

بسمايهالحزالحيم

MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT Central Committee





EIDUL FITRE MESSAGE OF 2015/1436H

Once again, In behalf of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) let me extend our warmest and brotherly greetings and felicitations to the entire Bangsamoro people and the Muslim Ummah on this auspicious occasion of Eidul Fitre. We likewise congratulate everyone who struggled so much to fulfill their obligations during the month-long fasting as prescribed by Allah (Subhanaho wa taalah). May Almighty Allah accept and reward our fasts, prayers and good deeds during this holy month of Ramadhan and grant us His forgiveness and mercy.

We praise Allah for the relative peace and calmness we have experienced and enjoyed during the entire month of Ramadhan in the Bangsamoro homeland and neighboring areas. This could be attributed mainly to the progress we have attained in the ongoing negotiation and the efforts of all the peace loving people including the International Community in enhancing and preserving the gains of the peace process.

It should be noted that since the signing of the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) in October 15, 2012 and the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) on March 27, 2014 the number of violence dramatically dropped down. Except for the unfortunate event in Mamasapano, Maguindanao on January 25, 2015, this year and the subsequent launching of offensive action by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) against the so called BIFF, no major incident ever happened in the Bangsamoro Homeland.

In the spirit therefore of the Holy Month of Ramadhan and the blessed Eidul Fitre, we call upon everyone to hold on to the peace process, continue our arduous journey for peace and exhaust every means to achieve our aspiration for genuine, just and lasting peace and prosperity in the Bangsamoro and the entire country. We have already travelled a long way and invested many efforts to attain our objective and to return to violence and hostility should be our last option when every other peaceful means is exhausted.

We are all aware of the difficulties and enormous challenges we are still facing in the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB). The faith of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), the document that will translate the CAB to law in order to be implemented in the ground remains uncertain. The spoilers of peace are leaving no stone unturned against this noble undertaking of finally bringing peace to Mindanao and the Philippines as a whole.

However, with the manifestation of unwavering commitment of the President and his allies in the government and the strong support of the International Community including the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) as well as the peace loving people both in the country and in other parts of the world, we are still looking forward to the future of the peace process as both the Philippine government, the MILF, the Bangsamoro people and the International Community have invested much efforts and resources.

On our part, we have demonstrated our commitment and great courage when we undertook the symbolic decommissioning of our weapons and combatants last June 16, 2015 despite the uncertainties in the passage of a BBL compliant to the provisions of the CAB, the FAB and its annexes. We have repeatedly demonstrated our commitment to peace and our faithfulness to the agreements we signed with the government of the Philippines.

May Almighty ALLAH guide us and bless us always in all our undertakings all throughout the years to come. Blessed and Happy Eidul Fitre to everyone!

Wassalamo alaykom wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh.

Your brother in Islam and humanity,

AL HAJ MURAD EDRA

Bangsamoro, 17th July 2015