

1 Republic of the Philippines  
2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
3 Quezon City  
4 EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
5 First Regular Session  
6



7 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 288

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10 Introduced by  
11 BAYAN MUNA Party-list Representatives EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,  
12 CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE and FERDINAND R. GAITE,  
13 Gabriela Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,  
14 ACT Teachers' Party-list Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO, and  
15 Kabataan Party-list Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO  
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18 RESOLUTION  
19 DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO  
20 CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
21 INTO THE EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLINGS OF ALCADEV  
22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMERITO SAMARCA, MANOBO LUMAD LEADERS  
23 DIONEL CAMPOS AND DATU JUVELLO SINZO, ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 IN  
24 LIANGA, SURIGAO DEL SUR, PERPETRATED BY MEMBERS OF THE  
25 PARA-MILITARY GROUP MAGAHAT-BAGANI AND THE PHILIPPINE ARMY  
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27 **WHEREAS**, Emerito Samarca, 54 years old, married with 4 children, was the executive director  
28 of the Alternative Learning Center for Agricultural and Livelihood Development (ALCADEV),  
29 a self-initiated school for the Lumad located in Sitio Han-ayan, Brgy. Diatagon, Lianga, Surigao  
30 del Sur and was founded in 2004. Samarca also worked for SILDAP-SIDLAKAN, a Lumad  
31 support institution in Caraga, from 1990 to 1998, and for the Unyon sa Mag-uuma sa Agusan del  
32 Norte (UMAN), a local peasant organization affiliated with the Kilusang Magbubukid ng  
33 Pilipinas (KMP), in the 1980's;

34 **WHEREAS**, Dionel Campos, of legal age, married, resident of Km 16, Brgy. Diatagon, Lianga,  
35 Surigao del Sur, was the chairperson of the Lumad organization Malahutayong Pakigbisog Alang  
36 sa Sumusunod (MAPASU);

37 **WHEREAS**, Campos' cousin and community elder Datu Juvello Sinzo, resident of Km. 16,  
38 Brgy. Diatagon, Lianga, Surigao del Sur was a member of MAPASU;

39 **WHEREAS**, the Karapatan human rights group reported that on the morning of September 1,  
40 Samarca was found dead with a stab wound and a slit open throat inside his quarters in one of  
41 the school buildings of ALCADEV;

42 **WHEREAS**, on the same date, outside the ALCADEV compound in Sitio Han-ayan, Dionel  
43 Campos and Datu Juvello Sinzo, were shot dead by members of the Magahat-Bagani Force, a  
44 paramilitary group allegedly taking orders from the Philippine Army, while members of the the  
45 Armed Forces watched as the killings were taking place, according to witnesses cited by  
46 Karapatan;

47 **WHEREAS**, teachers of ALCADEV and members of MAPASU identified the armed  
48 perpetrators as members of the Magahat-Bagani Force and the 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion of the  
49 Philippine Army;

50 **WHEREAS**, the said Karapatan report contained the following account:

- 51 • On August 30, 2015, about 40 soldiers of the 36<sup>th</sup> IBPA, 75<sup>th</sup> IBPA, Special Forces, and  
52 the members of the Magahat-Bagani Force associated with a known military asset,  
53 Marcos Bocales, occupied the school grounds and the function hall of ALCADEV;
- 54 • The elements of the 36<sup>th</sup> IBPA, 75<sup>th</sup> IBPA and SF, and the members of the Bocales  
55 group, threatened the school's faculty members, staff, and ordinary residents with an  
56 ultimatum that, unless they leave in two days, they will be massacred;
- 57 • The soldiers asked the community members of the whereabouts of the ALCADEV  
58 coordinator Reynaldo Campos, Tribal Filipino Program of Surigao del Sur (TRIFPSS)  
59 Executive Director Norma Ampis, Chairperson of MAPASU Dionel Campos, and two  
60 other TRIFPSS teachers;
- 61 • Thus, on the same day, the residents evacuated to a nearby community in Km. 16 to  
62 bring their family to safety;
- 63 • Late afternoon of the same day, half of the soldiers were seen leaving Han-ayan and  
64 headed for Km. 16;
- 65 • As Residents and teachers were leaving Sitio Han-ayan, 25 soldiers of the 75<sup>th</sup> IBPA and  
66 around 3 members of the the Magahat-Bagani Force, all described to be in full battle  
67 gear, remained in the community;
- 68 • At around 4 AM on September 1, soldiers went from house to house ordering residents  
69 to come out;
- 70 • The armed men confiscated the cellphones and cameras of the residents, and  
71 ALCADEV staff;
- 72 • Members of the Magahat-Bagani Force ordered ALCADEV teacher Belen Itallo to sit  
73 beside Dionel Campos, after which, known member of the para-military group Bobby  
74 Tejero and his brother Loloy Tejero shot Campos in the head killing him instantly. Other  
75 members of the paramilitary physically assaulted Datu Juvillo Sinzo before they shot him  
76 dead;
- 77 • Later in the morning, the community members who went back to the ALCADEV  
78 campus found Samarca's dead body, hog tied and with his throat slit open, his face  
79 bruised and almost unrecognizable;
- 80 • On the same day the community cooperative store of MAPASU was burned down by  
81 the Magahat-Bagani Force as soldiers fired indiscriminately around the community;
- 82 • The incident caused around 307 families or about 2,000 individuals to evacuate to  
83 Tandag City where they brought the remains of Samarca, Campos and Sinzo;

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85 **WHEREAS**, ALCADEV was established on July 19, 2004, through the efforts of indigenous  
86 people's organizations in the Caraga region, as an alternative learning institution especially

87 designed to provide secondary education to indigenous youth belonging to the Manobo,  
88 Higaonon, Banwaon, Talaandig and Mamanwa tribes living in the mountains of Surigao del  
89 Norte, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Norte, and Agusan del Sur;

90 **WHEREAS**, MAPASU is an organization of indigenous peoples in Surigao del Sur, Caraga  
91 region and is well known for its militant stance against the intrusion of mining companies in their  
92 communities;

93 **WHEREAS**, according to Karapatan, the Magahat-Bagani Force, formerly known as Marcos  
94 Bocales' Task Force Gantangan during the Arroyo regime's Oplan Bantay Laya, is being armed  
95 by the military to sow division and terror among the Manobo-Lumad, using the worn-out trick  
96 of divide-and-rule;

97 **WHEREAS**, on September 8, 2015, the victims' family members filed a case of multiple  
98 murder, arson, robbery, grave coercion and grave threat against leaders and members of the  
99 paramilitary group Magahat-Bagani, Bobby Tejero, Loloy Tejero, Garito Layno, and 25 others;

100 **WHEREAS**, on September 22, 2015, Judge Edwin Malazarte of Branch 28 Lianga, Regional  
101 Trial Court issued a warrant of arrest against Bobby Tejero, Loloy Tejero, Garito Layno, and 25  
102 other members of the paramilitary group Magahat-Bagani;

103 **WHEREAS**, on October 2, 2015, the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights held a  
104 two-day senate inquiry on the Lianga Massacre. Senators expressed their condemnation of the  
105 killings and called for the arrest of the paramilitary perpetrators and the disbandment of all  
106 paramilitary groups;

107 **WHEREAS**, four years have passed since the Lianga Massacre but the leaders and members of  
108 the paramilitary group Magahat-Bagani and are still at-large. No arrest has been made against any  
109 perpetrator of the Lianga Massacre. Residents, however, have reported sightings of paramilitary  
110 members together with the military;

111 **WHEREAS**, the families and friends of the victims, as well as their colleagues at the  
112 ALCADDEV, MAPASU, and other people's organization and non-government organizations in  
113 Mindanao and in Metro Manila are demanding justice for the victims and are calling for the  
114 immediate stop to the escalating killings and the massive militarization in the entire island of  
115 Mindanao;

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117 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the  
118 Committee on Human Rights, conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the extra-  
119 judicial killings of ALCADDEV Executive Director Emerito Samarca, Manobo Lumad leader  
120 Dionel Campos and Datu Juvello Sinzo, that took place on September 1, 2015 in Brgy. Diatagon,  
121 Lianga town, Surigao del Sur, allegedly perpetrated by members of the paramilitary group  
122 Magahat-Bagani backed by the Philippine Army.

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124 *Adopted,*

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127 **Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**  
*BAYAN MUNA Party-list*

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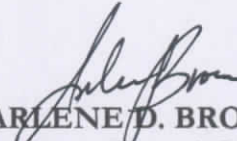
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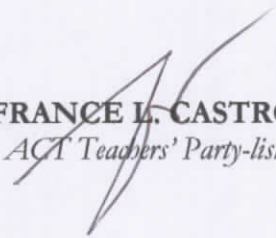
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