

Ambassador Chua Graces the Filipino Community in Tanzania's celebration of Philippine Independence Day



Ambassador Chua delivering his independence Day Message

Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, 16 June 2019- Ambassador Alex G. Chua joined the Filipino Community in Tanzania as they celebrated the 121st Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence on 16 June 2019 at the Azura Health and Fitness, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

Ambassador Alex G. Chua, in his Independence Day Message, underscored the importance of “Malasakit sa Mamamayan,” which is the foundation of Filipino communities abroad, especially in countries where the Filipino community is small.

“Kung hindi dahil sa ating tapang at pangarap na mabigyan ng maayos na kinabukasan ang ating mga minamahal sa buhay, hindi siguro tayo narito sa ibang bansa. Kaya nga kailangan din natin magtulungan, magdamayan at magbigay ng malasakit sa ating kapwa, lalong-lalo na sa ating kapwa Pilipino upang mas madali natin malampasan ang mga pagsubok na hinaharap natin dito sa ibang bansa.” he said. *“Nagagalak ako na dito sa Tanzania, ang mga Pilipino ay nagtutulungan at nagbabayanihan na tulad ng isang barangay”* he added.



*Ambassador Alex Chua and Madama Marie Marla Chua (center seated)
with the Filipino Community in Tanzania*

Almost 100 Filipinos with their families and friends attended the event, while other FilCom members who were unable to attend, because of work, watched via live web-cast.

The organizers, President Emeritus Genevieve Mangubat Coppard and new President Rachel Buenaventura partnered with Qatar Airways and the various companies employing Filipinos to ensure that there are exciting raffle prizes. Their grand-prize is a return ticket to Manila courtesy of Qatar Airways.

The formal part of the commemoration ended with the Closing Remarks of Mr. Alfredo Dimatera, who is recognized as the Father of the FilCom in Tanzania for organizing of the Filipino Community in Tanzania roughly 30years ago.

The almost 200 Filipinos in Tanzania are composed of company executives, managers, nurses, IT specialists, shopkeepers, wellness professionals and the religious. At its peak there were around 500 Filipinos in Tanzania, Filipinos said the decrease in the number of Filipinos could be attributed to the ease of movement of people in East Africa, as well as the more stringent issuance of work permit for foreigners in Tanzania.



Mr. Alfredo Dimatera delivering his closing remarks

The Philippine Embassy in Nairobi, under the leadership of Ambassador Chua, has jurisdiction over Tanzania and 11 other countries in East Africa: Kenya, Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda.

Ambassador Chua was accompanied by his wife, Madame Mari Marla Chua and Cultural Officer Hossana P. Dela Cruz.

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