

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING HIS VISIT TO VICTIMS OF  
TYPHOON “ODETTE” IN NEGROS ORIENTAL**

**(Delivered in Bais City, Negros Oriental | 29 December 2021)**

Una sa tanan mga igsoon, mangayo ko’g pasaylo ninyo kay perteng langan sa relief operations sa gobyerno. Nia man guy balaod na b\*\*\*\* siyang ina [applause] kanang pag mudeklarar ko og calamity unya makahilabot na ko sa kwarta sa gobyerno para ipalit og tanan.

**(TRANSLATION:** My brothers and sisters, let me start by asking for your forgiveness because government’s relief operations were delayed. This is because there’s a law that hinders me from declaring a state of calamity that will enable me to use government funds to buy everything you need.)

Una ko maka-mobilize, kinahanglan naay ingon sa kaning --- ay ambot ning mga y\*\*\* ning sa gobyerno --- [laughter and applause] kinahanglan pa ko og assessment, evaluation, ug report nga ang danyos sa tawo, nakalas na kinabuhi ug ang propiedad, labi na gyud pud sa atong mga kaigsuonan nag-uma, ang damage nila.

**(TRANSLATION:** Before I can mobilize, I need to ---- I don’t understand this government --- you still need an assessment, evaluation and report on the extent of the damage of the typhoon, the number of casualties and the damage to infrastructure and agriculture.)

Maayo man na, maayo man na kay tan-awon gyud og tinarong ba og dili, wala tay away diha. Ang problema sa balaod nag-ingon nga dili ko makadeklarar og calamity situation hangtod walay report nga naa sa --- gikan sa --- naay mga taga-gobyerno nato nga nagtrabaho, kaming tanan. Naa may akong mga kaigsuonan nasa gobyerno, ang akong sundalo, akong mga pulis. So mao nay naka-y\*\*\* diha. Dili ko makakuha’g kwarta kung dili may report una pa ko makadeklarar og...

**(TRANSLATION:** That’s good, that’s good because you will know if they are doing the wrong thing or not, I don’t argue with that. But the problem with the law is it prohibits me from declaring a state of calamity unless there’s a consolidated report from all government agencies. We are all working here, the entire government as well as the military and the police. So that’s the problem there. I can’t use the money without the report and neither can I make a declaration.)

Ingon nako, og maghuwat ko anang report nang y\*\*\* na, nagsige pa’g pamutol og --- pangpamutol og dalan kay nangatumba, di makaagi ang mga relief nga truck, unya maghuwat ko anang report na y\*\*\* na. Giingnan nako sila dili ko anang balaora. Ayaw ko’g hadloka’g preso preso kay anad na ta’g preso. Mamapreso man gani ko ron pila ka adlaw. [applause] Pakpak mo ana. Kahibaw ba mo’g ngano? [laughter] Diba niingon ko’g ngano?

**(TRANSLATION:** I told them that if I have to wait for that damned report, I have to wait for the roads to be cleared of debris and fallen trees to allow the trucks carrying relief goods to pass through, and then you want me to wait for that damned report. I told them I wouldn't follow that rule. Don't threaten me with imprisonment because I'm used to being imprisoned. In fact, for the next few days I'll be imprisoned. Clap your hands. Do you know the reason why? Have I told you?)

Mu-segue ko gamay ha. Tanang gibuhat nako pagka-mayor sa Davao, 23 anyos, na-congressman ko'g upat ka tuig unya nag vice-mayor ko sa akong anak kay di ko makadagan ikatulo. Mao na nga kanang ilang idemanda ko unya presohon ko, wala man nay question mapreso. Ang ako lang di ko musugot nga ang maghurar na sa mga tawong mu-prosecute nako sa demanda, mga puti nga naay korte ngadto sa --- katong Hague, adto ko presohon. Sabi ko piktan ko man na inyong itlog [laughter] T\*\*\* i\*\* mong mga puti.

**(TRANSLATION:** Let me segue for a while. I've done everything that I could as the mayor of Davao City for 23 years, congressman for four years, and vice mayor to my daughter because I couldn't run for mayor again. That's why when they threatened to sue me and send me to jail, I don't question that. But what I don't want is to be tried and prosecuted by white people in the Hague and be imprisoned there, too. I said I would flick your balls.)

Pilipino ko. Og naay mudakop unya nako, pulis nga Pilipino. Dad-on ko sa korte unya ang magdala sa kaso sa prosecution ang mga fiscal. Fiscal man pud ko niadto. Kanang "people of the Philippines," ang abogado ana ang fiscal. Di na mo kinahanglan mubayad pa'g abogado ug kanang criminal case. Naay fiscal, mao nay ilang trabaho. Eh 'di patrabahua ninyo.

**(TRANSLATION:** I'm a Filipino. If they will arrest me, I want a Filipino police to do it. Bring me to court and then the prosecution shall be conducted by a fiscal. I was a fiscal before, too. When you say "people of the Philippines," you are represented by a fiscal. You don't need to pay for a lawyer in criminal cases. That's the job of the fiscal. So let them do their job.)

Mao na ako, muatubang ko og korte, ang huwes judge nga Pilipino. Musugot lang ko'g mapreso ko, anhi ko'g presohan, muuban mi sa Muntinlupa, diha ko magpa-presoh. Dili ko musugot ana nga huwes ko, husgaan ko og puti. P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* nila. Unsa ko, buang? Nganong maghilabot-hilabot man sila nato?

**(TRANSLATION:** That's why if I were to face a judge in court, the judge has to be a Filipino. I will only agree to be imprisoned if you will bring me to a jail here in the country, bring me to Muntinlupa, I will agree to that. I will never agree to be judged by white people. Do they think I'm crazy? Why are they interfering with our laws?)

Pero kanang tanan baya --- timan-i ninyo ha --- kanang tanan nga akong gibuhat, dili --- wa koy maginansya diha. Wa koy kwatang makuha diha, wa ko tanan. Gibuhat ko na para ninyo sa inyong mga anak [applause] nga dili malulong ug mamatay lang sa droga kay kana raba inig sulod anang shabu sa utok, maghinay-hinay ug kakuyos ang utok nimo.

(**TRANSLATION:** But everything I --- remember this, okay? --- everything that I have done, I would not gain anything from it. I won't gain any money from it, nothing. I only did it for you, for your children not to become addicted and to die just because of drugs because when they get hooked on shabu, their brain will begin to shrink.)

Kanang inig suyop nimo, mga seven months to one year, gamay na na'g utok. Mao nang di namo --- nangawat sa inyong balay, inyong kaugalingong unsa nalay mabaligya, mao nay sinugdan. Hantod mang-holdup, wa gyuy kwarta unya ang lawas gakatol na, gakirig-kirig na kay mangita na og shabu. Mang-holdup na, mupatay. Mao na giingnan nako para na sa Pilipino. Wala koy maginansya diha. Ako lay... Eh na-Presidente ko.

(**TRANSLATION:** After seven months to one year of using drugs, your brain will have shrunk by then. That's why you would resort to stealing from your own homes and sell all your properties. That's how it would start until you begin committing holdups because you have no money; your body starts to feel the urge of taking shabu again. Then you commit holdup again and kill people. That's why I said that this is for the Filipinos. I have nothing to gain from that. I'm the only one who... Eh na-Presidente ako.)

Kay ingon nako ngadto sa Davao --- para maistoryahan ta lang mo kadyut --- magbuhat ko'g siyudad, ingon nako, nga tarungon nako. Way mga NPA, pahawaon gyud nako sila kay kaila man mi, "Hawa mo kay kita'y mag-engkwentro." So hawa sila. Mao to ang Davao nakasaka. Karon gwapo na. Mga NPA mag-adto, adto --- magsuroy-suroy mo pero pag-abot ngadto'g mag-apil mo anang NPA, panitan ta mong y\*\*\*\*. Mao na diha.

(**TRANSLATION:** Let me tell you this story. Back in Davao, I promised to build a comfortable city. The NPAs didn't wreak havoc there. We were friends, so I told them, "Stay away from my city or else we will have a problem." So they left. That was why Davao was able to progress. It's beautiful now. When the NPAs go --- if you go to Davao to tour the city but end up joining the NPA, I'll skin you alive. That's the truth there.)

So karon, kaning balaora nga makapapreso nako, kay og mukuha ko'g kwarta wa pay deklarasyon kay ang report sa damage wa pa muabot basehan ko na sa akong calamity declaration. So nag-istorya mi, duha to ka adlaw nga debate, giingnan na nako, "Gahuwat na ang mga tao nga magdala ingon-ani." L\*\*\*\* mo, dili ko mutuo anang balaora. Giingnan nako, "kuhaa ang inyong kwarta, ayaw na ko'g huwat anang assessment sa damage," because di ko kapirma og wala. Unya ang tawo nangamatay na, gutom, way mapuy-an, sa taga-Siargao.

(**TRANSLATION:** So let's go back to this law which they say could send me to jail because I cannot use government funds without prior declaration of state of calamity because the report on the extent of the damage hasn't been completed yet which I will use as the basis of my calamity declaration. So we had a meeting to discuss the situation and debated over our options for two days. I told them, "The people are waiting for us to give them this." L\*\*\*\* mo, I just won't follow this rule. I told them, "Get the money. Don't wait for the report on the assessment of damage," because I can't sign the declaration without it. But the people are dying, hungry, homeless, especially those in Siargao.)

Ang ilang --- di man ko madali mupahilak nimo pero ang ilang mga --- ilang mga balay ingun-ani oh, mga plastic na basig... Kanang plastic nga nipis. Mao tong tanang karon way kapuy-an, natagaan nako'g trapal labi na ngadto Siargao, gitagaan nako sila'g trapal good for six persons. Namalit ang gobyerno unya i-distribute.

(**TRANSLATION:** Their situation is... I don't cry easily, but their makeshift houses are made of just thin plastic. So I ordered the purchase of tarpaulins that can provide shelter for six persons and it was distributed in Siargao.)

Karon, mangutana ko ninyo, ang kwarta bang tag-singko mil niabot na? Wa pa? [applause] Naabot na? Hurot na? [laughter] Mao may buhat ana. Naa na ang kwarta, labi na ng singko mil, naay mga banang torpe nga mga ugok [laughter] magsige --- igasto na hinuon og inom. Kani pung mga asawa, og wa nay buhaton, puro Marites, magsige'g... [laughter and cheers] Sige'g tsismis, sige'g dula og piyat-piyat. [laughter]

(**TRANSLATION:** Now, let me ask you, have you received the P5,000 cash assistance? Not yet? Or have you spent it all? That's what usually happens if the husband spends the P5,000 on alcoholic beverages. And the wives, if they have nothing to do, they are like "Marites" and keep on gossiping and playing poker.)

Kanang kwartaha para na sa pamilya, para sa bata. Ayaw ko ninyo'g binuangi kanang mag-inom mo, gamiton ninyo ang kwarta. Balikan ta ka ngari, sumbagon taka. Bitaw. Naa gani mu-report na ang inyong kwarta nahurot na kay gitari-tari, ah l\*\*\*\*. Way amigo-amigo. Anhion ta mo.

(**TRANSLATION:** This money is intended for the family, especially the children. Don't mess with me by using the money to purchase alcoholic drinks. If you do that, I'll come back here for you and punch you. Yes, I will. If somebody reports to me that you spent your money on cockfighting, ah l\*\*\*\*. There will be no sacred cows. I will really come back for you.)

Pero... [**OFFICIAL:** Naabot na, sir. Naay mag-distribute, sir.] Ah karon pa diay muabot ang kwartang y\*\*\*. [**OFFICIAL:** Ngayon ang turnover, sir.] Ah i-turn over karon per family.

(**TRANSLATION:** Pero... [**OFFICIAL:** The money is here, sir, it just needs to be distributed.] Ah the money just arrived today. It should be turned over to every family.)

'Di ko kahatag sa bana, asawa, anak, wala ta'y kwarta ing-ana kadako. So dapat be contented, makuntento ka sa unsay i-abot. Naa daw karon ihatag kaninyo ang tag-singko mil. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** I can't give money to every single person, the husband, the wife, the children because we don't have that kind of money. So dapat be contented, be contented with what you will receive. Today, you will receive P5,000.

Now karon, og mahatag na unya tan-aw ninyo kuwang, tawga lang ko sa cellphone sa Davao kay pangutan-on ta mo, "tagpila man diay inyong gusto?" Huna-huna ko, singko mil, okay lang. Og kuwang, siguro mga 50 mil kada tawo, okay na na? Ha? Ah dako ra. Kay wa man gyud tay kwarta ana kadako. Singko mil mao na'y i-distribute karon.

(Now, if you think the money that you will receive today is not enough, just call my cellphone in Davao and I'll ask you, "How much do you want?" I thought P5,000 would be enough. But if not, maybe P50,000 would be enough? Ah, it's too big. We don't have that kind of money anyway. So P5,000 will be distributed today.)

So karon pa pud diay naabot ngari kay sige'g hulog ang sa bangko gikan sa Malacañan, bangko, unya mag-distribute pa ngadto sa --- i-distribute pa na didto sa mga... Ambot ang --- ang mayor man ang akong gitahasan unya muimplementar. Dili ingon kay wa koy salig sa mayor, kung dili, samok na. Basta kwarta gani, wa na koy --- way disiplina kay wa may maglinya. So giingnan nako ang pulis --- [Hain man inyong pulis diri?] --- ingnan nako nga sila'y magtan-aw nga ang kwarta maabot gyud sa tawo. Karong paghawa nako, i-distribute na na.

**(TRANSLATION:** So the money only arrived today because from Malacañan, the money has to be distributed to the bank and then it has to be distributed to the... I don't know if --- we tasked the mayor to implement the distribution. It's not that I don't trust the mayor, but when it comes to money, the crowd tends to lose discipline and refuse to wait in line. So I told the police... Where are the police here? I told them to watch over the crowd during the distribution. The distribution will commence by the time I leave. )

Ngayo gyud ko'g pasaylo kay dili lang kamo akong giatiman. Gikan ko sa --- nagsugod ko sa Leyte, Cebu, Bohol, diri sa western. Og mabuyo ka, ang imong --- mag-atubang gani ka'g mapa unya gusto kang mahibaw ang mga direksiyon, kaning mapa sa Pilipinas, ang imong right hand, mao nay east. Ang imong left hand, mao nay west.

**(TRANSLATION:** Please forgive me because you're not the only ones I'm helping. I came from --- I started by visiting Leyte, Cebu, Bohol, and here in the western part. Just to give you an idea, if you look at the map of the Philippines and you want to know the direction, on your right hand is the east and on your left hand is the west.)

So ang west ang nadelatar pud pero human na ko sa --- nahuman na ko. Ang kani lang, na-timing pa gyud nga karon lang na... Pasensiya mo kay strikto kaayong gobyerno ana. Maluoy pud ko sa tawong mag-distribute ug alanganin ang ilang makinarya sa paghatag kay basi'g sila'y mapreso.

**(TRANSLATION:** So the relief was delayed in the west, but I've completed it. But here, it was just poor timing that it just arrived today. Please forgive us because government is very strict when it comes to that. I would not want to compromise also the people here distributing the aid if the system is not followed because they might go to jail for that.)

Pero naa man inyong mayor, naa mang mga pulis, ihatag na karong pagtalikod nako. [Naa? Protocol, naa? Hain na man? Sa kanang hinabang pud.] Naa koy hinabang nga gamay, i-apil na ang inyong singko mil. So... [applause]

**(TRANSLATION:** But your mayor is here, the police is here. They'll distribute it after I leave. [Do you have it? Protocol, do you have it? Where is it? Also the relief.] I also have relief goods here for you all aside from the P5,000.)

Kahibaw ko nga wa mo malipay ana. Kahibaw ko kuwang kaayo. Pero kana kwarta na ihatag sa inyo. Ang kanang perdition ninyo sa mga balay, lain na. Pananglitan sa Siargao, tumba man gyud tanan. Tanang lubi hapla gyud. Ana kakusog.

(**TRANSLATION:** I know you're not happy with that. I know the amount is too small. But the money that you will receive is only for your personal use. The perdition on your houses is a different matter. For instance, in Siargao, everything was destroyed. All their coconut trees were knocked down. That's how ferocious the typhoon was.)

So magpadala ko'g pipila ka empleyado sa national. I-chainsaw na lang na himoon og tabla. Mao nay ihinay-hinay ninyo'g ugbok og balay. Naa pud moabot ang sin. Kanang singkwenta. Guniti lang na sa gamay-gamay nga gasto kay just to --- para makalabang ka lang sa sitwasyon karon ug kaning makakuan ta'g balay ninyo.

(**TRANSLATION:** So I'll deploy a few officials from the national government. Just use a chainsaw to make lumber. Use it to gradually repair your houses. The tin roofs will arrive soon. The 50... Just reserve the money for small expenses, just to get through the situation and to slowly rebuild your houses.)

Ang akong kuan is ang sin ug kahoy. Mao ra man nay kinahanglan. Og diha gyud mismo sa kanang bagyo, either sunog, landslide, o unsang kalamidad, ang una gyung pangayoon ana --- dugay gud ko na-mayor --- ang unang pangayoon ana tubig, tubig ug pagkaon. Unya gamayng kasilungan para intawon ang mga bata malibre pa. Ang mga dagko, wa na nay kaso. Ang kadaghanan ana Marites, way gibuhay og di mag-chismis. Sige'g --- eh magsige na'g panglibak. "[garbled] Ah katong si kuan ing-ani ing-ana." Mao na.

(**TRANSLATION:** I can give you tin roofs and some lumber. That's all you need. During the aftermath of a storm, and either fires, landslide, or whatever calamity, the first thing that people will really ask for is --- and I was a mayor for a long time --- is water, food and water. And then shelter to spare the children from discomfort. The adults can bear with it, no problem. And most of the women are Marites, they do nothing but gossip. "[garbled] Ah she's like this, he's like that." That's true.)

So dili na ko magdugay, mao ra nay akong tuyo ngari. Mangayo ko'g pasaylo nadelatar tinood. Wa koy mabuhay ana. I cannot do anything because naay balaod. Nagsige na ko'g "Kaning balaora ni, b\*\*\* s\*\*\* ni." Giingnan nako ang Kongreso tangtanga ng kondisyon. Ana pag...

(**TRANSLATION:** So I won't stay long. This is all I came here for, to ask for your forgiveness that government relief arrived late. But there's nothing I can do about that. I cannot do anything because there's a law. I'm always saying, "This law is b\*\*\* s\*\*\*." I told Congress to repeal that law.)

Ang evaluation, ang pagtan-aw sa perdition, pag-agi na sa bagyo. Pero kanang kasagsagan, magkuha ka'g kwartang ihatag kay gigutom ana, dapat... Di man nako kaya pero pag --- basig di nako sayop, mangayo lang gihapon ko'g pasaylo. Kay sa tinood lang, ako ba, pag-agi na lang pud og suroy ug pasalamat kaninyo kay upat ka buwan, muhawa na ko pagka-Presidente.

(**TRANSLATION:** In the evaluation, they assess the perdition after the storm has passed. But while the typhoon is raging, you need to get money to help the hungry. Dapat... I couldn't do anything about it, but even if it's not my fault, I still want to ask for your forgiveness. To be honest with you, and I also just want to visit you and thank you because in four months, I'll be leaving the presidency.)

So naay butang nahitabo sa ako. Kagamay-gamay nakong tao, lumulupyo ra sa Mindanao, gihimo ko ninyong Presidente. Daghang salamat sa inyong tanan. [applause] Dad-on ko ng kalipay nako nga nakuha nako sa mga tawo. Dad-on ko na sa lubnganan ug di gyud ko makalimot kaninyo. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** So that's what happened to me. I'm just a simple man, a migrant in Mindanao, but you made me President. Thank you very much to all of you. I'll carry this happy memory with me until the day I die. I will never forget you.)

Sa makausa pa, wa na man koy laing ikasulti. [Is there a need to talk to --- about other things? Okay. You are ready to distribute, sir?] [**OFFICIAL:** Yes, sir.] Mag-ceremonial ta. Dili ni ingon nga magpa --- kanang propaganda nga nanghatag mi, wala. Kay giingnan taka kanang COA, kanang maghimo'g report kanang sa damage, mangita na'g ebidensiya. So either photograph or TV gyud nga recorded para mao ni among ihatag. Nia o. Dili na kay ingong --- dili, way politiko ngari sa amo, akong kagrupo. Wala na mi, wala na mi. Tinarong na gyud ni.

(**TRANSLATION:** So I have nothing else to say. [Is there a need to talk to --- about other things? Okay. You are ready to distribute, sir?] [**OFFICIAL:** Yes, sir.] We'll start the ceremonial distribution because I told you that COA would always look for evidence whether it's a report on the damage or a photograph or TV footage so we can give it to them. This is it. But this isn't because --- no, there's no political candidate in our group. This is just public service.)

So nag-deploy ka og mga city health teams?

**OFFICIAL:** Yes. They are here, outside of the gymnasium.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Kuyaw man pud aning magtapad-tapad. Magka-ubo gani ni, dali lang kaayo matakdan didto sa pikas. Maayo gani plastik. Galing kay taas man muskitero, di kaginhawa. Mura'g daghang butang diha. [laughter and cheers]

(**TRANSLATION:** When the people stay too close to each other, illnesses get transferred easily. If someone gets a cough, the person next to him would get a cough as well. It's a good thing there's a plastic partition. That one there has a very high mosquito net. Maybe there are other things happening inside.)

Di bitaw, maghinay-hinay na ko kay gabii na. Ang chopper akong gisakyan [applause] basig dili na makita. Visual man na, dili mana eroplano. Basig di na makita'g asa mi muagi. Og mabangga mi nga mubuto anang eroplano, pangita mo'g laing presidente [cheers] kalimti na'ko.

(**TRANSLATION:** But seriously, I have to get going because it's getting dark and I flew in the chopper on the way here. There's low visibility at night. It's not like a plane... A chopper fly when there's low visibility. If we crash and the chopper explodes, you'll have to find another President just forget about me.)

Sige, daghang salamat kaninyo, sa inyong tabang kanako. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** Sige, thank you very much to all of you, for all your support.)

Gusto mo mutan-aw sa akong nawong? [temporarily removes mask] Ang ngipon, gusto mo mutan-aw? [laughter] Wala man ni pustiso. Kusog ni mamaak. [laughter] Labi na'g mga gwapa. [cheers and applause] Hain man ang gwapa? Itudlo.

(**TRANSLATION:** Do you want to see my face? What about my teeth, do you want to see it? I don't have dentures. These teeth bite hard, especially beautiful women. Where are they? Point them out to me.)

Daghang gwapa ngari sa Bais, daghang tisay. [cheers] Diri mi niadto, may kauban mi sa among dormitory, si Dodong Gonzales. Ambot dugay na 'to classmate nako. Niadtong unang panahon, estudyante pa mi, naagi ko ngari. Ikaduha pa ni karon. So dili ko ninyo maimbita og mga fiesta ug kuan. Dili kaayo ko --- wa koy panahon.

(**TRANSLATION:** There are many beautiful women here in Bais, fair-skinned. I visited this place before with my colleague in the dormitory Dodong Gonzales. I don't vividly remember but he was my old classmate. When we were still students, we went here. This is my second time to be here. You could seldom invite me to attend a fiesta. I don't really have the time.)

Pero ang panahon sa inyong kasakit ug kaguol, ako maoy mutrabaho kay government worker ko. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** But in your time of difficulty and sorrow, I'll work hard to help you because I am a government worker.)

Salamat. [applause]

--- END ---