

THE RISING SUNSHINE

FEATURE ARTICLE ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES' NATIONAL POWER

TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 11, 2025

PENNED BY: SUSHINIV



BIG IN BEING SMALL: HOW PH CAN RISE?



PHILIPPINES NOW: IT'S GROWING ECONOMY
Photo credit Make It Makati

Like a pearl that's small, yet shines brightly. A spark so tiny can ignite a fire. The Philippines may not be like those giant powerful countries like the United States or China, but we hold distinctive positions and qualities that make us a potential player on the world stage. The question is: how can we improve and develop our national power to strengthen our role in international relations?

National power is a country's ability to internally and externally achieve its goals and interests. According to Joseph Nye, it includes hard power, military and economic strength, and soft power, the psychological influences through culture, diplomacy, and education. Our country is currently not as developed in terms of hard power as the prominent states given our limited military resources and yet an emerging economy but we have a rich culture, strong diplomatic ties, and valuable natural resources that allow us to strengthen our global rank.

We don't have to be a large country to succeed. Singapore, despite its small size, has built a strong economy through good governance and strategic policies. South Korea, once a poor nation, has grown into a global leader in technology and culture. These examples show that what matters most is not the size of a country but how well it manages its resources and opportunities.



South Korea Then and Now:
Its advancement and development

To achieve this, we need to take action in different areas, but first and foremost, we need a strong and efficient government. Good governance is the backbone of national power ensuring

that policies are well-implemented, resources are managed wisely, and progress is sustained. Leadership plays a huge role in whether a nation succeeds or struggles. Without it, even the best plans for economic growth, security, and diplomacy will fail.

Second, we must further improve our growing economy. The Philippines has many natural resources, yet we rely too much on imports. Supporting local industries, improving infrastructure, and encouraging foreign investment will help us build a stronger one. A stable and growing economy makes a country more valuable in global trade and partnerships.

Then, we need to enhance our national security not just by military force but by also developing our cybersecurity. Our government should invest more in education and technology to keep up with the fast trend of technological advancement and develop driven people in science, innovation, and digital transformation.

Finally, we should continue using our cultural strengths to build strong global

ties. We should utilize our rich culture and tourism to boost our international presence and build stronger diplomatic relations.



Philippines' rich culture and traditions
Photo from saferide.ph

A country's power is not about land size or population but about how well it develops its strengths. The Philippines has the potential to make an impact on the world despite being small among giants. It simply needs to strategically plan its steps forward and strengthen its power in an effective way. Little scratches can slowly kindle a fire that burns high. We may be small in land, but never in potential.