



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



MESSAGE OF
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ENRIQUE A. MANALO
ON THE COMMEMORATION OF
THE 126TH RIZAL DAY

30 DECEMBER 2022



The Department of Foreign Affairs joins the entire Filipino nation in commemorating the 126th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Jose Rizal with the theme "*Rizal: Preserved Memories Treasured Today by the Nation*" (*Rizal: Alaalang Iningatan, Yaman Ngayon ng Bayan*).

Dr. Rizal's desire and determination to uplift the Philippines and the lives of her people, no matter the personal cost, remain an inspiration to us all, including the members of the Philippine Foreign Service who tirelessly work on promoting and protecting our national interests abroad.

The Department of Foreign Affairs continues to do its part in keeping Dr. Rizal's memory alive. In 2021 alone, we can cite the documentaries "*Finding Rizal in a Time of Barriers*," by Senator Loren Legarda, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and the Philippine Embassy in Berlin; "*Retracing the Footsteps of Dr. Jose Rizal in France*," by the Philippine Embassy in Paris; and "*Virtual Walking Tour of Jose Rizal's Madrid*," by the Philippine Embassy in Spain in collaboration with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. These projects proved that there is always something new to discover about our national hero and that Jose Rizal continues to be a force for unity and collaboration.

As we prepare to welcome the New Year, let us continue to be guided by the values embodied by Rizal - patriotism, courage, and compassion - and through our individual and collective actions, build a better future for the Filipino people.

May you all have a meaningful Rizal Day.

