



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
NEW YORK

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Unity Iftar Celebration at the Philippine Consulate in New York Highlights Diversity of Philippine Culture



Guests partake of Maranao and Iranun dishes during the Iftar reception or breaking of the fast. (Photo by Lambert Parong/FAPCNY)

New York, 22 May 2019 – In solidarity with the Filipino-American Muslim community in the US northeast, the Philippine Consulate General in New York together with the Kinding Sindaw Melayu Heritage hosted the Unity Iftar Celebration on 16 May 2019 at the Philippine Center New York.

In his welcome remarks, Consul Ricarte Abejuela III said that the unity Iftar celebration recognizes that the Philippines is a society composed of many peoples and many beliefs. He added that “faith is intertwined with Filipino practice and tradition” and “Filipino Muslim culture is one of the distinguishable cornerstones of Philippine culture and society.”

For more information, visit www.newyorkpcg.org and www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY

Cohn Reznick Managing Director Sedic Ampanas, whose parents are from the Iranon and Maguindanaon tribes, shared the religious and cultural significance of Ramadan. He imparted that fasting during the holy month of Ramadan teaches a person discipline, spiritual self-purification, and obedience to God. He said that Iftars also draw family and friends together and share the food with the community, a tradition most Filipinos are accustomed to.

The Iftar celebration was highlighted by the interfaith prayers, with sisters Farah and Tisha Dianalan reciting verses from the Quran, Rev. Fr. Roy Regaspi praying for peace and unity, and Mr. Sedic Ampanas, leading the Adhan and Magrib prayers.

Guests were treated to a spread of Filipino dishes, such as the Maranao'spiaparan and Iranun'ssinisa to name a few, and the traditional Iftar staples, dates and fruits.– END



Consul Ricarte Abejuela III welcomes guests to the Unity Iftar Celebration. (Photo by NYPCG)



Mr. Sedic Ampanas shares religious and cultural significance of Ramadan during the Unity Iftar Celebration (Photo/s by Lambert Parong/FAPCNY)

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Rev. Fr. Roy Regaspi prays for peace and unity during the Iftar celebrations. (Photos by NYPCG)



Farah and Tisha Dianalan recite verses from the Quran during Unity Iftar Celebration (Photo by Lambert Parong/FAPCNY)

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Potri Rankamanis of Kinding Sindaw Melayu expresses hope for the return to Marawi of thousands of displaced families. (Photo by Lambert Parong/FAPCNY)

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