

THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE: EVIL BEYOND ABOMINATION

BEYOND EVIL! In Maguindanao last November 23, 2009, a group on its way to COMELEC to file for candidacy in the 2010 elections was waylaid and ambushed, resulting in the brutal death of at least 57 people, many of them journalists and innocent civilians.

BEYOND BARBARIC! The murders were made even more abominable by the cruel acts inflicted upon the victims. Aside from suffering multiple gunshot and stab wounds, the breasts of the women victims were found to have been mutilated and their genitals riddled with bullet wounds.

BEYOND DESPICABLE! The crime committed is beyond heinous and is an abhorrent and brazen violation of the dignity of the human person! It has no place in human society! It loudly calls for the vehement condemnation by all -- Christians and non-Christians alike!

BENEATH CONTEMPT! The brutal murders done in the context of electoral politics seriously endanger our democracy and gravely threaten our democratic institutions! The insultingly insensitive and grossly irresponsible statement by no less than the Spokesperson of the President of the Philippines that the Palace – by reason of friendship - will remain supportive of the alleged perpetrators yet again demonstrate arrogance in Office and raises the specter of either complacency or connivance. The use of Martial Law by the Highest Office as its way of response once more demonstrates its callous disregard for fundamental rights and utter lack of respect for the rule of law.

WE CALL ON ALL PEOPLE TO EXPRESS IN DEEPEST TERMS THEIR INDIGNATION AND CONDEMNATION OF THE MASSACRE AND ITS PERPETRATORS!

WE DEMAND FROM THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TO UPHOLD JUSTICE AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND TO ZEALOUSLY APPLY THE RULE OF LAW IN THE IMMEDIATE APPREHENSION AND PROSECUTION OF ALL PERPETRATORS, REGARDLESS OF FRIENDSHIPS OR ALLIANCES.

WE CALL FOR THE SETTING UP OF PEACE CONSTITUTENCIES THAT WILL GUARD AGAINST AND CURTAIL VIOLENCE, ESPECIALLY IN THE UPCOMING 2010 ELECTIONS!

TOGETHER, LET US ALL WORK TOWARDS A COUNTRY THAT SINCERELY AFFIRMS HUMAN DIGNITY AND STRONGLY UPHOLDS HUMAN RIGHTS !