

For the Filipino Expats' Children

by Bona Rae Villarta (August 12, 2012)

Direct English translation of the Tagalog original

Dedicated to children of expatriate Filipinos who may never get to
see their ancestors' native land

I have noticed that you don't even speak or understand
Our national language as declared by Quezon¹
Or even follow our good manners and right conduct
But you also share an heritage with those who live back home
That you shouldn't forget when you grow up.

Did you know that ever since Lolo Macoy² presided at Malacañang
Our country has faded fast from its glory days many years before
And we still haven't awoken up from his atrocities that he had committed to
the rest of the world while he was presiding

Due to these, many of our fellow countrymen have fled their native land
And have lived or may live the rest of their lives in their adopted country
But I challenge you and your parents to visit us here because
There is also a positive side to life here.

I do not really know why your parents or ancestors fled their native land
But you can help us back home in achieving our ultimate goal: to become a
world leader in many fields
Especially in the advancement of science, sports and education
For we really have fallen short in their advancement thus far.

We will never tell how will you grow up in the land of your birth or your
adopted country
But you should still remember later in your lives that you're still
Filipinos by blood.

1 - Manuel L. Quezon, the father of the Filipino language by declaring
Tagalog as the official language of the Filipino people in 1935

2 - Ferdinand Marcos, the longest-serving (20 years) and also the worst-
ever Philippine president in terms of negative achievements (Martial Law,
human rights violations, etc.)

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