

Presidential Communications Operations Office

Presidential News Desk

SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DURING THE 1ST ANNIVERSARY OF PDP LABAN CARES AND PDP LABAN LEADERS REUNION

[Delivered at GSIS Gymnasium, GSIS Complex, GSIS Building
Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City | 15 August 2018]

Thank you. Kindly take your seats and thank you for your courtesy.

Their Excellencies, the honorable members of the Diplomatic Corps; Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez; Senator Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel and the honorable members of the Senate; Representative Pantaleon Alvarez and the honorable members of Congress; PDP Cares Chairwoman Kathryna Yu; the officers and members of the PDP-Laban and PDP Cares; my fellow workers in government; mga kababayan.

It has been two years since I assumed office, and I would not have had this opportunity of speaking before you today if not for your unfailing support and belief in my leadership. *[applause]* Salamat po.

I join you today in celebrating this milestone not just as our country’s President, but [as] our party’s National Chairman.

Year after year, we continue to face challenges that test our strength as a nation and solidarity as a people. And in times of disaster, calamity and conflict, PDP-Laban Cares has been among the government’s reliable partners in responding to those in need.

In just a span of one year, the collaborative efforts of PDP-Laban Cares and its partners have provided relief and assistance to over [20,000] events and Filipino families who suffered from armed conflicts, fires, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, proving that no matter how big a problem may seem, with the cooperation and a determined spirit, we can overcome any challenge and rise above the adversity with a smile on our faces.

As we [undergo] reforms in this administration, our unity is now more important than ever. I therefore ask the continued support of PDP-Laban and its partners in creating practical solutions to address the root cause of our nation's problems. *[applause]*

Let us remain committed to the party's vision of liberating our people from the clutches of poverty, conflict, crime, illegal drugs and corruption through the promotion of justice, equality, and good governance.

Together, let us become instruments of real change in society by advancing the PDP-Laban's core agenda of federalism, preferential policy for the poor and the marginalized, religious tolerance, and equal opportunity for all.

Hand in hand, let us uphold the concept of bayanihan as we improve the lives of our countrymen, strengthen the foundations of a more progressive tomorrow, and realize that our collective aspirations for the Filipino people will succeed. And with your help, I see a very bright future ahead for the Philippines.

Happy anniversary at mabuhay ang PDP-Laban Cares. Maraming salamat po.

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