will endeavor to preserve the fragile peace that we have built in this region that I call home.

Allow me to take this moment to assure you that through the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos, we will consistently uphold the rights and welfare of all Muslim Filipinos and for that matter for all Filipinos. [applause]

Any form of violence against the Muslim community or any other tribe especially those arising from religious extremism, hatred,

discrimination and misguided beliefs—will never be tolerated

and will be dealt with by the full force of the law. [applause]

With the creation of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao—a campaign promise that we delivered—we can work more closely and efficiently with our Bangsamoro brothers and sisters in our pursuit to foster a more harmonious and meaningful relationship among all ethnic groups in the region.

Let us keep in mind that at the heart of the Islamic faith and teachings of Allah is the most important or are --- the sacrifice, the value of charity, the reverent duty to look [out] for each other, and one would look out for himself.

I hope that despite our differences, each of us will realize that we share the same desire to lead brighter and better lives filled with optimism and acceptance.

Let today's joyful celebration remind us that we need to work in solidarity with one another so that we can achieve a common dream for a more peaceful, just and prosperous Philippines.

Eid Mubarak! [applause]

I'd like to add two things to my speech. First is about the money of the HU --- the housing department that was used in the --- to finance the pilgrimage of our Muslim brothers and sisters to make the Hajj.

Second is about the --- well, to enhance that religious spirit in the hearts of all Filipinos.

I would like to address myself to the audit commission. You know there are a --- there's the basic culture of the Malay, tayong lahat, we all come from the Malay race.

It's just that Mindanao was evangelized by the Muslim missionaries but more than 80 to 100 years ahead of Magellan.

When Christianity came and took hold somewhere in Leyte, Christianity also began to creep into our country. We are one in blood but we have different religious faiths. And we accept that. And we accept that you are entitled to --- to believe what you want. And even that to believe in God. That's a democracy. And we have adopted that kind of democratic practices and institutions.

Then either believe or not believe that's your problem because after all when you die you face Allah and make the accounting.

Well there's always a hell and the heaven. There are two parts, choose the one you'd like to tread in. But ito hong nangyari sa ginamit 'yung pera, I would like to tell you the history of Davao. As said by the Secretary of --- brod ko --- they are both classmates --- si Pangarungan pati si Medialdea.

I would like to --- sabihin ko na huwag mong masyadong pakialaman 'yan. Because as a matter of fact, there is a fund that sets aside to enhance the travel of our brothers and sisters for the pilgrimage to fulfill a lifetime dream.

Alam mo sa totoo lang --- maybe a part of my Muslim character says that 'yung pilgrimage sa Hajj mas importante 'yan para sa mga Muslim kaysa isang mansion. [applause]

You can forget about the housing there that are being planned by government. But to the individual Muslim believer, limang mansion na ibigay ng gobyerno, but a simple token of generosity para makapunta siya makapag-Hajj, mas importante sa kanya 'yan. [applause]

Sometimes you have to take into consideration really the subculture. May culture man tayo --- the Filipino, the Malay culture. But we have a subculture of the different tribes even in the matter of taste, 'yang recipe ng pagkain. Hindi tayo magka...

So ganun. Understand that. So I am asking COA to reconsider. Ano ba naman 'yang 5 million? Actually that 5 million is worth billions in terms of your kind, I said generosity, to finance the poor people na Muslim para makapag-Hajj. [applause]

Sabihin mo anong importante sa'yo? 'Yung bahay mo o 'yung Hajj? And he would readily say: 'Sa Hajj at gusto ko Mayor na magpunta ako doon at sana kung ibigay ni Allah doon na sana ako mamatay at ilibing.' [applause]

If you can understand the culture, then we'd have less friction in the society. 'Pag naintindihan ninyo 'yan. Kasi ang COA, 'pag hinabol mo 'yang 5 million na 'yan then...

I started as mayor in 1988. Pati 'yung panahon ni Inday until now, meron kaming Hajj funds talaga. Ang aking hinihingi sa mga kapatid kong Muslim na walang pera itong Muslim na ito at matanda na. Kasi 'yung mga bata, kaya pa ninyong magkayod at magkaroon ng pera at makapunta sa Mecca.

'Yung matatanda na, 'yung sabihin mo, 'matanda ka na, huwag kang pumunta doon, baka mamatay ka.' ""Yan ang hinihingi ko Mayor, na gusto kong pumunta ng Hajj at kung swertehin ako at ibigay ni Allah, sana doon na ako mamatay."  
[applause]

'Yan ang intindihin ninyo. Ngayon, I kept on sending, I started with 10, then 20. Since 1988 and Inday is doing --- is still doing it. Now ngayon kung ipa-reimburse mo 'yan, saan man ako maghanap ng pera? Eh 'di magpakulong na lang ako. Over the years, it's not a financing of a religious journey. Do not take it in that sense, that there is a separation of Church and State. Take it as a pacification campaign for after all natives man tayo dito and we were subjugated.

And because of the religious element, it has thrown us back into the medieval stage of slaughter. 'Yan ang totoo diyan. Kaya magrespeto tayo. At kung anong ikapaligaya, eh tatal naman sinasabi ko, 'Make sure that he is old or he...'

Because ang punta niya doon, do not worry he will go there and he will pray that he will be buried there, that he will die.

Kuha ninyo? So ngayon, sabihin ko kay COA, huwag mong presuhin 'yan si Del Rosario kasi kung presuhin mo na --- pati ako mademanda, pati si Inday.

'Pag nademanda ang anak ko pati ako, mapreso ako, mag-revolt kami ulit dito sa Mindanao. Kayo ang bahala. [applause]

Then I will start again to gripe against the historical injustice committed against the Moro people. Just the same. It's all subjugation and imperialism of the son of a b\*\*\*\*\* of those Westerners.

Sila man 'yan. They went to Indonesia, the Dutch, the British went to Malaysia, Americans claimed the Philippines. We were all subject to a cruel foreign domination.

Kaya ako, you have to prick into my mind why sometimes I react against certain acts of Westerners which I think is not acceptable to the few Filipinos.

Gaya ng basura. It's a matter of respect. Kung gawain mo lang akong basurahan dito, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*. At akala nila nagbibiro ako. Sabi ko sa kanila, isauli ko 'yan 'pag hindi tayo nagkaintindihan, I will declare war.

Akala naman siguro nitong --- well of course sa media --- braggadocio, hambog ba, hubris. Hindi man nila ako kilala.

Kasi kung walang barko, magkarga ng basura, ang navy ang tawagin ko, Philippine Navy, as Filipinos insulted we will... Karga mo 'yang basurahan, pumunta tayo ng Canada, ihulog mo diyan sa pantalan nila.

And then of course, the navy and the police will start to arrest my navy men. Baka magbarilan pa. 'Di kung magbarilan, o 'di mag-giyera tayo. Hindi naman ako papayag nang ganun lang.

Kaya hindi nila naintindihan 'yung continuation ng story. Whether I like it or not, you accept your garbage because I'm going to send it to you and I will just discharge it in your water.

Arestuhin ninyo 'yung sundalo ko, giyera tayo. 'Yan ang ibig kong sabihin. Hindi nila nakuha. Lalo na ang mga --- you know hindi ko lang --- mga Muslims, mga Tausug. Hindi tatanggap ng insulto 'yan, patayan talaga 'yan.

So mabuti't na lang hindi ako na-Tausug, na-Maranao ako kasi 'yang Maranao medyo areglo-areglo lang. [applause] Kasi Tausug 'yan... Masahihin mo na lang.

And the second is before I end: Bakit maging illegal when as a matter of fact there is a 15 million annually set aside for the Mecca journey? So kung merong piso, dalawang piso, eh 'di allow na 'yan.

Ngayon, kung 5 million, if it's just a matter of amount and there is no prohibition, 'yan ang sabi ko nga eh.

Marami diyan dito sa gobyerno, secretaries, mga generals, mga --- [unclear] diyan sa mga circular, circular. Eh COA circular, better --- for not any purpose, sabihin ninyo. Pero kung diyan nagasto lang at it was allowed because magdaan man 'yan sa akin, and it is a practice which is good, it is a practice that we should enhance, a practice that should be continued.

So probably, mag-classmate man kayo, eh di mag-usap na lang kayo siguro, Secretary. Maliit masyado 'yang 15. Hanggang Libya ka lang niyan, eh giyera doon. Hindi makaabot ang pamasaha o Syria. Naloko na.

'Di marami na akong... May mga workers pa doon. Tapos magpunta ng Hajj, i-hostage pa. Magulo na 'yan. Kaya siguro dagdagan mo nang konti. [applause]

If there's a hypothetical... Kung nagkaroon tayo't nakabigay tayo ng 15, but that's too small. Pang-travel agency lang 'yan. Hindi ito travel agency. Hindi naman 'yan pupunta doon magpa-picture kung saan-saan. Magpunta lang 'yan doon sa Mecca to fulfill a religious mandate. After that mag-uwi na man 'yan. 'Di na 'yan --- hindi na 'yan sila ano. Para sa kanila 'pag natapos ang Mecca, wala na silang problema. Mamatay man sila bukas, wala na 'yan sila. So ganon 'yan. So siguro mga 15. Maybe this...

You want peace? All of you, you want peace Filipinos, you want peace? [Crowd: Yes] Oh let us invest on peace. Gumastos ka. [applause] Hindi mo binibili dito. Tinutulungan mo lang ang kapwa mong Pilipino na ang relihiyon Islam. Let us invest on peace.

So next year you prepare. By ano na tayo, by tribe. So it's a... [applause] Sino 'yung governor doon at sino 'yung --- pati 'yung opposition. Para 'yung opposition... 'Di naman sinasali. Eh lahat ng Muslims. So 'yung opposition para tabla, o opposition. Siguro 1 million na opposition tapos 1 million. Ilan ba ang tao sa Jolo? Mag-abot ng 2 million? Kay kasali na ang taga-Sabah diyan.

So ano lang, it should be by tribe. Start with the major tribes then parang... [applause] You go down tag-ano na lang sila. Maybe... I'll give you an estimate but huwag ninyong ubusin. Magdaan kayo ng Dubai para mag-shopping. [laughter]

Bakit? Kristiyanos lang marunong mag-shopping? Mas grabe 'tong mga 'to. Pumunta ka ng... Ah when was the last time...? Malaysia? Sino ba ito, si... Grabe.

So ang pangatlo itong Bangsamoro Law. Ang nagtiyaga talaga nito mga military. Military sila noon, hindi na sila military ngayon. But I'd like to thank the people who

really toiled ng --- 'yung nagpapawis, makiusap kung ano na lang ginagawa. Of course, you have Dureza for all of these years he was there.

Then the guy who really just jumpstart it again, si General Galvez. 'Yung sa... [applause] Sir, salamat for your... Kinausap niya lahat para magkaroon tayo ng kapayapaan. Now ngayon... It has...

[Gutom na kayo?] [laughter] Ah hindi pala kayo nag-meryenda? Sinabi mag-meryenda muna doon. You can eat while I talk. Go ahead if you are hungry. Do not mind. Skip the per --- 'yung ano. Sige, mag --- magdala ang... Mag-umpisa na kayo.

May isa pa akong... Ano ba... It's about... Magkain na tayo eh. It's enough that napasalamatan ko sila. And the entire military establishment and the police, you have to thank them for the peaceful election. Ang sinabi ko naman diyan sa Smartmatic, even if there is one vote that is wasted hindi maganda 'yan. It will foment and it will generate...

Sabi ko maghanap kayo nang bago na walang palpak ni isang boto. Kapag mag --- may isang Maranao nagsige yawyaw diyan, hindi na magtahimik 'yan lalo nang madaya. 'Nanalo man kami bakit ngayon wala kami sa pwesto? O hindi na pwede ito. Patayan na. Sige mag-revolt ka na lang, Mayor. Magsali kami sa revolutionary government namin. Eh paano 'yang mga generals? Hindi naman papayag. Makulong tayong lahat.'

Ah better just... We pray to Allah, it's the same God. Me, I believe in Allah. I believe in God. So huwag lang nila akong anuhin. Basta ako may Diyos ako and I pray for all especially for my nation and for my...

Alam naman ninyo. Sobra... Ang anak kong isa Maranao pag-asawa ng Maranao, Maguindanao. Ito si Rigo, Maguindanao ang babae ngayon si... Anak ni --- o apo ba 'yan. Puro na --- kumpleto na ako. Maranao, Maguin... Badjao na lang. [laughter]

Salamat. Thank you. [applause]

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