



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

MESSAGE

Every year, we dedicate this day to honor the countless unsung heroes upon whose collective sacrifice the foundations of this nation was built on. This **National Heroes Day**, we pay tribute to a new breed of heroes who readily answered the call to fight in a war against one of the greatest threats to our way of life.

These past two years, we have witnessed the indomitable spirit of these nameless health workers, uniformed personnel, government employees, and frontliners in essential industries who—hiding in anonymity—bravely led our battle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Their names will not be etched on any edifice, statues will not be erected in their honor, banknotes will not be graced by their portraits, and their individual exploits will not be immortalized on the pages of history books. Yet, for selflessly risking their lives to ensure the survival of our society, I can confidently say that they have more than earned their rightful place in the pedestal of heroes.

This year, let us consecrate this day not just as a memorial to their extraordinary heroism, but as an enduring testament to our inherent capacity to rise above self-interest to fight for a cause far greater than our own.

Mabuhay ang mga bayaning Pilipino!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodrigo Roa Duterte".

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

MANILA
30 August 2021