

Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE OATH TAKING OF NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

[Delivered at the Rizal Hall, Malacanã Palace, Manila | 06 February 2020]

Maupo lang ho kayo sandali.

Just a few thoughts that I would like to convey to you. I tend to ramble on if I do it ‘yung extemporaneous. So I just read the message prepared by my staff. Anyway, it contains the usual hullabaloo, iyong lahat ng kailangan.

Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, he’s there; Senator Bong Go, anong pinag-uusapan ninyo diyan? [laughter]; our newly appointed officials from the different government offices and government -owned and -controlled corporations; distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen.

I congratulate and thank our newly appointed officials for taking on the most important challenge in the name of public service. I am confident that all of you will advance this administration’s development agenda --- para ito sa tao lahat. Wala kami ni kaunti para sa any other person or group of persons or other organizations. That I am confident that all of you will advance this administration’s development agenda in your respective offices.

As you take your oath of office, may all of you be reminded of our noble obligation to serve our country with integrity, impartiality and independence. Huwag ho kayong maniwala, napaka-istikto ko po, napaka-istikto ko sa bagay na ito. And good as any other time to know about this passion or sentiment of mine. Maybe history will tell you why. At this time, parang maaga pa na magsabi ako ng ganito, magiging corny lang tuloy. Pero someday you would know why.

As government workers, we are duty bound to uphold the Constitution, aid in the administration of justice, serve selflessly and promote transparency and good governance.

I am optimistic that you will lead by example and inspire your fellow civil servants to be strong willed, dedicated, able, fearless and honest in dealing with our people. Be vigilant against corruption and other unethical motives and interests that diminish public [trust].

Ganito kasi ‘yan eh. Kung ako ang magbantay doon sa baba, mahihirapan ako. I cannot and it might not surface at all. Wala akong kakayahan niyan. I do not have the wherewithals of how to go about weeding corruption sa maliliit na bagay. Pero ganito ‘yan ‘pag may corruption tapos I ask simple questions doon sa director or ‘yung taas niya --- the person above, the supervising authority, if I am not satisfied, ‘yung dalawa ang alisin ko.

It may be like command responsibility which is applicable only to the military. But at times when there is really a crooked line there somewhere at tapos it redounds to the failure of

government service, talagang marami na po ako. I have fired about five Cabinet members. A lot of them were with me in 1988 when I first ran for mayor in Davao City. And sa awa ng Diyos I was able to survive for 23 years. And that long I became the mayor of that city, at nagkaintidihan naman kami.

Ang problema pagdating dito, kaya nga magkaroon ka ng utang na loob sa isang tao lalo na kaming mga Bisaya 'yang utang na loob na 'yan mabigat talaga 'yan. If we can repay it without harming ourselves, we are duty bound by the culture, talagang magbabayad kami.

So it was not really unnatural to take 'yung mga taga-Davao ganun, eh kasi 'yan ang kakilala ko. Hindi ko naman kayo kilala. Ngayon lang tayo nagkita. So there would be no reason for me just to say, "Oh I trust you because I like your face." That would be... Pwera na lang kung maganda ka talaga and... [laughter] May nakita na ako.

I therefore take this opportunity to ask each of you to use your resources wisely, develop policies... Alam ko hindi niyo kailangan itong trabaho na ito. I am sure that you have other more gainful things to do rather than stick with government. Kakaunti lang talaga.

But it is the... Well, to me, by experience, is the fulfillment that --- lalo na kung local officials. 'Pag may nagawa kami na save a life, stop a war, kagaya nitong mga --- well, you know 'yung mga rido ng Muslim. And a little bit of my Maranao, they served me well in the years na mas madali akong makalapit sa kanila even the rido in Lanao pinapakailaman ko na.

Bakit ba tayo magpatayan ganitong bagay na ito? Why will you drag along generations and sons and daughters for nothing? So it's usually money, it's part of the culture. Kaya kung may pera ako, o sige ako 'yung kalahati, aregluhin natin ito. It sounds strange, other people find it obnoxious, but it is not. It is a deeply rooted thing in the culture. So ganun ang laro diyan.

Let me reiterate that for this administration, the welfare of our people and the improvement of their lives are of utmost importance. Marami pa talaga, we have the Taal and you have to look for the money for that. Budgeted na kasi 'yan eh. And who would ever expect that Taal would blow up at this time? So 'yung mga ginagamit natin sana sa, for example, agriculture makukunan 'yan because then we'll have to address the challenges of the Taal people.

But you might want to know that I have I think almost 1,000 ano... I've been building karamihan for the military. But when there is an emergency and when there is a need to provide shelter and there is none, I always ask the military to step aside. Sabi ko na lang sa kanila na di bale you just bear this event and let me get back to you with a beauty more... Ina-ano ko na lang na... Talagang ibibigay ko pero...

Iyong sa Taal I think I have ready... But of course it's not really that near, it is far. But I think I have a --- I have a thousand I think available. And it has served as well during the many crises that we have faced in the past.

Sa Davao may ano ako 1,000 rin ready. But with the --- at the rate that the NPAs are surrendering, mukhang I think that we'd be able to realize peace much earlier. But the most

important thing is to come up and comply with the promise to the rebels. Kaya sabi ko noon sa mga sundalo bitawan na lang ninyo, umalis na lang kayo diyan. Ibigay na lang ninyo sa mga NPA. Lagyan lang natin ng... Ayaw kong sabihin kasi 'yung... May gusto akong ilagay.

With you by my side, in pursuit of this noble --- for the people, I am confident that we can sustain the gains of the "Malasakit at Tunay na Pagbabago."

'Yun ang wala noon totoo. Alam mo in Davao, meron akong... Ano ba 'yung p***** i** 'yon? Ano 'yon Bong? Saan na siya? Nagsibat na. [laughter] Wala pa gani matapos 'yung... I-demerit mo 'yan doon kay Medialdea itong kay Go. L*****.

Alam mo kasi sa Davao... And I have noticed that --- and some of you might have a bit of experience or are already experienced in the activities sa lower echelon, lowest. It would not... Tawagin mong echelons. It's kind of a congruity to me.

But sa Davao noon kasi may... Inday improved on it but I simply forgot the god d*** --- ano ba 'yung y*** na 'yun? [laughter] Sa mahirap. Ganun. Sa mahi... Nandito man pala itong regional... Lingap Para sa mga Mahirap 'tong y*** na ito. [laughter] I-tape record ninyo 'yan.

Eh ito si ano, promoted ka na? He's the first Maguindanaoan to... I'm happy to see you here kasi he's a hardworking guy and he knows that --- he knows the culture, lahat. Mahirap and the fact that he is also a Maguindanao, a Moro. Pwede siya makatulong ng dito sa itaas.

You know what, let me just... Itong sa sundalo na AFP they have 50 million a month. 'Yung V. Luna, they have 50 million a month. 'Yung PGH has 100 million a month. And that happened because some of their officials there went to me one day. I said 'yung medisina na talaga nila at nakikita nila 'yung mga intern na mismo ang nagbibigay ng tulong sa mga tao. "So how much is your budgetary...? Mag-abot ng ano?" Pera --- province mag-abot ng about mga siguro 40. Kaya itong PGH natin where we train the best of our young men, our doctors, I gave them sabi ko 100 a month. Sabi nila, "yearly?" "No. I'll give you 100 a month."

Tinawagan ko si PAGCOR, si Andrea. Sabi ko, "Maghanap ka, you set aside 100 million a month." 'Yung magpunta lang diyan. 'Yung mga pasyente na medyo ma --- 'yung ano, 'yung sakit nila malala.

So these are the things that we would --- when we will be no longer in government. And these are the things that would keep us happy. We, we do not want honor. I do not even want to be remembered.

Iyong libing ko diyan sa may --- p***** i** may libing na ako na naka prepara sa akin [laughter] diyan sa Aguinaldo. There's a lot there reserved for presidents. If you want, you can buy it from me. [laughter] Magbigay ka lang ng mga almost... Give one million to PGH and I'll --- I'll execute a waiver. I'll give it to you. [laughter]

Tatal ako, just burn me when the time comes. Twenty-four hours, no vigil. And then itapon mo lang 'yung --- and leave a part beside my mother's urn. 'Yan lang ang ano ko. Hindi ako nag-a-ano. I do not --- I'm not into this publicity. Nahihiya ako eh. 'Yung...

Nabasa ko na ito. But... Ito maganda ito. Ulitin ko lang. With you by my side... In the side of --- trabaho natin. Politics, you --- do not worry. Do not nurture a personal loyalty to me. I don't need it. And I cannot run anymore, so I don't give a... 'Yung pa-politika-politika. Wala na ako diyan. Bahala kayo maiwan. [laughter]

Except Bong Go. [laughter] Maybe he wants to be president kasi lahat ng sunog nandoon siya. [laughter] Parang... Saan si Bong? Medyo halata man masyado. Nauuna ka pa sa... Eh wala pang sunog nandoon ka na eh. [laughter] Ikaw ata tiga-sindi. [laughter] Nauna ka pa doon sa bumbero. Well, huwag mo masyadong sobrahan baka mahalata. [laughter] Huwag mo madalasan 'yung sunog-sunog. Eh 'yung... Sabihin nila, "Wala, may sunog, ay trabaho ni Bong 'yan para makapag..."

No, really. Ito si Bong he's a Batangueño. He's not really a Chinese. He's a Batangueño. Batangueño 'to pati ugali. The mother married a Chinese but kasama 'yan namin migrants sa Davao. And at the back of the UM, 'yung University of Mindanao, it's almost half of the block kanila 'yan. The biggest printing press.

Hindi naman extra mayaman pero sinabi ko noon may pera 'to. Tingnan mo ngayon ang mga damit niya. Pati 'yung buhok niya na manipis nawawala na. Ngayon I could not even see his scalp. Noon, nakikita ko eh.

Itong tunay pagmamalasakit. Try to visit. Hamon ko lang ito sa inyo, hamon ko lang. Try to visit 'yung mga ospital lalo na kung may contagion. Nasa sahig 'yan sila lahat. Even sa emergency room dito, mag-ano kayo ng gabi. 'Yung ibang pasyente maghintay, they are lying there in the throes of death on the floor. Tingnan ninyong mabuti. 'Yun ang sabi ko na unahin natin pag-ano.

Tatal ito mga mayaman walang ginawa ito kung di magnakaw ang mga p***** i**. Mayaman na, magnakaw pa para mas mayaman. Ang dugo pa ng Pilipino ang... So do not... Kung magpunta 'yan sa iyo ng tulong sabihin mo, "Go away. I do not want to see your face."

You can buy your whatever need. You want a road --- a new road there? You can always call the proper agency. Malakas ka eh. Bayaran mo lang. Kaya talagang galit ako dito sa...

Alam mo, we're trying to --- they're trying to reach out for a settlement. Let us see how it develops. Talagang galit ako as in galit. Just imagine, in 1957, they were already collecting money from the people to build a --- parang ano 'to? 'Yung keep --- to keep --- to give us a potable water or something na hanggang ngayon wala, tapos 'yung pera nandiyan. Enhancement of environmental... T*** i**. 1957, collecting money. It's in your bill if you care to look at it. And it is there that you guys have been collecting money since 1957 to build a something of --- and you have not even come up with a can of clean water or a canal there. Iyan ang mahirap.

So where is the money? Where is the money of the Filipino people? Where is the money of the average Filipino na mahirap na magbabayad, who pays his water bill and he has to pay because if it will be cut off, it would give him a lot of headache for the day.

Iyan ang gusto kong malaman. Saan ang pera ng p***** i** na 'yan? Give us back the money. Give it back to the people and maybe we can talk about solving your problem. It will not be the problem of this government.

I am not afraid that there will be no water because I will just take over and nationalize water in the Philippines. Ganun lang 'yan. [applause] Marami akong sundalo. Ah karami kong sundalo eh, ayan sila Briguez o. Sila ang ipa-take over ko.

There are a lot of... Most of the generals who have retired are here. Eh 'di you go there and fix the... Distributor lang 'yan sila eh and yet they have come out to be 10 times, 20 times richer.

Kaya ayaw ko makipag-usap sa kanila. They want to talk to me. Sabi ko sa kanila ayaw ko. Hindi ako nagyayabang. Hindi ako matapang. Pero p***** i**, 'pag naasar ako sa'yo, sasampalin kita sa harap ng tao.

Iyan ang totoo. Hindi ako nagyayabang. Talagang nananampal ako ng tao. Marami ditong nagpunta dito. 'Yung gusto ng pera, pinapakain ko ng pera. 'Yung mga undersecretary sinasampal ko, pinapaluhod ko pa.

I'll give you the ultimate insult of your life. You kneel down or else I'll throw you sa... Iyan ang gusto ninyo? Eh aabot sa inyo 'yan. 'Yan ang sigurado. Talagang ginagawa ko 'yan. I humiliate people.

So kayo, alam ko naman na mahuhusay kayo na tao. All I can say is that I wish you luck. Congratulations and all the best for you. Maraming salamat po. [applause]

Ayaw ko magtabi ng lalaki sa picture ha? Pangit tignan. [laughter] Marami na tayong pangit. 'Yung mga babae na parang maganda diyan. Really. Hindi rin ako kumakain mag-isa. I do not... Well, kung ka-date mo pero 'yung...

I do not want to eat in a restaurant 'yung dalawa kayong lalaki? Ah p***** i**. So ang sabihin ng tao, "What are they talking about?" [laughter] Siyempre babae. So you want a picture? I will stand there to oblige you.

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Source: PCOO-PND (Presidential News Desk)