

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

[Delivered at Kalayaan Grounds, Malacañang Complex | 02 December 2019]

Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and the other members of the Cabinet; my fellow workers in the Office of the President; mga kababayan ko.

It is my honor to join you all here tonight as we mark the beginning of the celebration of Christmas here in the Office of the President.

The Yuletide has always been a festive occasion for Filipinos all over the world. It is a time when we are reminded to be grateful for the many challenges that allowed us to grow better, not as individuals but also as one community.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you, [the employees] of the Office of the President for demonstrating unwavering commitment and the highest standards of professionalism in public service.

With your genuine desire to serve our country, this administration was able to fulfill its [promises] to the Filipino people. Your dedication towards the work that you do is truly inspiring.

As we light up the Christmas tree in the historic grounds of Malacañang, it is my ardent hope that it will serve as a reminder for everyone to continue lighting up the lives of others, especially those who are suffering from poverty and injustice.

I also hope that you will feel --- you will sincerely feel the warmth, abundance and happiness that is blessed --- that this blessed season brings as you enjoy the many festivities ahead, not just in our office, but with your families as well.

I look forward... Sorry, I have...

I look forward to your continuing dedication as my partners in ensuring that our people are able to enjoy the services of an efficient, responsive and progressive government in the year to come.

Together, let us continue to secure a better and brighter tomorrow for each Filipino so that we can achieve our shared vision for a more united and prosperous nation.

Isang maagang at mainit na pagbati ng Maligayang Pasko sa inyong lahat! *[applause]*

*[President Duterte returns to podium]*

*[start of audio]*

... with our cutting down of expenses sa ating energy requirements dito sa Malacañan, we will not light it today. *[laughter]*

What do you want to hear? *[cheers and applause]* Wala akong marinig, sa totoo lang. *[cheers and applause]* *[crowd: Bonus! Bonus! Bonus!]*

`Yung may --- may nakita akong maganda sa PTV. She's a married woman but she's beautiful. `Yung sa PTV-4. I seldom or I haven't seen her. Sa TV lang and only for once. Is she --- is she here? Ah `pag wala, `di walang... *[laughter]*

Sige na kay --- hurry up because I have a Cabinet meeting. Importante `to.

Where si she? `Yung tisay. Wala? Si Tolentino na lang. *[laughter]* The ageless, walang kakupas-kupas ang kagandahan niya. Kurdapya, nasaan ka na? *[laughter]*

Huy, dali kay... Dalawang [halik?] `yan. *[laughter]* Ano ka man?

Dali na dito, karami ka pang drama. *[laughter]* Bakit? Anong pakialam nila sa atin? *[laughter]* Dito na. Sige na. Hindi ko rin pera. Sinong may-ari ng pera natin? Hawak lang natin. Dali na. Sige na karami mo namang ano...

*[Assistant Executive Secretary Annalyn Tolentino: Sir, you may announce 50,000 plus 10,000]* *[cheers and applause]*

Alam mo, nahilo ako. Yayain ako ng security tapos pabalikin ako  
dito [*laughter*] tapos dito pa pala. [*applause*]

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