



Former First Lady Imelda Macos in an AFP file photo.



Mrs. Imelda Marcos' prison sentence by the Sandiganbayan Court for violation of anti-graft laws is for minimum of 42 years up to maximum 77 years with perpetual disqualification from public office.

There are wide and angry speculations in the Philippines that President Rodrigo Duterte, a political ally of the Marcoses, will pardon the former first lady even before seeing her jail cell.

The Filipinos can't be blamed to think that way at the rate their president has been accused of toying with the law.

Or even misusing the law.

Since the Imelda decision, Filipinos in social media have been lambasting Mr. Duterte in angry anticipation of a presidential pardon.

Here is an example:

Matagal na akong walang tiwala at respeto sa presidente ng Pilipinas. Pinilit ko noon gustuhin siya for what I thought
he could do *sa ating*
bansa ,
pero nagsimula akong masuka sa kaniya noong babuyin niya ang Australian missionary
na ginahasa at pinatay sa ating bansa
,
tapos pinagtawana pa niya at sinabihang dapat siya ang naunang nanggahasa dahilya mayor siya
. It make me think:
tao ba ito
?

(Translation: It's been a while since I lost respect and trust at the president of the Philippines. I forced myself to like him then for what I thought he could do for our country, but I started to dislike him when he disrespected the Australian lady missionary who was raped and killed in our country, then, he made fun of her and said that as mayor, he should have been the first to have raped her. It make me think: is this [Duterte] a human being?)

Daily, negative comments against Pres. Duterte are coming up in Facebook.

The presidential spokesperson in Manila kept saying in a media conference about the Imelda Marcos conviction is proof that the rule of law is religiously observed by the Duterte Administration.

That anyone who violates the law will face the law.

How about those involved in extrajudicial killings of thousands of poor suspected drug users, including the one who gave the order?

Are they exempted from the rule of law the spokesperson was talking about?

The International Criminal Court will answer those two questions.

VP Leni Robredo on Marcos' conviction

“Former First Lady Imelda Marcos’ conviction is further proof that many crimes were committed during the Marcos regime,” VP Leni Robredo said.

VP Leni also stressed that Marcos’ age should not be used as an excuse to avoid imprisonment.

Apparently, the Vice President’s statement is in response to pro-Imelda voices that because of her old age, Mrs. Marcos should not be arrested or imprisoned.

There appears to be two types of law in the Philippines today...the law of the land and the “law coming from the mouth of its president.”

Examples: When President Rodrigo Duterte ordered verbally the arrest of Sen. Trillanes, the police were quick to obey, but was repulsed by the law of the land.

When the corruption court, Sandiganbayan, convicted Mrs. Imelda Marcos, an ally of Duterte, the PNP, led by its Director Oscar Albayalde, refused to arrest for fear that the former first lady might get angry at them and that because she was old.

Lol!

The news agency Aljazeera.com in Cebu published last week:

Fear and killings on the rise in Duterte’s war on drugs

After two years of a violent “war on drugs” in the Philippines, thousands of people are dead and much of the population live in fear of the police.

The policy has been personally driven by President Rodrigo Duterte, who’s now facing prosecution at the International Criminal Court.

Filipino Rep. Gary Alejano, one of the opposition senatorial bets in the May 2019 elections, visited the New York/New Jersey area last weekend and spoke to Filipino-Americans at the observance of Veterans Day in Jersey City.

In his talk, the Filipino congressman, who is a veteran himself as PMA graduate and former PH Marine, deplored the “low level” of nationalism of the Duterte Administration like in the West Philippine Sea issue.

He cited the sacrifices of the Filipino and American veterans when they fought for freedom and democracy during the war.

“I will keep fighting dictatorship and killings without justice in the Philippines,” Alejano also said.

Lilli Melrose Camara commented in Facebook, “We really admire this bemedalled Congressman (Alejano)! He’s one of the few remaining patriots of our country today, brave enough to confront this totally disappointing president that the 16M Filipinos elected !!”

Former U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama in a TV interview in Chicago gave two important reminders.

One: “You cannot make change by sitting frustrated.”

She called on citizens to vote during elections in order to make change.

Two: “Our main responsibility as adults is to inspire and serve as role models to young people.”

Hopefully, an adult in Malacañang in Manila could read this.

Imelda conviction all over social media

Thursday, 22 November 2018 13:42

Pray and come together for California and the victims of fire in that State.

mcaball241@aol.com