



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MINISTER
Bangsamoro Government Center, Governor Gutierrez Avenue, Rosary Heights VII, Cotabato City 9600

PROCLAMATION NO. 0001 ✓
S. 2021

**DECLARING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2021 AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER AS
"BANGSAMORO HISTORY MONTH"**

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) is a monumental milestone in the course of the Bangsamoro peace process;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government recognizes the many other significant occasions in the history of the Bangsamoro in pursuit of peace and the right to self-determination;

WHEREAS, the Jabidah Massacre is one of the most significant events in the history of the Bangsamoro, which involved the brutal killing of dozens of young Moro individuals at Corregidor Island, Cavite on March 18, 1968, and is regarded by many historians as a tragedy that ignited or revived the Moro rebellion during the Marcos' regime that eventually led to the formation of the Mindanao Independence Movement (MIM), the Bangsamoro Liberation Organization (BMLO), the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and finally, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF);

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) Parliament passed Resolution No. 62 requiring all ministries and offices including schools to initiate and develop comprehensive policies, programs, and activities every March 18th in commemoration of the anniversary of the Jabidah Massacre as one of the Transitional Justice mechanisms;

WHEREAS, the month of March holds several other equally significant events in the history of the Bangsamoro; among them are the following:

- a. **Bud Dajo Massacre.** On March 5-7, 1906, about 600 Moro, including women and children, were slaughtered by the U.S. Army after General Leonard Wood, the Governor of the then Moro Province, ordered Colonel J.W. Duncan of the 6th Infantry Regiment to lead an expedition against Bud Dajo. This is referred to in History Books as the "Battle of Bud Dajo," or more appropriately, the "Bud Dajo Massacre;"
- b. **Dansalan Declaration.** On March 18, 1935, during the Commonwealth era, some Bangsamoro leaders of Lanao signed a strongly worded document, known as the "Dansalan Declaration," urging the then U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and U.S. Congress not to include the Bangsamoro Homeland in the Philippines' bid for independence, and for the Bangsamoro to instead be granted separate independence by the United States of America;

- c. **All-out War against MILF.** On March 21, 2000, President Joseph Estrada declared an “all-out war” against the MILF, which caused massive displacement, loss of lives of thousands of individuals, and destruction of worth of millions of properties;
- d. **Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro.** On March 27, 2014, the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro was signed at the Malacañang Palace which, in effect, concluded the 17 years of negotiations between the Government of the Philippines and the MILF. This document recognizes the justness and legitimacy of the cause of the Bangsamoro people and their aspiration to chart their political future through a democratic process that will secure their identity and posterity, and allow a meaningful self-governance;
- e. **Inauguration of the BARMM and Inaugural Session of the BTA.** On March 29, 2019, the BARMM was finally inaugurated, an event witnessed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. On the same occasion, the BTA Parliament also conducted its inaugural session.

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned events also warrant proper recognition, commemoration, or celebration;

WHEREAS, there is a need to set an appropriate date for the commemoration or celebration of those events and to integrate and coordinate all activities of different ministries, offices, and agencies of the Bangsamoro Government relative to the same;

WHEREAS, RA No. 11054 provides that during the transition period, all executive authority shall be exercised by the interim Chief Minister who shall be appointed by the President as such. He shall exercise powers expressly granted thereunder, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for the efficient and effective governance of the Bangsamoro Government and those which are essential to the promotion of general welfare;

WHEREAS, the Chief Minister shall have control and supervision over all ministries, agencies, offices, bureaus, commissions, boards and instrumentalities in the Bangsamoro Government. He shall ensure that laws are faithfully executed;

WHEREAS, Section 2, Chapter 1, Title 1, Book IV of the Bangsamoro Administrative Code expressly grants the Chief Minister rule-making power, such as the issuance of Proclamations and other policies in the Bangsamoro Government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, AHOD B. EBRAHIM, Chief Minister of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the month of March 2021 and every year thereafter as “Bangsamoro History Month.”

As such, all concerned ministries, offices and agencies of the Bangsamoro Government, including local government units, Bangsamoro government-owned and controlled corporations, as well as members of the private sector and civil society groups, are hereby enjoined and encouraged to initiate and participate in relevant and meaningful activities in observance of the Bangsamoro History Month.


The Ministry of Public Order and Safety (MPOS), being the ministry mandated to perform functions relating to peace building, reconciliation and unification, shall be the lead ministry to formulate programs and activities for the observance of the Bangsamoro History Month. In performing its task as such, the MPOS shall closely coordinate with the following:

- a. Office of the Chief Minister;
- b. Office of the Speaker of the Parliament;
- c. Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority;
- d. Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission;
- e. Bangsamoro Information Office; and
- f. Other concerned ministries, offices, and agencies.

This Proclamation supersedes all other executive issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Bangsamoro Government to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Cotabato, this 8th day of March, 2021.


AHOD B. EBRAHIM
Chief Minister

OCM-BARMM RD-AMS

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