

Presidential Communications Office

Presidential News Desk

**SPEECH**  
**OF**  
**PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**  
**DURING THE**  
**LAUNCHING OF THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO BANK**

[Delivered at the Postbank Center, Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila | 18 January 2018]

Salamat po. Thank you for the courtesy.

If I may be allowed to make the acknowledgements. Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and the other members of the Cabinet; Mr. Nestor Espenilla, Jr., Governor of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas; Mr. Alex Buenaventura, he comes from a small barangay in Davao City; Mr. Renato Eje, he's a... matagal na 'yan diyan ha, hindi ko...; mga minamahal kong overseas Filipino workers; mga kasama ko sa gobyerno; mga kababayan ko.

As usual, I have a two-page speech but it would not be enough to pay tribute to a large segment of our society that's almost responsible and a constant factor in our GDP.

Mga kababayan ko, I made simple promises during the election. I am not into politics but I would just like to remind you that I kept my campaign very simple, with about four basic fundamental promises and I am very happy that mukhang naibigay ko sa inyo.

'Yung iba, tapos na and iba, under... still in the implementation, which is really, maybe, would even outlive my presidency.

First is that I said, I will try to stop corruption in government if I can. And ang sunod po ay 'yung drugs at crime.

And the third was that I have talked to the enemies of the state. Maybe if I can just haggle a few concessions to make our country peaceful.

And fourth, that I said honestly enough that I am no economist, that I am just an ordinary graduate sa law but no exceptional quality about money and currency.

My specialty most of my life has always been in court, prosecuting criminals.

Kung 'yun ho ang pag-usapan, maybe we can discuss it until morning time about money and economics. But unfortunately, my area of knowledge is quite limited.

Ngayon po, corruption is --- before I came here, I called for the managers --- si Art Tugade was there at 'yung mga taga-Clark pati taga-NAIA at 'yung mga pulis doon.

And this is an offshoot of what happened maybe the other day and it was just broadcasted last night and I saw on TV about the couple complaining of the losses that they incurred while waiting for the baggage the day after.

'Yung bagahe po nila, na-delay ng isang araw, dumating bukas-bukas na 'yung mga zipper, just like the old happy days in NAIA.

Alam mo, I will not belabor the point. Whatever is in my heart or in my... the gray matter between the ears as... huwag na ninyong tanungin 'yan pero talagang sinasabi ko, take care of the ordinary human being. 'Yan sila diyan.

Kasi ako, Presidente halos masabi ko, para lang ako sa mga kababayan kong ordinaryo. Hindi naman mahirap, ordinaryong Pilipino.

I am not a President that is attuned with the times of, you know, going in the low and high of society. I have never been there, believe me.

And so, wala sa akin 'yan kung mawalaan ka at gusto mo nakawin mo na 'yung eroplano ng PAL eh, hindi kita pakialaman. Eh tatal hindi mo naman madala 'yan kung maski saan.

I mean, itong mga mayaman, they do not need the President.

They are only worried about the taxes and maybe property pati 'yung income and their safety, and that is it.

Hindi na nila kailangan magsulat o mag complain doon sa 8888 because they have no problem at all.

But for the ordinary citizen and worker, because of the wide gamut of agonies that they have to deal with.

Ako, balikan ko 'yung --- hindi ako namumulitika. It was the man on the street nagpanalo sa akin.

Ni dito sa Maynila, ni wala akong isang barangay captain and yet, nag wallop ako dito.

And there was only one person who said at that time, "You will win by a landslide in Manila." I did not believe him.

But he's now with government, he's old, he used to be working in Malacañan. I will not --- I do not have the permission to mention his name.

Hindi ho ako umabot ng second. Third, fourth; third, fourth; third, fourth. So I was able to convince myself that in Balance Mindanao, we started to compute.

Sonny Dominguez was drawing in a white board. Huwag kayo magtaka why he spent a fortune for me. Mukhang nasangla niya 'yung Marco Polo niya [laughter] because we are neighbors at saka kababata talaga kami.

All the other guys, walang mga taga-ano dito, taga-Dasmarin --- Itong Dulay and Bello were occupying a room in front of our room, ako pati si Yasay.

Sa law school, Yasay was in Padre Faura, I was in San Beda, Dulay and Bello sa Ateneo, puro kami anak ng mga mahirap.

Mahirap in the sense na we could not afford an apartment or 'yung hindi pa naman masyadong uso 'yung condo noon but we lived in a dormitory that was all noise and all silent most of the time.

And wala, hindi ako nagdadrama, sinasabi ko lang wala akong kilala.

I have yet to meet the biggest of the financier for sa... and I do not interested --- I am not interested, I don't want to meet them.

Kasi ako, I have to talk in rhetorics and but I do not want to change my language.

You know, the problem with me is --- ganito talaga 'yan.

Hindi ko binitawan --- I have never shed off my character as mayor.

'Yun ang problema diyan kasi nung nag-Presidente ako, ayaw ko na rin magbago.

So 'yung p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* ko doon sa Davao, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* rin 'yan dito, walang, walang kaibahan.

And when I say that, eh talagang ganun eh. And too late to change.

But anyway, sabi ko noon, you can bear with me for another four years plus plus.

Alam mo dito sa gobyerno, sinabi ko, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*, huwag ninyong pakialaman ang ordinaryong tao kasi 'yun ang masa ko talaga. I have never met them anywhere but kung makita ko sila, inuuna ko.

In this room, mabuti't na lang, siguro I am sure of Buenaventura, Central Bank, kasi ang pamilya niya, so... Sonny. Pero kayo? Pwera si... Cavite went for me pero... Ah 'yung sa likod mo na lang mag umpisa. Kayo? Hindi ko sinasabing hindi kayo bumoto.

Hindi ninyo ako kilala. Tsaka ang narinig ninyo, 'yang extra-judicial killing sa Davao.

But look at Davao now. I invested a lot. Lives? Yes. You have to kill to make your city peaceful.

Well, the media? Listen. To the Filipino people, makinig kayo. May mga tao talagang buhayin mo, may mga tao talagang patayin mo. When you said ngayon mag-debate tayo whether it's the fault of government forces or not, because kayong mga human rights, you will not bother to listen. So I have bothered to explain to you. 'Yung makinig lang.

In my 23 years as mayor, magsabi ka mga 600 meron. Pero I assure you ngayon, nakikinig, it was all legit. I never ordered the killing of anybody kneeling in front of me. I never harmed anybody even the toughest idiot na criminal with his hands outstretched. I never do that because hindi ako lalaki 'pagka ganun ang gawain ko. But kung sabihin mo hindi kita patawarin.

The rule there is, you ask forgiveness but never a permission. Sabi nga sa libro. There is a book that says: "You ask forgiveness after." But I will ask --- I never asked permission.

Eh 'yung mga taga-Maynila, nanibago sa ano ko... Eh sinabi ko huminto kayo eh. Eh ayaw huminto. Pasensiya.

Ngayon, kanina tinawag ko sila. Sinabi ko sa manager, 'yan dalawa, in front of Tugade, I said, "A similar and one more incident and all of you will go." Look for another job. Be sure na walang zipper mabukas diyan.

At sinabi ko kay Sid Lapeña, also a trusted friend of mine, not because he is from Davao. Alam mo bakit lahat --- halos lahat Ilokano ang...? Kasi ganito 'yan.

Noong estudyante pa ako napasabak na ako ng mga barkada in the likes of Bebot, Billy Dulay, 'yung sa mga dormitoryo, kilala ko ang integrity ng mga taong 'yan.

Minsan kaming mahihirap, kung Holy Week hindi kami makauwi kasi magastos. So we are left in a compound sa YMCA na --- tatal aminin ko matagal naman 'yun na-prescribe na ang crime. Wala kaming makain, sarado 'yung t\*\*\* i\*\*\*\* restaurant. So ninakaw namin 'yung PX doon. [laughter] Mga sigarilyo naming mga Virginia Slims, Chesterfield Salem.

Sabi ko na, "Halika..." Sabi ko, "Bill, ikaw ang mag-akyat." Sabi niya, "Adre, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*, hindi ako pwede diyan." Sabi niya, noon pa, sabi niya, "Huwag mo akong isali." O sige sabihin --- sa kainan kasama na siya. [laughter]

Noong nakawan... Si Bello talaga 'yung mahilig sa mga ganun ng lock. [laughter] Eh survival 'yun eh. Holy Week, wala kang makain.

Anong kainin namin? Damo diyan sa YMCA noon? That's the dormitory beside the city hall sa Arroceros.

Kaya sabi ko kanina sa kanila, “Corruption must stop.” Marami na akong pinaalis and more to go ako. Maybe after two weeks, I’m just reviewing the papers. I’ll fire about one or two generals and about 49 police officers. They have to.

Sinabi ko sa inyo, “huwag”. And may ginawa akong ano. I was doodling. Nagdo-doodle lang ako. Sulat-sulat ka ng ano.

[Saan na ‘yon, Bong?] Can somebody get the...? Pero ‘yung picture na malaki kinuha nitong staff ko, para akong si Arafat na tumanda na nang husto.

Kaya nandiyan ako. Kung wala ako, nagka-l\*\*\*\*\*-l\*\*\*\*\*. Hindi ninyo alam gaano kalala ang problema hanggang hindi ako nag-Presidente.

Hindi ninyo alam na ang mga police generals nandiyan sa droga kung hindi ako na-Presidente. Hindi ninyo alam na police ng Manila --- hindi naman lahat. Hindi naman.

Well, the fact that it was heavily contaminated speaks volumes of the suffering of the Filipino. Kayo na ang simbolo ng [inaudible]. If there is the only achievement that I have --- I don’t know, wala naman ako --- I did not promise you anything.

Sabi niyo kasi bobo ako. So sabi ko, si Sonny, bright ‘yan kasi kindergarten pa kami, valedictorian na ‘yan eh. So hanggang pagpunta ng States --- [Nag-Wharton ka ba, Son, o Columbia? Humble ka masyado].

Totoo. So sila ang kinuha ko. So sabi nila nag-improve ang economy. So you have to have to thank Sonny Dominguez, si Mon Lopez, he’s very helpful.

Of course our Foreign Secretary is here. “Mr. President, can you stand up? Show them your new haircut.” [laughter and applause]

Ito, hindi pa na-presidente, tingnan mo ‘yung ulo sa likod. May hostia na. Kung hindi pari, may mga butas ‘yang g\*\*\*\*\* ‘yan dito. O, tingnan mo ang kanya, ready-made na.

I think he’s the most qualified actually. Makita mo naman ang performance. [applause]

Kita mo the way he talks, the way he deals with the problem, and the way the burden of the country is being solved outside. I can only say that I was not really wrong in choosing him.

Marunong talaga, bright. And even the way he talks. So ‘yan ang ano ko. Napatagal ako, pero dapat malaman ninyo para when you are dealing with me and you’re watching TV and you start to wonder, “Why is this guy so disgusting? Almost odious in his...”

Eh ganun ‘yung mga mayor eh, Davao, Mindanao.

Magsakay kami ng eroplano na pauwi. Alam mo bang mga three hours and 40 minutes 'yan? 'Yung Fokker noon ng --- sabi ko sa taga... "Mabuti pa ma-crash na lang itong p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*\*\*\* 'to. Ang haba ng..."

But those were the days. Davao now, it's one hour 30 minutes.

So I'm leaving for the last flight ngayon. Sakay ako uwi. At saka ang flight, walang hinto eh. It is about 32 flights a day for Davao. You can choose the hour even when to go out.

So I'm happy at mga kababayan kong mga OFW. I'm not good at Tagalog, kasi lumaki ako ng Davao na halo kami. I am not proficient in the Tagalog, kulang. Pati Bisaya, kulang kami.

Kaya sometimes I shift to --- mas madali sa akin na --- na wala namang yabang --- I could find the word immediately.

Mag-Tagalog ako, pag minsan mag-English na lang. Tapos huwag ninyo --- do not be offended pag sabi ko, "Ano bang Tagalog nitong y\*\*\* na ito?"

Kasi ang Bisaya, totoo 'yan, may mga Bisaya diyan. May --- pag may hinahanap kami na bagay, tatay namin, "Saan 'yung baso dito? Saan 'yung y\*\*\* kong baso?" Ganun 'yan. Tootoo. Ganun ang --- 'yun ang hindi niyo alam.

And you know, the elites here would want me to go down or to go up to their level or go down. So I choose to go down and just... just show to you what I am. But sa tulong, sabi ko, I am very thankful to you guys, Bebot.

Alam mo ito --- o walang medyas hanggang ngayon, anak ng jueteng.

Tingnan mo, ang walang hiya. Hindi naman nagmemedyas 'yan. Hindi pa uso 'yan noon. Eh paano taga-Isabela lang. Taga-bukid lang ang walang ---- gulay, malaki 'yung paa kasi bagyo, paakyat pababa. [laughter]

But anyway, I'll not tarry. Salamat po sa efforts, to all my... kaya I just issued an order to Bato last night.

Sabi ko "Bato, halika. Maglagay ka sa casino prohibiting all workers of government from entering."

May P.D. niyan eh. There's a law. At that time, it was a law. It's still the law. It was never modified or repealed. Sabi pa ni Bato, "Lagay mo diyan 'all government employees."

Sabi ni Bato, "Yung opisyal sir." P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*, official official. L\*\*\*\*\* ang mga 'yan. Lahat kami workers.

That's why I'd like to remind everybody: We are all workers of government and we serve the people. Kaya ako, hindi ako sanay niyang Malacañan, I don't --- lalo na Palace.

Diyan, ang mumu diyan, maski alas diyes ng madaling araw o alas diyes ng umag, naglalakad na sa harap mo.

'Yung isa, nauyab na siguro ni --- 'yung babae diyan na lumalakad na ano, may minsan nakaupo.

Pero palagay ko kasi si Medialdea, matagal umuuwi, sabi ko kinokonektahan ang multo, baka nakatikim na ito ng mga magagandang multo siguro.

'Yun lang po ang message ko. Very simple naman. Not so good to hear but at least, at least, at the very least, it comes from the heart.

So maraming salamat at mabuhay ho kayong lahat. [applause]

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