

**Remarks of President Fidel V. Ramos  
Promulgation of the  
Decree of Catholic Hierarchy  
Manila Cathedral, July 22, 1992**

YOUR EMINENCE, JAIME CARDINAL SIN

YOUR EMINENCE, RICARDO CARDINAL VIDAL

YOUR EXCELLENCY THE PAPAL NUNCIO, ARCHBISHOP GIAN  
VINCENZO MORENI.

THE PRESIDENT OF CBCP, BISHOP CARMELO MORELOS THE  
PRESIDENT OF PCP-II ARCHBISHOP LEONARDO LEGASPI, THE  
ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE PRIESTS, THE RELIGIOUS, MGA KAIBIGAN, MGA KABABAYAN.

UMAAPAW SA GALAK AT PASASALAMAT ANG AKING PUSO NA  
AKO AY INANYAYAHAN NINYONG MAKASAMA NGAYONG UMAGA SA  
PAGBUBUNYAG NG MGA UTOS NG PANGALAWANG CONSILIO  
PLENARIO NG PILIPINAS O PCP-II.

TO BE HERE IN THIS REVERED BASILICA OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPCION, OUR BLESSED MOTHER WHO IS VERY DEAR TO ME, AND JOINED TOGETHER WITH IN A CRUSADE FOR RENEWAL HOLDS SPECIAL MEANING FOR ME.

THIS GIVES GREAT HOPE THAT OUR COUNTRY CAN AND WILL BE A NATION OF COMMUNICATION AND SOLIDARITY.

I REMEMBER IN THE BOOK OF BISHOP BACANI (I BOUGHT SEVERAL COPIES), "CHURCH IN POLITICS", THERE WERE MANY REFERENCES BE PCP-II AND ITS BEAUTIFUL VISION FOR OUR PEOPLE. ONE THAT I FOUND SPECIAL RESONANCE WITH IS THE CHURCH OF THE POOR "THAT WILL TILT THE CENTER OF GRAVITY OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IN FAVOR OF THE NEEDY. TO MAKE THIS A NATIONAL REALITY IS OUR COMMON DREAM, OUR COMMON HOPE A SHARED VISION THAT WILL WELD OUR PEOPLE TOGETHER.

AS I PUT TOGETHER A TAKE-CHARGE LEADERSHIP THAT WILL ENABLE US TO REALIZE OUR DREAM OF A NATION TRANSFORMED, I SEEK YOUR COLLABORATION IN UPLIFTING THE LIFE OF THE MASSES OF OUR PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE POOR. WE SHARE THE SAME

CONSTITUENCIES. AND IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PEOPLE, WE NEED TO BAND TOGETHER IF WE ARE TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES, BRIDGE SEPARATIONS, AND HEAL DIVISIONS.

AS I THANK YOU FOR THIS PRIVILEGE OF ONENESS WITH YOU IN THE JOURNEY TOWARDS RENEWAL AND UNITY, I WISH TO REPEAT THE MESSAGE SIGNALLED IN MY INAUGURAL ADDRESS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC: I AM THE PRESIDENT OF ALL FILIPINOS, REGARDLESS OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, BUT THAT I DO RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT THE FACT THAT MOST FILIPINOS ARE CATHOLICS.

LET ME CLOSE BY BORROWING CARDINAL SIN'S FAVORITE ENDEARMENT: "I LOVE YOU ALL VERY DEARLY."

SALAMAT PO SA INYONG LAHAT!

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