



MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

## MESSAGE

It is my pride and honor to lead a great nation as we commemorate the 112<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Declaration of Philippine Independence.

In our exercise of democracy and strong political participation, we pay homage to the sacrifice and struggle of our forefathers and reaffirm our commitment to preserve the freedom and democracy that they valiantly fought for.

In strengthening our governance reforms and protecting our political institutions, we uphold the courage and patriotism exemplified by the heroes of the revolution.

As we continue to beat the odds and demonstrate strong macroeconomic fundamentals, we pass on a bright and progressive future to our children.


The theme for this year's commemoration "*Kalayaan 2010: Tagumpay ng Bayan,*" underscores the boldness and perseverance that each one of us has to live by to deserve our liberty.

The Filipino-American community has been a source of pride for many Filipinos. Your individual success and collective strength embody this boldness of spirit and a persevering and dedicated heart.

I thank you for your continued commitment to promote the Philippines' rich heritage and for your unstinting support for the achievement of Philippine development goals.

As you walk the road towards becoming a more robust and responsible pillar in mainstream America, I call on each one of you to foster greater camaraderie, exercise strong advocacy and internalize the lessons of our nation's independence.

*Mabuhay ang Pilipinas at ang diwa ng kalayaan!*

  
**GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**  
President of the Republic of the Philippines

June 2010, Manila