

**PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE'S SPEECH DURING THE SOUTHERN
PHILIPPINES MEDICAL CENTER CANCER INSTITUTE THANKSGIVING AND OPEN
HOUSE**

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Salamat. Thank you for the courtesy. Maupo ho kayo.

The usual speech is about two pages. Mauwaw manpo ko nga— na I'll just run through you, a greet— of words without really expressing what's in my heart.

Alam mo, I was— could not remember many Christmases ago when I was new Mayor, I made it a point to visit every Christmas, lahat ng hospital dito sa siyudad. And in my visit dito sa cancer ward, I saw an overcrowded, overheated room at wala masyadong facilities.

But, maybe God really intended it, there was this boy na— umikot ako sa mga bata. But before I could let go of that one bed, hinawakan niya iyong paa niya. Sabi niya, “Mayor, operahan ako, Lunes, puputulin na iyong paa ko.” Sabi niya, “puwede mo ako bigyan ng paa?” Sabi ko, “Nak, huwag kang mag-aalala, kung wala akong maibigay nang paa sa iyo, itong paa ko mismo, ibibigay ko.” (applause)

Then, I excused myself and went to the bathroom and cried. Maybe, I don't know how this universe was created and the seasons of life. There were those who are good, they have the money; at meron naman pong wala at hirap.

Always government sees to it that at least, the barest minimum of the population are served even – hanggang kaya lang ng pera.

So, I made it almost a vocation, I used to come here once a month, then twice a month. But my work as Mayor then, was becoming more of a burden. So I was not able really to make the regular visits I used to, hanggang na-Presidente ako.

And I'm very proud of the administration, kay Doktora, kay Doktor and all the members of the— ang ganda ng building ninyo. Makita mo even the color of pattern, which is the modern trend actually. The color is rightfully chosen and the complex itself is beautiful to look at.

Sabi ko, may misgivings sa Ormoc was the linear— iyong radiation. Because ang Maynila, nagtanong kung ano ang gusto ko as a Mayor noon. Sinabi ko, iyon pala hindi pa rin pala kasya and there was a better one, other than the one that I was supposed to buy. I don't know if we bought the two, but sabi ni Doktora ngayon, nandiyan na iyong linear, it's focused on really where the cancer is.

Ang real cancer dito sa ating bayan yung tao. And there was a time that we were asking Secretary Ubial where are the— although, I didn't really meant it to be that way. But I was going extemporaneous in my State of the Nation Address, sinabi ko, "you better change the procurement process or I'll change you."

Actually, ganito iyan eh, I became your President last year. So June is the oathtaking, July 1 ako.

And I made it a point to visit the AFP V. Luna, mga sundalo natin. And I'm quite familiar with the machines of— the medical equipments, because I myself, marami rin akong sakit. One is the Barrett. Iyong ill effects ng smoking and I know that Barrett could be helpful in arresting gangrene and things like that, which I would have wanted to buy for the soldier. And that was July and Diokno, the Budget, who was there with us at every time, magsabi iyong mga doctor, oo lang ako ng oo. Si Ben Diokno naman, sige rin, he was nodding his head in approval.

So on that particular meeting, I gave them almost half a billion. Wala na, can you just imagine a hospital, walang magandang CT scan, there is no— the modern technology for X-Rays, MRI. So sabi ko, bilhin.

Would you believed it, last two months ago, I went at the back of Malacañan where the soldiers are— have their barracks. There were about a thousand of them at the back of Malacañan, iyong parang Presidential Security Group. At nagtanong ako sa isang doctor doon. Sabi ko, "dumating na ba?" Sabi nila, "in the process of bidding." Kaya ako pumutok.

Alam mo, kapag ganito sabi ko, do not be surprised that one day— and I repeated it in the SONA— that a coup d'état from this policemen and soldier will suddenly explode.

Anung klaseng— how do we treat our citizens, particularly, mga sundalo natin kung ganoon?

So sabi ko sa COA and the Ombudsman and I would like to remind them again, and Congress to repeal that particular Procurement Law that goes for—iyong lowest bid.

All these years, we have closed our eyes, itong bidding na lowest bid. Alam mo, sa lowest bid, ang magbi-bid niyan, iyong wala. At sasabihin niya, "ibagsak ko ang presyo. I'll go down and bigyan kita, bigyan tayo, hati." So you'd have a knowledge of the lowest bid, ida-dive pa niya iyan. So he starts to corrupt.

If it is 100 million project, nothing happens. Kasi ibigay pa niya doon sa mga nag-bid, magbigay pa siya ng mga engineers sa gobyerno, magbigay pa doon sa mga Congressman, sa mga Mayor. Ay sabi ko, walang mangyari itong buhay natin.

So, I hope that they should not wait for the day when the hands of the clock shall strike, for the bells to toll, to sound our knell of grief. Hindi ko talaga ang ganito, I'm quoting

from somebody else's words, not mine. Pero pagka— hindi ito na— if this country cannot be fixed, ahh—

Customs, ganoon, grafridden. So I have this mga soldiers na who mounted a mutiny during Arroyo's time and the clarion call was reform because graft is no longer tolerable. So nilagay ko sila doon, so that's what you are complaining about? Fine, sig. In sensitive positions which are prone to graft.

Noon, nakita naman ninyo. The sad thing is that, the name of my son, the Vice Mayor, has cropped up.

Look, ladies and gentlemen. Noong nag-umpisa ako, right at the start sa inauguration, I made a solemn commitment to you, that if any one of my children, si Inday, si Polong or si Baste, masali sa graft, I will step down as President of this Republic at once. And I'm repeating it today. Wala kayong maano sa akin. What I say in public, I will do. O ngayon, those are allegations, gamitan ng pangalan.

Well, kung ganoon, well and good, because if not, pareho rin. Para sa akin, I'm 72, tapos na rin ako. And If I cannot solve this problem of corruption, the law and order, itong ating— the request for the eternal justice of our Muslim brothers and sister.

If we cannot fix that up, this country can never rise. Now, you will remember me, long time after, because I'm sure, I'll go ahead: that there can never be peace in Mindanao, if we do not reconfigure the structural system of government. Kasi itong unitary type that iyong biyahe ni Doktora, pati ni Doktor, you have to secure it from Manila.

And in a modern world, it is passé, bahaw na ba. These are the things that—pati iyong taxes, you are not supposed to get anything. What you collect, what I collect from you, I send it all to Manila, every centavo of it.

Then in return, Congress, it's like a big pie, doon iyon sa National Treasury, doon paghatian. Davao is big. Davao earns well. Davao contributes an enormous amount of money. But just the same because there are cities and provinces who are really poor, hahatiin pa natin lahat iyan. And Davao, at a ratio of about— you send the five, you get one. The four is divided into several expenses of (unclear). Okay lang sana iyan basta huwag lang nakawin ang pera.

At saka yang— the very house that collects the money for us, importations, or exportations for that matter. Marami ang pera ang gobyerno kung talagang huwag lang nakawin at gamitin. I am very sure.

Kaya kung ganito, if I cannot hack it, if I cannot solve the problem, if I'm— pati pamilya ko, madali diyan sa mga korapsyon-korapsyon, bibitaw ako. It becomes an honor because I said it during the very first days of my term. Wala kayong dapat alalahanin sa akin. Do not worry, I will honor the word, I give you my commitment again.

So itong ganito, marami talaga tayong magawa para sa mga tao natin. The only problem is corruption. If you promise something, kagaya nito, it took us almost how many years to come up with this.

Kung hindi ako na-Presidente, hindi ito madali. Kaya madinig ninyo ako, sabihin ko lang— ‘Nak, huwag ninyo akong— pakinggang mabuti ha? Kaya ako nagpu-(expletive) sa publiko, kasi I’m a very impatient man. Nananampal talaga ako ng tao, sumisipa ako ng tao, even when I was mayor.

Ganoon talaga ako because sinasadya ko iyan. And I try myself to be really vulgar about it. But actually, if you know me, if you have been here around, I seldom do it. But itong Manila people and even itong mga elite, they’ve tried to put you down.

You know, men judge best when they condemn. So kung anu-ano na ang pagsabi, akala nila, sila lang ang mga ano, mga (expletive). Kaya nasanay na sila ngayon.

Pati iyong Inquirer, sometimes picturing us to be the worst of the criminal, iyon pala, all along, it was sitting on a land that was no longer theirs, by lease, at least, the possession. They have not returned the property. They have collected the rentals, they never return it to the government.

You know, if you look at it closely, it is not only swindling. You do not collect what is not yours. So itong Inquirer, sabi ko binu-bul— Kita mo kung babuyin ko. Kasi akala mo sino, iyon pala, they are protecting something worth billions. And yet, when they editorialize, the sheet is like really a shit.

Yang mga ganoon na— so I exposed the elite, pati itong ABS-CBN.

You know, the Constitution says that the media must be owned 100% Filipino. ABS-CBN owns Rappler. Rappler is owned by the Americans. If you have an investment in that company which is Filipino but which forbids ownership, even in miniscule amounts, that is a violation of the Constitution. Yan ang ABS-CBN. And the elite in this country, sobra-sobra. Sobrang they take advantage kasi ABS sila. Sabi ko, (expletive) ninyo, akala ninyo, kayo lang ang marunong, you are the only ones who have the morals to talk about what ails this country.

O ngayon ako, anong hinabol mo sa akin? During the election time I told you, kutkutin mo na lahat ng bangko. Ngayon, nanalo na ako pagkapresidente, I give you the authority, look for the 200 million that Trillanes was harping on, garbage. Hindi man lang nila binawi.

And yung worst of all, itong ABS-CBN, magnanakaw. Because when I was running, I had no money, but at the— noong medyo mataas na ang rating ko, marami na ang nagbigay. So I went to them and say, “Puwede ba akong magpa-advertise?” Wala akong advertisement eh, if you noticed, you look back, take a few steps back in time.

Iyong ano na lang, noong may pera na ako, gusto kong bumili. Anak ng— hindi na nila in-air iyong proposal ko, hindi pa nila sinauli iyong pera ko. Kaya isa pa iyan, kaya pati si Gabby ko, (expletive) mo, kakapal ng mukha ninyo. That is how this country is corrupted by the elite.

And ito namang mga ito, sa Customs, pagpasok niyan, maliit ang bahay iyan. Pag-retire niyan, anak ng— mansion na. And they flaunt it, bili ng kotse, kung anu-ano. Anak ng—

So, iyon ang cancer ng ating body politic. It's the most insidious one and it—Kasi kung walang mag-ano nito, we would suffer still for another— kung walang mag— if I were you, do not include me. If there is somebody who would mount a coup d'etat, tapos honest, whether a junta or by a ruler, go for it. If you think that he is really the one who can deliver, who can make the deliverance.

Ako, pa-retire na ako. Wala ito, as long as it is controlled by the elite. They were the elite during the Spanish times, they were given the lands, friar lands and they sold it to the billionaires. Ang masakit pa niyan, the money na ginamit nila, iyong bangko, Pilipino, pera rin ng tao.

Ano ako, iyong— there is a rage in me. So I hope that you can forgive my vulgar, epithets or harsh words. Ako iyong tao na— kasi wala kang masilip sa— kutkutin mo na iyang lahat ng (unclear) ko sa mundong ito. Anong nakita mo, iyon iyan – iyon na iyon. And I said, I have been faithful to you.

Again, if there is a time where I have to honor my commitment, I will do it. But sana, huwag naman because we have to correct the injustice committed by—alam mo, pag hindi ito nag-federal or a sort of reconfiguring government, I will tell you now, and you will remember me for this: there will be no peace in Mindanao. And the war will go on and on, taking lives of people and the destruction of property. And terrorism is here. It is not ours, it is not native, indigenous but it's an imported one, iyong ISIS.

Wala akong problema sa MI, pati MN. We're talking with Misuari, and Murad has stretched his patience beyond its normal proportions. Naiintindihan ko. Kasi bago dumating si Magellan, dala-dala iyang Kristiyanismo in 1521, Islam was already in Mindanao by almost 70 years.

So every tribe dito, ke Maguindanao, ke Maranao, matagal na silang Islam. When Spaniards came, but too late in the day, tried to introduce the religion of Christianity. In Visayas and Luzon, they succeeded. But in Mindanao, they failed. Why? Because of the so many fighting, sila pa Kamlon noon. It's because they have Islam as the backbone of their cry for justice.

Alam mo, dumating ang mga Amerikano, they divided the country. Pati itong Mindanao made cadastral, ang tawag diyan—lands. Forgetting the Moro who is in front of us. So they were into enclaves diyan sa Sirawan, a few places, Bunawan. But all over, dumami

ang Kristiyano. So it behooves upon us really do some correction. Because if not, and I would say it, they are justified in waging the war.

You know, my mother was a half Maranao. This is not a brief for the Moro. I am a Christian. Pero something has got to give here. And that is the cancer which I was really trying to— when I was— nag-landing ako ng chopper diyan kasi wala ng panahon. Traffic is terrible here also. So I take the chopper and land diyan sa SM in coming here. Iyan ang gusto ko, that's what was playing in mind: What is really cancer all about? Cancer is curable. Cancer can be cured. Children can grow up normal if we want it. Ang problema, there seems to be a desert of values in this country.

Maraming salamat po. (applause)

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