

THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN SWITZERLAND COMMEMORATES THE 123rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE WITH A FLAG CEREMONY



Ambassador Denis Yap Lepatan (third from left) and the officers and staff of the Embassy of the Philippines in Berne commemorated the 123rd Proclamation of the Philippine Independence with a flag ceremony.

12 June 2021 - The Philippine Embassy in Switzerland commemorated the 123rd Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Philippine Independence with a flag ceremony at 08.30H at the Embassy grounds. The solemn event was led by Ambassador Denis Yap Lepatan and was attended by Embassy officials and staff in Filipiniana attire.

The ceremony started with the unfurling of the Philippine tricolors, then followed by the singing of the *Lupang Hinirang* and the recital of the *Panunumpa ng Watawat sa Pilipinas*.

THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN SWITZERLAND COMMEMORATES THE 123rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE WITH A FLAG CEREMONY



He said that this phenomenon is heartwarming and comparable to our national hero Dr. Jose Rizal who, despite the dangers waiting for him in the Philippines, went back home.

The Ambassador further highlighted, *“That home is what our heroes fought and died for. That home is what our independence is all about”*.

Ambassador Lepatan dedicated the lyrics of the song *“Philippine Beauty”*, which was adopted by a popular Tagalog radio program *“Ito ang Inyong Tiya Dely”*, to all those who long for their *lupang sinilangan* or *lupang tinubuan*,

*O’ the Philippine maid is fairer,
With her eyes and her hair of jet.
O’ the Philippine flow’r is truer,
In brighter scenes, they are set.*

*Who would not be proud if such a land were home?
Where love is beauty, rewards of duty.*

*Filipino feet across the continents may roam; but
the soul of the islander over ocean back home comes.*

The program ended after the screening of the video messages of President Rodrigo Duterte and Secretary Teodoro L. Locsin, Jr.



THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN SWITZERLAND COMMEMORATES THE 123rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE WITH A FLAG CEREMONY

