

Order Of The Knights Of Rizal

RY-2009 Middle East & Africa Regional Assembly

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7th Rizal Youth Inter-School Academic, Talents & Skills Competition

26-29 November 2009

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

The Middle East and Africa Region of the Order of the Knights of Rizal recently concluded its RY2009 Regional Assembly in conjunction with the 7th Rizal Youth School Academic, Talent & Skills Competition, attended by delegates from twelve Philippine International School delegations from all over the Middle East, held in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.

Over 75 active Knights of Rizal from the four MEA Chapters met in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain for the RY-2009 Regional Assembly. The assembly was patronized by Sir Vergilio R. Esguerra, KGCR, Supreme Commander and Sir Jesus B. David, KGCR, Past Supreme Commander and Special Consultant to the Supreme Commander on MEA Affairs.

Addressing the MEA Knights, the Supreme Commander challenged the MEA Knights with his passionate key-note address with the following points:

- To become good leaders of government and business.
- To participate in nation building, gain true self reliance and embrace values education.
- To lead the government on their own brand of nationalist, pro-people and pro-God leaders.
- To work for a peaceful Philippines and a clean, safe and habitable Earth
- To become more responsible and respectful to their elders and other people.
- To reap life's bounty by knowing beforehand the significance of perseverance, honesty and integrity.
- To be loyal to cultural heritage.

Furthermore, the Supreme Commander stressed to the MEA Knights and their ladies, and the Filipino youths, and encouraged the KORs to take action and stated that "All these challenges are within the orbit of Rizal's principles, thoughts and vision addressed principally to each one of us. You are that burning candle. A candle loses nothing of its light by lighting another candle. You are that shining candle and may you never get tired of sharing your light to others. You are our future heroes. And like Rizal heaven's heroes never carve their name on marbled columns for earthly fame. They build instead a legacy that springs out of life lived for the King of Kings".



Sir Jesus B. David, KGCR, Past Supreme Commander and Special Consultant on the MEA Affairs to the Supreme Commander attended the MEA Regional Assembly and likewise addressed the MEA Knights with a very inspiring message. Sir Jess David has attended the yearly OKOR MEA Event in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain and this was his 7th consecutive year of attendance.

**Sir Alberto M. Layag Jr., KGOR,
Regional Commander
(MEA's effective and strong leader)**

"we fulfill the mission of the ORDER by gathering the Filipino Youths for a three-day contest from the MEA Schools to celebrate the Life and Works of the National Hero and propagate his teachings."

December 2009



Non Omnis Moriar!



Sir Vergillio R. Esguerra, KGCR
Supreme Commander, Delivering
his Keynote Address
to the MEA Knights



Sir Jesus B. David, KGCR
Addressing the MEA Delegates
in Manama, Kingdom
of Bahrain.

Order of the Knights of Rizal - MEA RY-2009 Regional Assembly



The Supreme Commander dubbing new MEA Knights.

"IF WE CAN JUST HARVEST AND UNLEASHED THE HIDDEN HERO IN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US AND CREATE THE PROVEN POWER OF A UNITED YOUTH ... WE CAN MAKE OUR COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN" Sir Jess David, KGCR, Manama, Bahrain—RY-2009



Sir Zane M. Thirlwall, KCR, Area Commander, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (a Dynamic MEA Leader)

FIVE NEW MEAR KNIGHTS

- Sir Ely Martos, Jr., KR
- Sir Benjamin Bollozos, KR
- Sir Francisco C. Birden, KR
- Sir Alfonso B. Reyes, KR
- Sir Joselito B. Santos, KR



The Supreme Commander and his delegation attending the RY-2009 MEA Regional Assembly

Sir Jess David, KGCR said that "I am greatly honored to be here again with my brother Knights of Rizal and friends with whom I have the highest esteem and respect. First of all, allow me to extend on behalf of your Brother Knights in my home town of Tarlac, our fraternal greetings and congratulations to the organizers for the continuance of this event that promotes the ideal and objectives of our national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, particularly to our

young with whom Dr. Jose Rizal refers to as the hope of the fatherland

The Regional Assembly was also highlighted with dubbing of five new Knights in the MEA roster. The Dubbing was performed by the Supreme Commander.

Sir Alberto M, Layag Jr, KGOR, the Regional Commander of OKOR-MEA spearheaded the MEA Regional Assembly together with his Area Commanders. Sir

Alberto M. Layag Jr has been MEA Regional Commander for the last 5 years and has continued to lead the MEA Knights to actively and passionately fulfill its mission in educating the MEA Filipino Youths on Rizalism, Patriotism and Love of country.



**Sir Alex Ginete, KCR
Area Commander, Gulf States**

MEA Exaltation Ceremony - Six new KCRs...

During the RY-2009 MEA Regional Assembly, six MEA Knights received their exaltation to the 3rd Degree Rank of KCR. Sir Benito Celestino, Sir Teodoro Lor, Sir Ricardo Cunanan, Sir Danilo Santos, Sir Marcial Mojica and Sir Nestor Ballano all proudly took their Oath as new Knights Commander of Rizal (KCR) after having been sworn by Sir Jess B. David.



"and strive always to live up to the expectations and comply with the obligation of a Knights Commander of Rizal..." they all pledged.

The 7th MEAR Rizal Youth Academic, Talents and Skills Competition

Twelve Philippine International Schools from all over the MEA Region sent their delegations to compete in the 7th MEAR Rizal Youth Academic, Talents and Skills Competition on the 27-29th November 2009, in conjunction with the MEAR Regional Assembly. The competitions centered on the Life and Works of our National Hero Dr. Jose P. Rizal. The twelve schools competed on Young Jose Rizal, Young Maria Clara, Battle of the Brains, On-The-Spot Painting, English and Pilipino Essay Writing Contests. Over 180 delegates from the various schools gathered to celebrate the life and works of Dr. Jose Rizal through a very exiting and lively competitions, judged by panels of selected independent professionals.

Sir Zane M. Thirlwall, KCR, Area Commander for Saudi Arabia provided most of the essential organization expertise through his skillful organizational experience during the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th OKOR MEA Contests.

The 7th MEAR Rizal Youth Academic, Talents and Skills Competition

HE Ambassador Ma. Corazon Yap—Bahjin, Phil Ambassador to Kingdom of Bahrain

Her Excellency Ma. Corazon Yap Bahjin patronized the MEA Regional Assembly and the 7th MEAR Rizal Youth Academic, Talents and Skills competition in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain and actively participated in the event activities. Her Excellency delivered a very inspiring message to the MEAR Knights and she was very astounded by the solemnest the Knighting Ceremony and was very impressed with the efforts being undertaken by the MEAR Knights of Rizal in promoting and propagating the

teachings of the National Hero. She went on by saying that “through this type of event, the youths are guided and reminded of their with the moral and patriotic obligation to their country”.

Her Excellency was very complimentary and proud of all the efforts and hard work portrayed by the contestants and their respective school teachers and coaches.

Her Excellency committed to support, help organize and head the KAPARIZ in MEA.



H.E. Ambassador Ma. Corazon Yap-Bahjin with Sir Virgilio R. Esguerra, KGCR during the 7th MEA Rizal Youth Contest

Sir Delfin R. Lumberio—EPCC's Dynamic Chapter Commander - Organized the Competitions

Sir Delfin R. Lumberio, KCR, was appointed by the MEA Regional Commander, Sir Bert M. Layag Jr., KGOR to perform the gigantic task of organizing and coordinating the 7th OKOR MEA Rizal Youth Competition. Supported by the Eastern Province Community Chapter., Sir Delfin Lumberio, KCR work tirelessly to put all the pieces together that lead to a very successful contests. Sir Delfin had the difficult task of organizing and to make the event possible. The MEA Knights have spent over 1.3 Million Pesos towards the event, all coming from personal contributions from the member Knights and fund-raising activities from the three major active Chapters: EPCC, Kingdom of Bahrain, and CRC in Riyadh. Sir Zane Thirlwall, Area Commander KSA, Sir Alex Ginete., Area Commander for Gulf States gave their best

to support to the event. Sir Antonio C. Zamudio, KCR, Chapter Commander of the Kingdom of Bahrain Chapter and Sir Freddie Base, KCR whole-heartedly labored to assist Sir Delfin Lumberio in conducting the event activities and contests. “It is once again demonstrated that if we put our efforts together, we can accomplish anything.” as proudly proclaimed by Sir Alberto M. Layag Jr. Regional Commander, MEA..



Sir Antonio C. Zamudio, KCR, Chapter Commander, Kingdom of Bahrain Chapter with the Supreme Commander, Sir Vergilio Esguerra, KGCR



Sir Delfin R. Lumberio, KCR and Mr. Mubarak Al Bubshait, from the Saudi Ministry of Education, patronizing the Rizal Youth Competition



All smiles by Sir Freddie Base, KCR, Chapter Commander, CRC and Sir Jesus B. David, KGCR

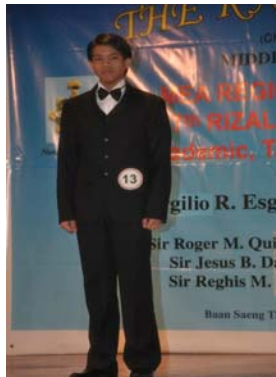
Twelve MEA Philippine Schools Participated in the Rizal Youth Academic, Talents and Skills Competition

The Regional and Area Commanders expressed their whole hearted gratitude to Sir Oscar G. Paraiso, KCR, Event Coordinator and Sir Willie C. Lanzon, KCR, Program Director for their outstanding efforts in organizing the school participants to ensure a smooth and fair competition amongst the competing school contestants. These brave and outstanding contestants practiced and perfected their respective skills for several months leading to the OKOR 7th Competitions. The twelve competing schools were composed of delegates from the following schools:

- GEMS International School, Jeddah
- Philippine School - Doha Qatar
- Philippine Int'l. English School, Kuwait
- Al Jazeera International School Dammam
- PISCO - UAE (PISCO) Abu Dhabi
- Int'l. Philippine School, Al-Khobar
- New Kuwait Philippine Int'l. School
- Fawaq Int'l Science School of the Phil - Riyadh
- Elite International School Riyadh
- Palm Crest International School Riyadh
- Millennium International School Riyadh
- Phil International School Qatar



Young Maria Clara 2009 Champion (Ariane Alireza Zayani) (NKPIS)



Young Jose Rizal 2009 Champion, Nicolai JM Baluyot (IPSA)



Young Jose Rizal & Young Maria Clara Champions 2009



Battle of the Brains Contest



Essay Writing Contest



The Supreme Commander inspecting the On-the Spot Painting Contest



OKOR MEA Knights



IPSA—2009 Overall Champion



Floral Offering