



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OCT 04 2012

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **182**, s. 2012

2012 NATIONAL READING MONTH

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. Every year, in the month of November, the Department of Education (DepEd) leads the whole nation in the celebration of the **National Reading Month**. This is in support of the *Ten-Point Education Agenda of the Aquino Administration*, to promote the *Every Child a Reader Program (ECARP)*, and to commemorate the *Birth Anniversary of the late Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, Jr.* who was born on November 27, 1932 and his ardent love for reading. With *Ninoy* as an inspiration, this practical and creative tool to improve literacy is as much about Reading as it is about hope as reiterated on the writings of and about *Ninoy*.

2. With this year's theme: *Nasa Pagbasa ang Pag-asa*, schools and learning centers are enjoined to hold activities listed for elementary pupils and secondary students listed in Enclosure No. 1.

3. The *Araw ng Pagbasa*, an annual reading advocacy aims to promote/develop love for reading.

4. For School Year 2012-2013, the **National Reading Month** shall culminate with the Nationwide *Araw ng Pagbasa* on November 27, 9:00 a.m. Philippine Standard Time (PST) with President Benigno S. Aquino III taking the lead as he reads a story to select Grade 5 pupils.

5. Likewise, at exactly 9:00 a.m. (PST) of the same date, school administrators and other DepEd officials are directed to hold a nationwide synchronized story telling time with the President in their respective schools and/or offices before a group of pupils and students, who are beginning readers in elementary and developmental readers in high school to emphasize the importance of reading. Stories written in their own Mother Tongue can be used to emphasize local culture and traditions. The local government officials may also be invited to participate in this activity.

6. The Guidelines for the Conduct of *Araw ng Pagbasa* are contained in Enclosure No. 2 and the Suggested Reading Materials in Enclosure No. 3.

7. It is expected that the pictorial reports of the activities done during the month-long celebration is posted in www.facebook.com/arawngpagbasa2012, an official fan page of the event managed by the Office of Congressman Banal, where comments and updates can be found.

8. The CD containing videos and tarpaulin design for the *Araw ng Pagbasa* maybe downloaded from the official fan page.

9. The school activities on the celebration of the **National Reading Month** should not disrupt the contact time between the teachers and the learners as stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2009 entitled *Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith*.

10. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

Encls.:

As stated

References:

DepEd Memorandum: No. 244, s. 2011

DepEd Order: No. 9, s. 2009

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS

Learning Area, READING

PUPILS

STUDENTS

TEACHERS

Rhea/R-DM 2012 National Reading Month
1927/September 26, 2012

Enclosure No. 1 to DepEd Memorandum No. 182, s. 2012

**2012 NATIONAL READING MONTH
Activities for Elementary Pupils and Secondary Students**

Date	Elementary	Secondary
November 5-9	<p>Run with a Book A kick-off activity that aims to gather books as each runner donates/pledges to give books to be distributed in a selected community.</p> <p>Door-to-Door Reading Campaign Student, teachers together with the local government units (LGUs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other volunteers come together to bring and read books from the fun run to each household of the chosen community.</p> <p>Local Storytellers Schools officials and teachers are directed to lead in story reading activity every Monday during the Flag Ceremony. Local officials and other community helpers may be invited to this activity. Materials written in Mother Tongue may be used.</p>	<p>Takbook Pit stops maybe the division library hub, municipal library, private school library and finally the school library.</p> <p>Book sa Sulok Each classroom will have its Reading corner. Awards for the most number of books read will be given.</p> <p>Kwentong may Kwenta High school students may be assigned to read stories to elementary students.</p>
November 12-16	<p>Random Stop and Read: Be Ready to Read Random stopping may be done by the school principal anytime of the day. Students are given fifteen to twenty (15-20) minutes to read a material of their own interest.</p> <p>Reading Academy for Teachers Training for Teachers on Story on Storytelling and on writing stories for children.</p>	<p>Basa Pasa Teachers will be trained on Whole School Approach (WSA) in Reading. English and Filipino teachers will guide the subject teachers in developing the reading competencies of students.</p>

November 19-23	<p>Reading Camp Highlights the pupil's talents in Communication Arts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reader's Theater • Chamber Theater • Book Talk (Story Telling) • Story Maker • Take Time to Vote - each sub-camp will campaign the book that they have chosen and all the campers will vote for the best book. • Family/Story Relay - each member of the group is given a chance to contribute an event in the story they are creating. 	<p>Bookworm Storm Teams composed of Grade 7 pupils to 4th Year students will be asked regarding the authors, characters, plot of the materials read in the classroom. Winners will be given books donated by leading bookstores.</p>
November 27	<i>Araw ng Pagbasa</i>	<i>Araw ng Pagbasa</i>
November 26-30	<p>I Caught You Reading Pictures of pupils, teachers, parents, school leaders and local officials may be posted. Pupils caught reading will be given a ticket/ribbon. Books will be given to pupils with the most number of earned tickets/ribbons.</p>	<p>Hindi Ka Nag-iisa Oratorical contest of Ninoy's undelivered speeches. The undelivered "Arrival Speech," "The Candle of My Life," and "End's Beginning" of Senator Benigno Aquino may be used in this activity and attached as Enclosure No. 3</p> <p>Face a Book A school Facebook Account can be created where the students can post pictures of students, parents, professionals, LGUs reading; can share about books read and can vote their favorite books; bulletin boards may be used in the absence of internet.</p> <p>Book Tube Video presentation/ adaptation of stories read may be posted on YouTube or shown in the school gym/auditorium.</p>

araw ng pagbasa

GUIDELINES

1. What is **araw ng pagbasa**?

araw ng pagbasa is an activity held during November 27 to commemorate the birth of the late Senator Benigno “Ninoy” Aquino, Jr. It was started by Rep. Bolet Banal (3rd District, Quezon City) when he was Quezon City Councilor. The event is celebrated through storytelling sessions and aims to inspire hope through the life and legacy of Ninoy and other eminent Filipinos.

Rep. Banal filed the “Araw ng Pag(b)asa Act of 2010” bill in the 15th Congress. It aims to make **araw ng pagbasa** a special working holiday. Under the bill, in case November 27 falls on a weekend, the event shall be celebrated during the immediately preceding Friday.

Last year, Sec. Armin Luistro issued Memorandum No. 244, s. 2011, declaring **araw ng pagbasa** as the culminating activity of the National Reading Month. He led the nationwide simultaneous storytelling sessions on November 25, 2011 (Friday), two days before November 27 (Sunday).

2. What is the aim of **araw ng pagbasa**?

araw ng pagbasa is a practical and creative tool to improve literacy. It aims to motivate reading among our children, communities, educators, and leaders and make reading a fun and shared physical experience. By promoting reading, especially on topics involving Ninoy and our heritage, we are building the foundation for learning and love of country.

3. How do we celebrate **araw ng pagbasa**?

Celebrating **araw ng pagbasa** can be as simple as taking a worthwhile storybook and reading it before a class or group. The material must fit the profile of the group and must be age-appropriate (storybooks usually indicate the proper age level to whom the story may be read). The reader raises the group’s interest and attention by enthusiastically sharing the story before the group and making sure its message is understood. Questions may be raised afterward to test the participants’ comprehension.

For the activity to become simultaneous, participants are enjoined to conduct the event at 9:00 am of November 27. This way, the nation is united in reading at the same time.

Readers may either be invited guests or the school teachers themselves. It is advised that they prepare for the event and familiarize with the book at least a week before the reading session.

The choice of storybooks using the indigenous language or mother tongue is highly encouraged.

4. What other things do we need to remember for **araw ng pagbasa**?

It would be great if a picture or two could be taken to document the event. The organizers have set up an **araw ng pagbasa** Facebook fanpage, where pictures may be uploaded. Other information can be found in the same fanpage.

araw ng pag asa

GUIDELINES

Suggested Reading List

For children 2-12 years old

- *Magic Arrow / Ang Mahiwagang Pana by Bolet Banal* - A story inspired by the heroism and hope of the late Benigno 'Ninoy' Aquino Jr.
- *Ang Pambihirang Buhok ni Lola, o Kung Bakit Matatag ang mga Pinay by Rene O. Villanueva* (Winner, National Book Award, Children's Literature, 2001) - A violent storm threatens an old town and an old grandmother attempts to save everybody. How will she do this? This folktale is not so much about Lola's extraordinary hair as it is about the Filipina's extraordinary strength of character.
- *Ang Itim na Kuting by Natasha Vizcarra* (Grand Prize, PBBY Salanga Writer's Prize, 1996) - Ignacia is a black kitten! Oh, how she scares everybody away! They say bad things happen because of her. This makes Ignacia feel bad and she sets out to prove that there are many good things a cat like her can do.
- *Ang Mabait na Kalabaw by Virgilio Almario* - A story about a carabao whose goodness is exemplary.
- *Halu-halo Espesyal by Yvette Ferreol* - A story about a sick child who remembers her lola and the magic she weaves in her kitchen.
- *When Color Came To Town by Susan dela Rosa Aragon* - A story of how the town of Alikabok transforms itself.

For children above 12 years old

- *Si Jhun-Jhun, Noong Bago Ideklara ang Batas Militar by Augie Rivera* - A story of a boy who tries to find out about what his older brother does during "errands."
- *The most famous undelivered speech in Philippine History by Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, Jr.* - The speech that the late Senator Benigno 'Ninoy' Aquino Jr. had reportedly planned on reading before his supporters on the day of his fateful homecoming.

LOGO

love to read

DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



araw ng pag-asa

a day of learning, stories & hope

27 November 2012 • "Araw ng Pag(b)asa Act" authored by Rep. Bolet Banal

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION / FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

District Office: Bingle Nicolas-Custodio
352-2410 / 0927-9148125

Batasan Office: Carol Pajaron
931-5988 / 0918-9470996

Miguel Antonio Estrada
931-5988/ 0932-8700019

Email address: banal.bolet@congress.gov.ph

Facebook: www.facebook.com/boletbanal

ARRIVAL SPEECH

The prepared speech that was never read

I have returned on my free will to join the ranks of those struggling to restore our rights and freedoms through non-violence.

I seek no confrontation. I only pray and will strive for a genuine national reconciliation founded on justice.

I am prepared for the worst, and have decided against the advice of my mother, my spiritual adviser, many of my tested friends and a few of my most valued political mentors.

A death sentence awaits me. Two more subversion charges, both calling for death penalties, have been filed since I left three years ago and are now pending with the courts.

Three years ago when I left for an emergency heart bypass operation, I hoped and prayed that the rights and freedoms of our people would soon be restored, that living conditions would improve and that blood-letting would stop.

I could have opted to seek political asylum in America, but I feel it is my duty, as it is the duty of every Filipino, to suffer with his people especially in time of crisis. I never sought not have I been given any assurances, or promise of leniency by the regime. I return voluntarily armed only with a clear conscience and fortified in the faith that in the end, justice will emerge triumphant. According to Gandhi, the willing sacrifice of the innocent is the most powerful answer to insolent tyranny that has yet been conceived by God and man.

Rather than move forward we have moved backward. The killings have increased, the economy has taken a turn for the worse and the human rights situation has deteriorated.

During the martial law period, the Supreme Court heard petitions for habeas corpus. It is most ironic after martial law has allegedly been lifted, that the Supreme Court last April ruled it can longer entertain petitions for habeas corpus for person detained under the Presidential Commitment Order, which covers all so-called national security cases and which under present circumstances can cover almost anything.

The country is far advanced in her times of trouble. Economic, social and political problems bedevil the Filipino. These problems may be surmounted if we are united. But we can be united only if all the rights and freedoms enjoyed before September 21, 1972 are fully restored.

The Filipino asked for nothing more, but will surely accept nothing less, than all the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the 1935 constitution – the most sacred legacies from the founding fathers.

Yes, the Filipino is patient, but there is a limit to his patience. Must we wait until that patience snaps?

The nationwide rebellion is escalating and threatens to explode into a bloody revolution. There is a growing cadre of young Filipinos who have finally come to realize that freedom is never granted, it is taken. Must we relive the agonies and the blood-letting of the past that

brought forth our republic or can we sit down as brothers and sisters and discuss our differences with reason and goodwill?

I have often wondered how many disputes could have been settled easily had the disputants only dared to define their terms.

So as to leave no room for misunderstanding, I shall define my terms:

Six years ago, I was sentenced to die before a firing squad by a military tribunal whose jurisdiction I steadfastly refused to recognize. It is now time for the regime to decide. Order my immediate execution or set me free.

I was sentenced to die for allegedly being the leading communist leader. I am not a communist, never was and never will be.

National reconciliation and unity can be achieved, but only with justice, including justice for our Muslim and Ifugao brothers. There can be no deal with a dictator. No compromise with dictatorship.

In a revolution there can really be no victors, only victims. We do not have to destroy in order to build.

Subversion stems from economic, social, and political causes and will not be solved by purely military solution: It can be curbed not with ever increasing repression but with a more equitable distribution of wealth, more democracy and more freedom.

For the economy to get going once again, the working man must be given his just and rightful share of his labor, and to the owners and managers must be restored the hope where there is so much uncertainty if not despair.

On one of the long corridors of Harvard University are carved in granite the words of Archibald Macleish: 'How shall freedom be defended? By arms when it is attacked by arms; by truth when it is attacked by lies; by democratic faith when it is attacked by authoritarian dogma. Always and in the final act, by determination and faith.'

I return from exile and an uncertain future with only determination and faith to offer – faith in our people and faith in God."

The Candle of My Life

By Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino

March 12, 1976

(3rd Anniversary of the exile to Laur, Nueva Ecija)

I am burning the candle of my life
in the dark with no one to benefit
from its light,

The candle slowly melts away
soon its wick will be burned out,
and the light is gone!

If someone will only gather
the melted wax, reshape it,
give it a new wick
for another fleeting moment
my candle can once again
light the dark
be of service
one more time
and then
Good-bye

End's Beginning

*Prison Poem of Ninoy
August 11, 1973*

What now? What next?

When will this end?

Man is born free to live
to live in chains.

To be born is to die

To love is to struggle,
endure, suffer, sacrifice

for what? For whom?

Freedom, liberty, happiness
zenith of human aspirations

But does he really want
freedom?

Can he appreciate liberty?

Which comes first

security of happiness

food or freedom?

Peace at any cost or liberty?

A living Filipino

or a dead hero?

Why struggle, life is short

"Enjoy while there's time"

After all, life ends in the grave.

Advice of the sage!

Sweat and tears

water the seed

Seed falls and grows,

Bear fruits and dies.

Falls, grows again

Dies, grows again.

Man is trapped

In a vicious circle

round and round

there is no escape

“There are no tyrants

where there are no slaves.”

Cry and fathom despair

to understand hope – to

discover the meaning of love

Love and live

Live and die.

Nothing to nothing

hole to hole

womb to tomb

tears for birth

tears for death

water to water.

Live to die

Die to live

Kill freedom

Long live tyranny

That Freedom may be

BORN AGAIN!