

PRESS RELEASE

PHILIPPINE EMBASSY COMMEMORATES ANDRES BONIFACIO DAY



PHOTOS:

FIRST ROW LEFT– Cultural Officer Gladys Perey (rightmost) led Embassy, POLO and OWWA officers and staff as well as the other attendees in singing the Philippine national anthem; **FIRST ROW RIGHT** – Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz delivers her message; **SECOND ROW LEFT** – ATN Officer Dexter Macaraeg (facing the audience) reads a media article on the life of Andres Bonifacio; **SECOND ROW RIGHT** – Welfare Office Imelda Gatinao sings the stanzas of the poem written by Andres Bonifacio.

09 December 2013 - Last 29 November 2013, Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz led Embassy, POLO and OWWA officers and staff in commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of the Philippines' national hero Andres Bonifacio. The event started with the singing of the “*Lupang Hinirang*” and recitation of the “*Panunumpa sa Watawat ng Pilipinas*”, followed by a brief inspirational message from Ambassador Ruiz.

ATN Officer Dexter Macaraeg read an article, which gave a moving account of the life of Andres Bonifacio and the critical and leading role he played in the Filipinos' struggle for independence from colonial rule. The commemoration was capped by the dramatic singing of the poem written by Andres Bonifacio entitled *Pag-Ibig sa Tinubuang Lupa*, performed by Welfare Officer Imelda Gatinao. Joining the Embassy Officers and Staff in the event were the Filipinos sheltered in the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Resource Center. **END**

