



PRESS RELEASE  
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## CONSUL GENERAL ADELIO CRUZ JOINS KNIGHTS OF RIZAL – HISTORIC FILIPINO TOWN CHAPTER – LOS ANGELES IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 157<sup>TH</sup> BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. JOSE P. RIZAL



*Consul General Adelio S. Cruz (Seated, 2<sup>nd</sup> from the R) with Chapter Commander Sir Orlando P. Cagampan (Seated 3<sup>rd</sup> from R) and the Officers and Members of the Knights of Rizal-Historic Filipinotown- Los Angeles Chapter.*

Los Angeles – 22 June 2018 - Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz joined the Knights of Rizal (KOR)-Historic Filipino Town (HFT) Chapter-Los Angeles in the celebration of the 157<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal held on 20 June 2018 at the Filipino American Service Group Inc. (FASGI) Bayanihan Center, North Park View St., Los Angeles, California.

The simple ceremony kicked off with the singing of the U.S. and Philippine national anthems, followed by a brief biography of Dr. Rizal recounted by Mr. Austin Baul, one of the Executive Officers of KOR-HFT Chapter. Mr. Baul remarked that to become worthy beneficiaries of the freedom, independence and consciousness bequeathed to us by Dr. Rizal, it is vital that Filipino-Americans work together as one community and put aside their individual differences, regional divisions, sectoral distinctions and factional rivalries, and to unite for the greater welfare and prestige of all Filipinos.

In his remarks, Consul General Cruz emphasized the importance of honoring Rizal's works, ideals and martyrdom, by celebrating both his birth anniversary and commemoration of his heroism. He said, "we should ensure that this great man is rightfully revered and remembered by the next generation of Filipino-Americans." He also stressed the admirable traits of Rizal as a hero: intense love for the country, brave commitment and strong belief in the unity of the Filipinos, as well the need to propagate these ideals and teachings that Rizal left us to the emerging generation.

The event also highlighted the solemn knighting ceremony in which Consul General Adelio Cruz, FASGI's Board Director Geo Sargent and Kenneth Mejia, Filipino-American candidate for California's Congressional District 34 were inducted into the Order as new members of the Knights of Rizal-HFT Chapter, conducted by Commander, Sir Orlando Cagampan. END.



(L) Sir Commader Caganpan delivers his Welcome Remarks; (R) Sir Austin Baul, Executive Officer of KOR-HFT Chapter recounts the brief profile of Dr. Jose P. Rizal.



Kenneth Mejia, Filipino-American candidate for California's Congressional District 34.



*Pictures above show the Knighting Ceremony in which new members, including Consul General Cruz were inducted into the Order. New members were blindfolded and guided by the Brother Knights into the Hall and dubbed with the sword by Chapter Commander, Sir Orlando Cagapampan. Afterwards, new members were asked to take their pledge as new Knights.*