

Presidential Communications Operations Office

Presidential News Desk

SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DURING OATH-TAKING CEREMONY OF LIGA NG MGA BARANGAY (LNB) NATIONAL BOARD OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

[Delivered at Malacañan Palace | 19 September 2018]

Kindly sit down. Salamat.

As usual two pages. So I can finish this in about a minute and a half, and then you can have your merienda and I go home.

Kung gusto ninyo ganoon kadali. Pero wala naman sigurong typhoon. It's a little bit kind of a rainy day.

Presidential Adviser for Political Affairs Francis Tolentino, si Tolentino is with me because I like the way he is, his character and everything. And if by chance he would run again for senator, you would do well --- sa inyo hindi sa amin --- you would do well if you get him as one of the senators. Mahusay magtrabaho. *[applause]*

Mabait na tao. You have dealt with him. He is very soft-spoken and... Walang --- wala ngang --- walang babae, wala ngang asawa eh. *[laughter]* So... He has a very good persona. If you compare me to him, I would pale in comparison. Para akong Pale Pilsen. *[laughter]*

Our newly-elected Liga ng mga Barangay National Board of Officers and National Chapter Presidents, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

I would have wanted really to read. But I said I could finish this in about... Para namang nahihiya rin ako sa inyo na ganun na lang ipatawag ko kayo dito tapos in about a minute and a half, I say my goodbyes.

And I think not really inappropriate but something more of taste. Ganun. Bigyan mo namang konting partida.

Now you know that you govern the most basic unit in government, the barangay. And your word or words or collective voice or voices may have a long time and permanent and long range effect on mga kasama ninyo.

But one thing is very clear to me, that without the help --- without the assistance and with the active governance of barangay captains, municipal mayors, mayors, wala talaga --- walang mangyari dito. Prangkahan ko kayo. And remember my words, remember this day na may dumaan dito na walang ibang sinabi kung hindi ito lang.

As long as we are not able to impose law and order, magulo ang ating bayan; and for as long as corruption will not stop, I tell you, forget about dreaming a place for our children and their

children in the years to come. We may not even be able to reach the economic level now of Malaysia and Indonesia.

Ask me how many years? Seven to 10, sa level nila ngayon. But at that time to what level sila, where would they be? Ah that's something I really cannot answer. But for the Philippines just to have the roads and everything paved and 'yung just like when you go to Indonesia, everything there is --- pati Malaysia.

But let me also give you one little bit of caveat, alam mo kasi 'yung Pilipino mahilig sa minsan siraan. Tayo minsan ang Pilipino... Noon number two tayo sa Japan, then we became third, fourth, fifth, and now second to the last to Bangladesh or is it Myanmar?

Alam mo sa totoo lang and I'd like --- want this to repeat because I cannot get an audience as one with you, so I have to repeat it time and again. But maybe you can also explain to our people na actually this is not entirely with --- na kasalanan natin.

Right after the war, everything was scrambling for money for rehabilitation and to rebuild one's country. We were part of it, we were part of the World War.

Ang problema ang Diyos hindi siya masyadong fair. Hindi ko na... Hindi ako galit sa Diyos, naniniwala ako sa Diyos. Pero 'yung fairness --- that God is fair, maybe a little bit something is overstated there.

Alam mo kung bakit? Merong mga bansa dito sa Southeast Asia na ibinigay na wala sa atin, and you know what? It's oil. Wala tayong oil eh. And oil is everything.

You look around pati itong kaharap kong micropono, lahat papel, baso, these are products of machines and equipments. And those machines and equipments are run by energy, coal noon, bunker fuels, which is really oil and gasoline and everything. Wala tayo niyan eh.

So sila, medyo mabilis ang kanila because they didn't have to buy it. So they could pave their highways and feeder roads, feeder routes and everything.

I've been to Indonesia, Malaysia, motor lang. And you enjoy it because it's an endless road na -- - 'yan ang --- that gives the pleasure of a --- nagmo-motor, 'yung walang katapusan na banking na paganun sa bukid. Wala tayo niyan 'coz we could not afford it.

And it takes about almost a third of what we spend for the day moving the EDSA motor vehicles there and everywhere in the Philippines. Whether it's an airplane, a ship or a motorcycle, lahat, it's all oil and wala tayo niyan.

So talagang mahina tayo. But with our slow moving economy plus a corruption na unabated, ah patay talaga.

Ako, I make this bold prediction because really I wanted --- I offered in a command conference kasi aside from the 'yung Nayong Pilipino, which I had to work on it that day, I... Maya't-maya dumating na naman 'yung papel sa medisina ng military na ghost deliveries, talagang pumutok ako.

If this is what I expect from people like you guys, from the Filipinos na... P***** i** sabi ko, "mag-resign na nga ako." You are not worth my toil. Sabi ko ang buhos na ibinigay ko sa trabaho ko... I'd rather give it to somebody else maski isang tao, if I can help. If I cannot help this country by cutting down on graft and pati 'yung indolence ng Pilipino, talagang...

And that's why I have this penchant of getting military guys. Kasi 'pag sila sinabi ko, "gawain mo 'yan..." It's not because I am getting them because I am afraid of them, I want to ingratiate myself with them.

Far from it, I was elected as president by the people not by the military, not by the police. I have my own mandate. Ang pulis meron silang trabaho, it's defined by law, so thus the military.

And so ang akin bakit, why? Because my orders are followed and followed correctly. 'Pag sinabi ko na, "gawain mo 'yan mamadalian", tapos sabi ko, "walang corruption," meron talaga, walang corruption. Be it in Marawi si General Del Rosario, Boracay si General Cimat --- they are all my friends. Because at one time or another, they all sojourned in Mindanao during their tour of duty before retirement.

So 'yan sila ang nakukuha ko. I just conferred with the Bureau of Customs right now. Hindi 'yung sabihin mo ano... I'm not really desperate --- that desperate sa bureaucracy. But sa bureaucracy kailangan mo pang mag-debate and they will debate with you even.

Just to get through 'yung what you want. Kaya nauubos talaga ang pasensiya ko. P***** i**. Ang military kasi 'pag sabi mo, "huwag ka nang magtanong, basta gawain mo." Gawa. Pagkatapos if there's anything wrong, then we will answer.

Ako naman, for as long as the money... Gaya nitong COA, ito si Heidi sumagot siya. I'd like to tell her: You know, when I was a prosecutor, fiscal ng Davao, city fiscal ako, assistant city fiscal, I was at the same time a special Tanodbayan prosecutor.

Wala pa naman itong Ombudsman noon eh. Tanodbayan pa 'yan. I was the one of the two. The other one was Judge [Natates?]. But before he became a judge, he was a prosecutor somewhere in Zamboanga. And we used to prosecute cases, originating from Mindanao. Kaya nga for safety reasons or whatever, nandito ko.

Alam niyo 'yang circular-circular, I have seen in a matter of months the same circular convicting itong mga ano --- you know in the provinces.

Pagka sinabi ng mayor, "Pirmahan mo 'yan." Pipirmahan 'yan ng treasurer pati auditor. But when the bomb ticks off, 'yang mga mayor, mga gobernador, wala na. Ang maiwan 'yung walang --- and I could see them there... Mga kilala ko pa.

"Oh what are you here for?" "Mayor, pamasaha lang pag-uwi." They are in barong in tatters.

Iyon ang ibig kong sabihin. Hindi niya --- hindi niya ako ma-lecturan (lecture) niyan because I was ahead of her by a mile, diyan sa understanding the nitty-gritty sa...

Iyong minsan 'yung circular. You convict a person by a circular? Not even by a law. And it's a violation of circular. A circular, what is its dimension? That it reach the level of both the national and local? Umaabot ba sa atin 'yan pagsabi sa demanda ng circular?

Kaya 'yun ang ano ka. I was speaking of the people who cannot defend themselves properly. I was not criticizing ano...

So 'yung doon sa Benguet, sabi nitong ano --- because they have to comply with certain regulations. Sabi ko, "To hell with COA. Do not listen to them just do what I'm telling you to do. I will answer them."

Basta dumating lang 'yung pagkain, 'yung every peso was spent for the food and anything that is, kailangan ng tao, ako na ang mag-sagot diyan. Ako na mismo.

Just like the military, you just do your duty. 'Pag nasabit kayo, I will answer for it. Do not bother to worry about anything. Iyan ang trabaho ng Presidente kasi.

So I'd like to address myself to you, 'yung mga barangay captains, they are the basic. Once bumigay itong barangay captain sa droga, sa criminality, or begin to hire those criminals there, roaming around the provinces; and 'yung iba, pumunta ng droga, naging bata-bata ng mayor, droga rin. Marami 'yan sila at marami na rin silang patay.

P***** i** ninyo sinabi ko na sa inyo. Tinawag ko 'yan sila dito minsan, dito. Three sets ang mga municipal pati city mayors. Governors, kokonti lang so one session lang.

Wala akong sinabi sa kanila, ako po'y nahihiya. Ako po'y mayor lamang noon. At I seemed to be talking like somebody nananakot sa inyo. But I have to do this because a lot of you here guys are into it.

Sinabi ko sa kanila, "P***** i** ninyo, papatayin ko kayo." Iyong hindi nakinig, pasensya. Ay ginusto mo eh.

You know, drug it ain't just a joking matter about a plastic sachet. Drugs is being operated by the triad, Bamboo triad gang of Asia.

There is no more laboratory dito o if ever meron, kokonti na lang. Kasi dito alam nila papatayin ko talaga sila. Literally.

Alam nila hindi ako nakikinig ng mga p***** i**** human rights, human rights. And I just said, "If you destroy my country, I will just have to kill you or allow my country to be destroyed." That's what I said when I became mayor of Davao City.

I'm going to build a city comfortable enough to live. I know that we have problems, so many problems. But to make it comfortable at least to move around safely, children, I'll try to do it.

Look at Davao, you have been to Davao, ayan si barangay captain. Maski kami ni barangay captain, sabihin ko sa'yo nag-engkwentro kami niyan. Now he was running a masiao. Sabi ko

sa kanya, "Stop it." Hindi siya naghinto. So nagkita kami sa isang lugar. Hindi na lang ako magsalita pero talagang... Sabi ko, "Ikaw eh."

And then we became good friends. Maybe nakita niya that it was not really all along for me. I really do not care kung sa akin. Huwag lang ninyo akong galawin. P***** i**.

I mean I can --- I can well defend myself and if it's time to die, I can die anytime. Pero 'yung mga tao, sisirain ninyo, sisirain ninyo 'yung bayan ko, gawain ninyo 'yung mga g*** 'yung mga anak ko. And even the Filipinos na who work their a** to death, go to somewhere else outside of the country.

They know that they will be raped there, they will be abused, that they will starve, and they are in agony most of the time and yet they endure everything --- human degradation, humiliation.

Alam mo kung bakit? Dahil kailangan na nila ng pera magpadala dito para mapag-aral ang anak nila.

Tanungin mo 'yung barangay captain na 'yon. Kung magpatay ako ng tao, ganun na lang ang sinasabi ko, p***** i** mo, i**** ka. Hindi na lang ninyo nalaman ang nanay pati... Iyan o...

When a father abandons a family to go to somewhere else to work and is not seen by the family for almost three years, that family is dysfunctional.

If the mother and father goes out to work and leave their children with their neighbors, mga tiyahin, so that's why the children are raped because their mother is not there.

The human frailty is everywhere and they grow up to be destroyed. Their souls are badly bruised.

Tapos ganun na lang ang inabot ng pawis ng tatay pati nanay. Tapos gaganunin lang ninyo ang Pilipino, ang sakripisyo niya.

I will kill you. Kung hindi makaganti 'yan sila para sarili nila, ako. I will exact justice for them. Maniwala, matakot diyan ako sa...

Kaya 'yung mga barangay captains, you should start there. Malaman ko nang malaman eh.

If there's something for sale, hindi mo matago 'yan. Hindi mo matago 'yan. Pagdating pa doon and the most vain of all vain. Tapos 'yung mga pera ilagay pa parang --- wallpaper. Tag-500 gawain mong wallpaper.

Such an obscene... Ganun na lang ang ginawa sa mga p***** i** dahil sobra-sobra 'yung pera. Ginagawa nalang wallpaper.

Kaya lahat mga tao diyan sa Ozamiz, pinapatay. Ay... Pati pulis pinapatay. When he started killing the police and the military, so it's about time that you should be stopped. And I will stop you. And so with the other mayors.

Akala kasi nitong mga u*** na 'to, they get the armor of invincibility because you hold the position.

Well, I'd like to tell everybody, hindi kayo, matino kayo, hindi naman kayo manalo --- that no amount of --- ma-congressman ka, governor ka, ma-mayor ka, do not f*** it because you will lose...

Ako, 'yan lang ang ano. And by the way, what did I promise you during the last election and even during the debates --- presidential debates? Anong sinabi ko?

I knew that there was a time limit. I said I've been doing trial work since about 10 years ago, for 10 years also. It's always a time constraint. So alam ko hindi talaga ako matatapos bigyan mo ako ng minute and thirty seconds.

'Yung mga ganun, kalokohan 'yan. For the greater glory 'yan sa mga networks just to make money out of the advertisement. And you would know --- problem you would've noticed it that every time there's an intermission, wala akong side, mga advertisement because I could not afford it. And yet I won. But that's another story.

Anong pinromise (promise) ko? What did I promise you? I was the first to say, "I'm through, Your Honor."

I said I will try, try to stop corruption. I will go after drugs. 'Yang dalawa 'yan marami na ang nadisgrasya diyan. The latest was a military general.

Then sabi ko I will not tinker with the finances of the state. Walang papeles na dumadating sa akin dito sa Malacañan o sa bahay ko doon sa across the river. Walang transaction ng MRT, LRT, reclamation, airport. It does not reach my table. It begins and ends with a Cabinet member.

Magtanong kayo ng Cabinet member. I have not called anyone since I became President. Sa telepono? Hintayin ko kayo. Kung hindi, ipatawag ko kayo, "tara dito tayo mag-usap". I never use the telephone.

Karamihan --- if at all, if there is something... Hindi naman derogatory but more of --- hindi rin offensive. Again, the word inappropriate --- eh 'yung mga kausap ko puro babae 'yan, totoo lang.

Honestly, if there's a recording, they can go and open it up. You know, the usual talk between a man and a woman. You don't talk about the prices of the mines now because it's going down or up? You don't talk about shares of stock, you talk about Biology. 'Yan lang man ang pag-usapan natin kung...

So tapos sinabi ko I will try to talk to the enemies of the state. So I struck a deal with the Bangsamoro. It's still pending. We will have a plebiscite coming up.

Then Misuari is --- he bides his time. I said, "We will talk at the proper time." I said, "Okay, thank you."

Si Sison... Well, I do not think that we'll ever have a peaceful negotiation with Sison. Kasi nakikita ko at the end of the narratives there or exchanges of notes and everything, in the different parts of the --- maraming discussions, issues diyan eh, it really boils down to one thing, it's almost like a coalition government.

At least sa economic side which I think I am not allowed to bargain with because I am not authorized to do it. Sovereignty is not mine. It's the people's. And even just to put it in writing is already wrong.

Sovereignty can be... Well, that is if you intend to rebuild a new political structure and put it in abeyance that could perhaps be possible. But kung sabihin mo for me to do it in a very exploratory way, that is already a violation. I don't think I can do it.

And I said we will have --- we'll just build and build at my time kung anong abutin ng pera. EDSA --- sinabi ko sa inyo I'll try.

So ang hiningi ko noon, I could be given emergency powers. Emergency powers simply means that you can buy anything without a bidding. And it was given to Marcos and Cory during their time about the energy. Itong EDSA, I cannot repair it with saliva. I need to spend. I need to have money.

But noon pa lang, in the early days of my administration, when it was floated around, I was informed that the most Congress were not --- members --- ayaw nila kasi malaki daw 'yung pera, baka mapunta nang graft and corruption.

Well, instead of calling me or calling my representative or coming here to talk with me, what are you --- what are the institutions that you will be borrowing from? Magkano ba ang da --- at what is this --- what are the phases, second, first? Ano ba ang... "Ah baka maubos ng corruption."

Kaya sabi ko, "It's okay. I don't need it. Let EDSA remain as it is for the next 20 years. Don't bother." Rather than you know, casting aspersion, maybe not --- maybe me --- not siguro ako.

But kung ganun ang pagkaintindi ninyo, huwag na. What for? There's always the hanging suspension na --- suspicion that I am there for the money. Huwag nalang. Hayaan mo. Wala tayong magawa.

So as a matter of fact, there are many proposals. I do not know how, when will they materialize. But ako, I just want to finish my term.

Kung ma ano --- improve ko lang itong graft and corruption pati law and order, okay na 'yan. That would be a good start. It cannot be the beginning. It cannot also be an end. But at least it's a good start somewhere.

So 'yan ang maiwan ko sa iyo. Kayong mga basic --- kayo palang mga barangay captains, remember this: I said I was once a Tanodbayan prosecutor. 'Di ba mag-pirma kayo sa completion projects? You are asked to sign, okay? Bantay kayo diyan ha. Kasi 'pag naka-pirma ka diyan na okay 'yon, may clearance which says that the project is okay and is --- that is really what it means legally, may sabit ka rin diyan.

So just be careful. Kung pirmahan mo lang naman, see to it that it is done properly. When it's not, you better say na "I'm not ready to face any..." Masisira lang pagkatao ko diyan. How many --- how much do you want to give me? A few what? 5,000? 500,000?

Eh kung gusto mo pang... Ako, alam ko dito may gusto pang tumaas eh. It's your turn now. We are a passing generation.

'Yung ka-batch ko, itong mga Cabinet members ko which were my dormmates, puro probinsyano 'yan lahat. At karamihan diyan mga Ilocano na mga ex-military men because ang ating military ang karamihan Ilonggo pati Ilocano. 'Yan ang tigas na ano, war-like dito. Cebuano? Ah inom lang 'yan. Tuba-tuba lang tayo. Wala akong nakitang...

Well, of course, my father comes from Cebu, Danao. But my mother is a Mestiza-Maranao. Mindanaon talaga nanay ko. 'Yun ang --- 'yan ang history ng ano natin.

So alam ko na nagmamadali kayo. I don't know if it's raining outside. I do not want you to catch a cold. All I want is you can all go home, but the ladies will remain to have --- I want to have pictures with them para *[laughter]* memories siguro.

And alam naman ninyo... I'm ready to --- tingnan ko itong insurgency war. There will be a point kung tignan ko kung kaya natin. But in Mindanao, we are succeeding.

Ang western side ng --- if you're facing the Mindanao map --- no, the Philippines, rather, your right side is the east.

So ang Davao, Agusan, dito, is the eastern side of Mindanao. Ang left mo ang western side. Zamboanga down to Jolo, then Palawan.

Then dito sa eastern side, marami ng mga fronts na bumagsak. Western side, they cannot hope to control it because there is the Moro. And the agenda of the Moro can never be reconciled with the agenda of the Communist Party. They cannot hope to succeed it. 'Yung ano nila, plano nila.

They will --- after cooperating with each other, 'yung tawag nilang tactical alliance, well, babagsak rin 'yan and the --- just like a communal war, sila 'yan pagkatapos na ang mag-upakan.

So in Luzon, very slow ang growth nila except for Samar, Quezon, and Bicol, dito sa Abra and Central Luzon. All others, Panay, hindi masyado. And so... But in between, we are good, we are good.

And some of you, by the looks of it, are really pormado na for the mayorship. The way you've been --- the sartorial, the... You know, malaman mo na na ito pang-mayor na ito o pang-governor.

They criticized me once. Itong mga g*** na itong mga wala ng humor sa buhay nila, they criticized me. Pero for all intents and practices, totoo man. Patayin mo 'yung vice mayor mo, mayor mo, bakante na 'yan. *[laughter]* Sigurado na 'yan.

It's a bad joke but it is a joke and it is true. If you can do it... 'Yung mga first lady niyo naghihintay na o. *[laughter]* Naka-posisyon na. 'Di ma'am, biro lang 'yun ah.

So I'd like to congratulate you for your election to the board --- National Board. It's an honorable space there for you to move and make yourself known and maybe I said patapos na kami.

Ako, Class '72 ako sa law and na-release sa '73. So serve government for the last... Wala... Sa awa ng Diyos, wala rin akong talo-talo. From the OIC vice mayor to mayor, tuloy-tuloy na ako hanggang...

Ito nga si ano, kasama ko 'yan right after our quarrel, we became good friends. So he has been with me. Barangay captain sabi ko sa kanya, about time na makapanalo tayo ng isang barangay captain.

He has been a councilor for ilang terms ka na halos? *[Tatlo]* Tapos anak niya, tapos siya nanaman. Ito ang classic dynasty. *[laughter]*

Ako, sabi ni Trillanes, you know between my father and me was a good 20 years. My father was one of the first members of the Cabinet of Mr. Marcos. Dito.

My father was one of the two Nacionalista governors na hindi pumunta sa Liberal. That's why Marcos got him in. Kaya alam ko 'yang procurement. Alam mo bakit? Ang department ng tatay ko was Department of General Services. One of the most sensitive there was the Bureau of Supply.

Kaya alam ko. Ang itinuro ni Marcos which I'm going to implement, I'm just --- I said waiting for the retirement of some of the military guys. Mag-canvass lang kayo, canvass lang man. Because there is always the international pricing eh.

You cannot sell a can of sardines as much as you sell a can of beef or ano. Meron talaga 'yan international pricing. So all you have to do is you just keep watch. If you are going to buy... Ang problema dito kasi alam ko 'yung mga lemon units. 'Yung nasisira kaagad.

So I want to exclude them but you cannot do it in a free market. Tapos sabihin ko talaga, then I would explain, it must last between five to seven years. And iilan lang 'yan.

This is no free advertisement but mayor, ang pulis ko doon, it's either Toyota or Isuzu. And it lasts until my daughter, even. She's on her second set. Nandiyan pa 'yang mga ano.

So malaman ko kung... Kasi kung magbili ka ng lemon, i-disapprove ko tapos sabihin ko talaga sa...

Kaya tignan mo 'yang mga pulis 'yang Mahindra, sira. Wala. T*** i**. Bumili ka ng Isuzu, maybe Ford or Toyota, it will last forever. Ang sikreto lang diyan is maintenance.

If it is maintained correctly, 'pag hindi 'yang... Pagka 'yang hubog na pulis, ibangga niya, ipapukpok mo 'yung yupi ng sasakyan, pati 'yung ulo ng pulis isali mo na. *[laughter]* T*** i**.

Kaya ganun. Kami o tanungin mo, one week pa lang, binunggo na ng u***, pulis kasi lasing. Ibalik raw sa casa. Sabi ko, "Huwag, doon sa talyer lang. Isali mo na 'yung ulo ng pulis diyan sa..." P***** i**** bwisit.

Well anyway, I said I'd like to thank the relatives, maybe the wives. Maski saan dito pwede maging first lady of the land o. *[laughter]* Magtiyaga lang kayo. You know it's a matter of industry.

But sabi ko, I hope it will be a guide for you someday. Ako, I just get men of competence and honesty. 'Yan lang ang dalawa ko dito.

And then for my country, my advice to you is I said, if we do not stop or if we cannot stop graft and corruption, kasali na ako diyan, all of us, at we cannot maintain order in this country, mahirapan tayo.

Thank you. *[applause]*

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