

# philippine studies

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## **Invocation for the Opening of the Third Session, Seventh Congress, Republic of the Philippines, Manila, 24 January 1972**

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*Invocation Delivered by Professor  
Alunan C. Glang for the Opening of the  
Third Session  
Seventh Congress, Republic of the Philippines  
Manila, 24 January 1972*

*Bis millaahir rahmaanir rahim*

*Al hamdullillahi rabbil 'Aalamin. Ar rahmaani rahim Malliki  
yaumidiin.*

*Iyaaka na 'budu wa iyyaaka nasta 'iin. Ihdinas siraaatal musta-  
qim.*

*Siraaatal lazina an 'amta 'alaihim. Ghairil maghdhuubi 'alaihim  
wa ladhhaallin. Aamin.*

(In the name of God, most beneficent, most merciful, praise be to God, the cherisher and sustainer of the universe; the compassionate, the merciful, master of the day of judgement. Thee do we worship, and Thine aid we seek. Guide us along the right path, the path of those on whom Thou hast bestowed favours, not those upon whom wrath is brought down, nor of those who go astray. Amen.)

O God of all mankind bless what is between us; make us one in heart and guide us into peaceful ways . We ask Your light and guidance and protection for those who gather here today and who seek what is good before You and what is good for this country, the Philippines.

This land is a land of those who believe in You, both Christians and Muslims. Make our leaders and lawmakers remember that Your wish is our sure Guide, that faith in You is the bond of our unity. Make them remember that You are the Creator who has compassion on all men, and that we are all

Your servants who owe You worship. Make them remember that You rule over the lives of men and nations, and that obedience to Your commands brings true peace and prosperity to Muslims and Christians alike and to all our citizens. O our Lord, You are the first and the last, the outward and the inward. We take refuge in You, guide us in the right path that we may learn to "give full measure and full weight in justice, and wrong no people in respect of their goods."

Give our political leaders courage to bridge the divisions or the gap which our transgressions and excesses have brought to this beautiful land. Give them wisdom to lead us to sympathy, understanding and brotherhood, to justice and to service of You in peace with one another. Let our civil enactments be such as will make our people "staunch in justice, witnesses to You on the day of resurrection." Let them not favor the powerful and wealthy or oppress the poor and the weak. If You do not have mercy on us, then we are verily among the losers. Help us, o God, to restore peace and prosperity among all our people, Christians and Muslims, especially in Mindanao which is now in crisis.

Open our hearts to one another and to one another's interests and concerns. Bring us out of the darkness of suspicion into the light of understanding and dialogue; make us shun evils both manifest and secret; and guide us to friendship and peace. "Turn hearts of stone into hearts of flesh," so that we may learn in justice to greet one another with a sincerity that is genuine, unfeigned, and enduring in all seasons.

O God, make all our people, Christians and Muslims, Nationalistas and Liberals alike, realize that they are brothers, as indeed they are in Thine holy book, the Holy Koran which says: "All men are but one single nation."

O God, the compassionate, the merciful Lord of the universe and God of all men of all races, the provider and bestower of all that is good, we have committed ourselves to your care and protection. In You have we trusted. Make us understand that hatred never ceases by hatred, but rather that hatred ceases by love, and that this is the eternal law. Teach us,

especially those who meet in this political assembly, to make Your eternal law the guidance of this land that You have given us, Christians and Muslims alike. Make us into one Filipino nation, strong and indivisible, the land of our fathers, the land we love.

*Rabbanaa aa-tenaa fid dunyaa hasanatan wa fil aakhe-rate hasanatan wa genaa 'azaaban naar.* (Our Lord! Grant us good in this world and good in the hereafter and save the Filipino people from difficulties. Amen.)