



Republic of the Philippines
City of Cotabato
Region XII

TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

14th Sangguniang Panlungsod
City of Cotabato
23rd Regular Session

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD HELD AT THE SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, GEN. S.K. PENDATUN AVENUE, COTABATO CITY, TUESDAY, December 3, 2013 AT 9:28 A.M.

Present:

Hon. Hadji Abdullah A. Andang	- Chairman and Presiding Officer
Hon. Graham Nazer G. Dumama	- Majority Floor Leader
Hon. Jonathan S. Cortez	- Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Hon. Freddie A. Ridao	- 1 st Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Hon. Madatu B. Datumanong	- Minority Floor Leader
Hon. Kusin S. Taha	- Member
Hon. Sukarno G. Sema	- Member
Hon. Florante L. Formento	- Member
Hon. Christina T. Chua	- Member
Hon. Mohammad Ali D. Matabalao	- Member
Hon. Abdillah J. Lim	- Member, President, Liga ng mga Barangay
Hon. Aeyresc Japal G. Sayadi	- Member, S.K. Federation President

Absent:

Hon. Froilan R. Melendrez	- Assistant Minority Floor Leader O.T. Manila
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RESOLUTION NO. 5432 Series of 2013

A RESOLUTION EARNESTLY URGING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE GAT. ANDRES BONIFACIO AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE TAGALOG REPUBLIC.

WHEREAS, during the 23rd Regular Session of the 14th Sangguniang Panlungsod, Hon. Jonathan S. Cortez moved for the passage of the aforementioned resolution and laid down the premises for his motion, to wit:

WHEREAS, based on original and authentic documents of the Philippine Revolution against Spain, and as attested by historians of note such as Milagros C. Guerrero, Emmanuel N. Encarnacion and Ramon N. Villegas, Andres Bonifacio founded the first national government of the Philippines and served as its President from August 24, 1896 until his tragic death on May 10, 1897;

WHEREAS, on August 24, 1896, at the convention of the Kataastaasang Kapulungan or National Assembly of the Katipunan at Melchora Aquino's barn in Barrio Banlat, now part of Caloocan, the Assembly passed three major resolutions: First, they declared a nationwide armed revolution against Spain; second, they established a national government; and third, they elected officials who would lead the nation and the army;

WHEREAS, assembled at the said convention were the members of the Kataas-taasang Kapulungan (Supreme Council), as well as the pangulo (heads) of the sangunian (supra-municipal) and balangay chapter-units;

WHEREAS, aside from Manila, the *Katipunan* then had sizeable chapters in Batangas, Laguna, Cavite, Rizal, Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac and Nueva Ecija, and smaller chapters in Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, Pangasinan and the Bicol region. Estimates of its membership vary from 30,000 to 400,000;

WHEREAS, since the convention, the *Katipunan*, under Bonifacio's leadership, ceased being a secret society and was forced to come out in the open as a revolutionary government with its own laws, bureaucratic structure and elective leadership - a fact borne out by the research of John R.M. Taylor, Gregorio F. Zaide and Teodoro A. Agoncillo;

WHEREAS, as John R.M. Taylor, American military historian and custodian of the Philippine Insurgent Records, interpreted the documents that he saw: "*The Katipunan came out from the cover of secret designs, threw off the cloak of any other purpose, and stood openly for the independence of the Philippines. Bonifacio turned his lodges into battalions, his grandmasters into captains, and the supreme council of the Katipunan into the insurgent government of the Philippines*";

WHEREAS, the August, 1896 transformation of the *Katipunan* into a revolutionary government and the ensuing election of Bonifacio to the presidency were also confirmed by Pio Valenzuela in his testimony before Spanish authorities upon his surrender on September 2, 1896;

WHEREAS, in at least three letters and an appointment paper, addressed to Emilio Jacinto and written by Bonifacio on printed letterheads dated from March 8 to April 24, 1897, Bonifacio's titles and designations were varyingly described as follows: *Pangulo ng Kataastaasang Kapulungan* (President of the Supreme Council); *Ang Kataastaasang Pangulo* (The Supreme President); *Pangulo ng Haring Bayang Katagalugan* (President of the Sovereign Nation of Katagalugan); *Ang Pangulo ng Haring Bayan* (The President of the Sovereign Nation); *Maytayo ng K.K.Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan* (Founder of the K.K.Katipunan...), *Unang Naggalaw ng Panghihimagsik* (Initiator of the Revolution); and *Kataas-taasang Panguluhan, Pamahalaang Panghihimagsik* (Office of the Supreme President, Government of the Revolution);

WHEREAS, Jose P. Bantug, a prewar scholar, referred to Bonifacio as the *Kataastaasang Pangulo and Heneral Blg. 1*. A similar conclusion was reached by Jose P. Santos, son of Epifanio de los Santos, (in 1933) and Zaide (in 1939), who both recognized Bonifacio's presidency;

WHEREAS, Bonifacio's presidency was further acknowledged in contemporary Spanish publications. For instance, in the February 8, 1897 issue of the *La Ilustracion Española y America*, an article on the Philippine Revolution appeared, accompanied by a portrait of Bonifacio in a black suit and white tie, with the caption "*Andres Bonifacio/Titulado (Presidente) de la Republica Tagala*";

WHEREAS, the article, written by reporter G. Reparaz, further described Bonifacio as Head of the Native Government, the other key officials of which were the following: Teodoro Plata as Secretary of War, Emilio Jacinto as Secretary of State, Aguedo del Rosario as Secretary of the Interior, Briccio Pantas as Secretary of Justice and Enrique Pacheco as Secretary of Finance;

WHEREAS, evidently then, even before the Tejeros Convention on March 22, 1897, the Katagalugan government, headed by Bonifacio, had long commanded the loyalty of a significant portion of the population, holding territories where it exercised the functions of a state, and having armed forces that fought for and defended its existence. It, moreover, had a foreign affairs component (e.g., negotiations being conducted by revolutionaries with the Japanese for political, military and financial support for the uprising), which attempted to gain international recognition for the new nation. The governments that succeeded Bonifacio's essentially republican Katagalugan Government could therefore only proceed from it.

WHEREAS, November 30, 2013 marks the birth sesquicentennial of the *Supremo*, the true father of the Filipino nation and founder of our democracy; the hero who, next to Jose P. Rizal, occupies the biggest place in the hearts of Filipinos;

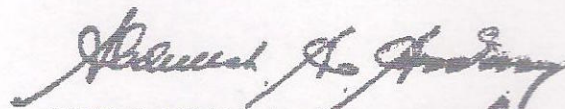
WHEREFORE, on motion of Hon. Jonathan S. Cortez duly seconded by Hon. Mohammad Ali D. Matabalao, it was -

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to earnestly urge the Office of the President and Congress to recognize Gat. Andres Bonifacio as the First President of the Tagalog Republic.

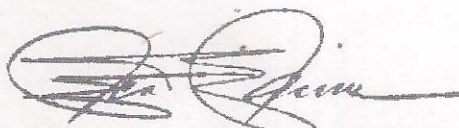
RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this resolution be furnished to the Office of the President, Office of the Senate, House of Representatives, Honorable City Mayor Japal Guiani, Jr., Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, National Historical Commission of the Philippines, the academe and other stakeholders.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, December 3, 2013.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-quoted Resolution.


HADJI ABDULLAH A. ANDANG
City Vice Mayor

ATTESTED:


HADJI CANACAN E. SOLAIMAN
Acting Secretary to the Sanggunian