

ALBERT F. DEL ROSARIO
Former Secretary of Foreign Affairs

MANUEL L. QUEZON GAWAD PARANGAL

October 22, 2016

Crowne Plaza, Galleria Hotel, Ortigas Ave. Quezon City

Good evening.

On behalf of:

- **Dr. Manuel Alba,**
- **Justice Antonio Carpio,**
- **Ms. Mary Jane Sta. Ana Guck,**
- **The late Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago,**
- **Bro. Armin Luistro,**
- **Mr. Oscar Hilado,**
- **Justice Francis Jardeleza,**
- **The late Fr. Pierre Tritz,**
- **Fr. Bienvenido Nebres,**
- **Chairman Andres Bautista,**
- **and myself,**

**It is our great honor to receive this award from the
people of Quezon City.**

**If we can be said to have served our fellow citizens,
then the recognition truly belongs to the Filipino people,
who provide the motivation and inspiration for our
humble endeavors.**

**In 1935, Manuel Quezon shared these powerful words at
his first State of the Nation Address:**

**We, the citizens of these Islands, are now fairly
started upon the final stretch of the long road we
have so patiently and persistently followed toward
the goal of independence. Up to here the trail has
been a tortuous one. But the difficulties we have
encountered and the frustrations we have endured
have not deterred us from our purpose. They have
served only to spur us onward—to increase the
intensity of our undying devotion to the cause.**

**As the Philippines continues up the long road of history,
I hope and pray that we Filipinos may exercise the
patience to achieve the betterment of our nation.**

**May no difficulties deter each of us from our purpose,
and may we find in our fellowmen the guidance and
strength with which to persevere in each other's
service.**

Thank you very much indeed for awarding us