CLAIMS OF THE MASONRY

It is a people eight million strong who have been for three centuries under tyrannical oppression. Its social life is devoid of freedom. Its inhabitants have no right of association. They have no tribute where they could express their needs and do not even have the right to voice their thoughts. As regards their individual life, the Filipinos, unlike the inhabitants of other countries, possess no security from abuses in the exercise of government authority and for this reason the prisons and deportation places are becoming overcrowded upon the instigation of the friars. We want a dignified, free and prosperous people with a horizon bright and promising to justice and civilization. We want the rule of democracy, real autonomy and effective human individuality as against the ambitious pretentious of those who absorb the rights of the people and drown their happiness in tears. We want a good government and a good administration. We want the right of our country to be represented in the cortes. To day not a single representative or senator defends its interests in the Spanish Parliament. Its government depends exclusively on the Minister de Ultramar, Secretary of the colonies at Madrid, who for itself and by itself legislates and governs the Philippines by means of the Royal orders. In Manila the government depends on the Governor General who executes and annuls the mandates of the Ministers. We want our country declared a Spanish province with all their rights and obligations. We want, in other words, reforms, reforms, reforms.

What love can be
purer and greater
than love of country?
What love? No other love, none.

Even when the mind repeatedly reads
and try to understand
the history that is written and printed
by humanity, this love (love of country) can be seen.

Holy love! When born
of a pure heart,
the humble and the backwoodsman, the poor, the unlettered
become great and respected.

Love of country
is always the desire of a man with honor;
In songs, in poetry, in his writings
the greatness of the country is always the theme.

Nothing dear to a person with a pure heart
is denied to the country that gave him birth:
blood, wealth, knowledge, sacrifices,
Even if life itself ends.

Why? what is this that is so big
to which is dedicated with utmost devotion,
all that is dear
and to which life is sacrificed.

Ah, this is the Mother country of one's birth,
she is the mother on whom
the soft rays of the sunshine,
which gives strength to the week body.

To her one owes the first kiss
of the wind that is the balm
of the oppressed heart drowning
in the deep well of misfortune and suffering.

Entwined with this is love of country,
everything that is dear to the memory,
from the happy and careless childhood
to the hour of death.
The bygone days of joy,
the future that is hoped
will free the slaves,
where can this be found but in one's native land?

Every tree and branch
of her fields and forest joyful to behold,
'tis enough to see them to remember
the mother, the loved one, and the happiness now gone.

Her clear waters –
they come from the mountain springs,
the soft whisper of the rushing wavelets
enlivens the sorrowing heart.

How unfortunate to be separated from the country!
Even memory is in sorrow's embrace,
nothing is desired
but to see the country of one's birth.

If this country is in danger
and she needs defending,
Forsaken are the children,
the wife, the parents, the brothers and sisters
at the country's beck and call.

And if our land, Filipinas,*
is offended and her honor,
reason, and dignity outraged,
by a traitorous foreign country;

What unhappiness and grief
will invade the heart of the Filipino?**
And will not even the most peaceful
Rise to avenge her honor?

Where will the strength
to take revenge and to throw away life come,
if none can be relied upon for help,
but those suffering from slavery?

If his suffering and slavery
are in the mire of deceit and oppression,
one holds the whip, the chains that bind,
and only tears are allowed to roll down.
Who is there to whom her condition
Will not fill the soul with sorrow?
Will the heart most hardened by treachery
Not be moved to give her its life blood?

Will not, perchance, her sorrow
Drive the Filipinos to come to the rescue
of the mother in agony, trampled
underfoot by the mean Spaniards?

Where is the honor of the Filipino?***
where is the blood should be shed?
The country is being oppressed, why not make a move,
you are shocked witnessing this.

Go, you who have lived
in the full hope of comfort,
and who reaped nothing but bitterness,
Go and love the oppressed country.

You who, from the stream of your breast,
have lost the holy desire to sacrifice,
One more let true love flow,
express that love for the imprisoned country.

You from whom the fruit and flowers
of your life have been plucked
by intrigues and incomparable sufferings,
once more freshen up and love thy country.

You, so many hearts that....?*
of cheating and oppression of the mean in actions,
now rise up and save the country,
snatch it from the claws of the tyrant.

You who are poor without....?*
except to live in poverty and suffering,
protect the country if your desire is to end
your sufferings, for her progress is for all.

Dedicate with all your love –
as long there is blood - shed every drop of it,
If for the defense of the country life is....?*
this is fate and true glory

THE DUTIES OF THE SONS OF THE PEOPLE

I. Love God with all thine heart.

II. Bear always in mind that the love of God is also the love of country, and this, too, is love of one's fellow-men.

III. Engrave in thy heart that the true measure of honor and happiness is to die for freedom of thy country.

IV. All thy good wishes will be crowned with success if thou hast serenity, constancy, reason and faith in all thy acts and endeavor.

V. Guard the mandates and aims of the K.K.K. as thou guardest thine honor.

VI. It is the duty of all to deliver, at the risk of their own lives and wealth, anyone who runs great risks in the performance of his duty.

VII. Our responsibility to ourselves and the performance of our duties will be the example set for our fellowmen to follow.

VIII. Insofar as it is within thy power, share thy means with the poor and the unfortunate.

IX. Diligence in the work that gives sustenance to thee is the true basis of love – love for thine own self, for thine wife and children, for thine brothers and countrymen.

X. Punish any scoundrel and traitor and praise all good work. Believe, likewise, that aims of the K.K.K. are God-given, for the will of the people is also the will of God.

*Sumber : Teodoro A. Agoncillo, The Writings and Trial of Andres Bonifacio, Manila : Mayor Antonio I. Villegas and the Manila Bonifacio Centennial Commission in Cooperation with the University of Philippines, 1963, hlm. 1
BONIFACIO'S PROCLAMATION OF AUGUST 28, 1896

This manifesto is for all of you: It is absolutely necessary for us to stop at the earliest possible time the nameless oppressions being perpetrated on the sons of the country who are now suffering the brutal punishment and tortures in jails, and because of this please let all the brethren know that on Saturday, the 29th of the current month, the revolution shall commence according to our agreement. For this purpose it is necessary for all towns who obstructs this sacred ideal of the people will be considered a traitor and an enemy, except if he is ill or is not physically fit, in which case he shall be tried according to the regulations we have put in force. Mount of Liberty, 28th August 1896.

ANDRES BONIFACIO

*Sumber: Teodoro A. Agoncillo, The Writings and Trial of Andres Bonifacio, Manila: Mayor Antonio J. Villegas and the Manila Bonifacio Centennial Commission in Cooperation with the University of Philippines, 1963, hlm. 4.
THE MALOLOS CONSTITUTION

TITLE I
POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 1
The political association of all the Filipinos constitutes a nation, whose state is called the Philippine Republic.

Article 2
The Philippine Republic is free and independent.

Article 3
Sovereignty resides exclusively in the people.

TITLE II

Article 4
The government of the Republic is popular, representative, alternative, and responsible, and is exercised by three distinct powers, called the legislative, the executive, and the judicial.

Two or more of the powers shall never be vested in one person or corporation; neither shall the legislative power be entrusted to a single individual.

TITLE III
OF RELIGION

Article 5
The state recognizes the freedom and equality of religious worships, as well as the separation of the church and the state.

TITLE IV

Of the Filipinos and their national and individual rights.

Article 6
The following are Filipinos:

1. All persons born in Philippine territory. A vessel flying the Philippine flag shall, for this purpose, be considered a portion of Philippine territory.

2. The children of a Filipino father or mother, although born outside of the Philippines.
3. Foreigners who have obtained a certificate of naturalization.

4. Those who, without this, have acquired residence ("vecindad") in any town of the Philippine territory.

Residence is considered as acquired by staying two years without interruption in any locality of the Philippine territory, having an open abode and a known mode of living, and contributing to all the charges of the nation.

The condition of being a Filipino is lost in accordance with the law.

Article 7
No Filipino or foreigner shall be arrested or imprisoned except by reason of a crime and in accordance with law.

Article 8
All arrests shall be without effect or shall be carried to judicial authority within twenty-four hours following the act of detention.

All arrests shall be without effect or shall be carried to commitment within seventy-two hours following the delivery of the detained person to a competent judge.

Notice of the order issued shall be given to the interested party within the same period.

No Filipino shall be imprisoned except by virtue of a writ issued by a competent judge.

The decree under which the writ is issued shall be ratified or confirmed, the presumed criminal having been heard, within the seventy-two hours following the act of commitment.

Article 10
No person shall enter the domicile of a Filipino or foreigner residing in the Philippine Islands without his consent, except in urgent cases or fire, flood, earthquake, or other similar danger, or of unlawful aggression proceeding from within, or in order to assist a person within calling for help.

Outside of these cases, the entrance into the domicile of a Filipino or foreigner residing in the Philippine Islands, and the searching of his papers or effects, can only be decreed by a competent judge and executed in the daytime.

The searching of the papers and effects shall always be done in the presence of the interested party or of a member of his family, and in their absence, of two witnesses residing in the same town (pueblo).
However, if an offender found in flagrante and pursued by the authorities or their agents should take refuge in his domicile, these may enter the same, but only for the purposes of his apprehension.

If he should take refuge in the domicile of another, request should first be made of the latter.

**Article 11**

No Filipino shall be compelled to change his domicile or residence except by virtue of a final judgement.

**Article 12**

In no case can correspondence confided to the post office be detained or opened by government authorities nor can those made by telegraph or telephone be detained.

But, by virtue of a decree by a competent judge, any correspondence can be detained and that carried through the mails may also be opened in the presence of the accused.

**Article 13**

All decrees of imprisonment, for the search of domicile, or for the detention of correspondence, whether written, telegraphic, or by telephone, shall be for cause.

If the decree should lack this requisite, or if the causes on which it may be founded are judicially declared unlawful or manifestly insufficient, the person who may have been imprisoned, or whose imprisonment may not have been confirmed within the term prescribed in art. 9, or whose domicile may have been forcibly entered into, or whose correspondence may have been detained, shall have the right to demand the liabilities which ensue.

**Article 14**

No Filipino shall be prosecuted or sentenced except by a judge or tribunal, who, by virtue of the laws in force prior to the commission of the crime, has jurisdiction to take cognizance of the same, and in the form which the latter prescribed.

**Article 15**

Outside of the cases prescribed in this Constitution, all persons detained or imprisoned without the legal formalities shall be discharged upon their own petition or that of any Filipino.

The laws shall determine the form of proceedings summarily in this case, as well as the personal and pecuniary liabilities incurred by the person who may order, execute, or cause to be executed, the illegal detention or imprisonment.

**Article 16**

No person shall be deprived temporarily or permanently of his property or rights, or disturbed in their possession, except by virtue of a judicial sentence.
Those functionaries who, under any pretext, should infringe this provision, shall be personally responsible for the damage caused.

Article 17
No person shall be deprived of his property except by reason of public necessity and welfare, previously justified and declared by the proper authority, and after paying indemnity to the owner prior to the act of expropriation.

Article 18
No person shall be obliged to pay any tax which has not been voted upon by the Assembly or by the public corporations legally authorized to impose it, and whose assessment is not made in the form prescribed by law.

Article 19
No Filipino in the full enjoyment of his civil and political rights shall be hindered in the free exercise of the same.

Article 20
Neither shall any Filipino be deprived of:
1. The right of expressing freely his ideas and opinions either by word or by writing, availing himself of the press or any other similar means.

2. The right of joining any association for all the objects of human life which may not be contrary to public morals; and finally,

3. Of the right to petition, individually or collectively, the different departments of government and the public authorities.

The right of petition shall not be exercised through any kind of armed force.

Article 21
The exercise of the rights expressed in the preceding article shall be subject to the general provisions which regulate them.

Article 22
Crimes committed upon the occasion of the exercise of the rights granted in this title shall be punished by the courts in accordance with the ordinary laws.

Article 23
Any Filipino can found and maintain establishments of instruction or of education, in accordance with the regulations that may be established.

Article 24
Any foreigner may establish himself freely in Philippine territory, subject to the provisions governing the matter, exercising therein his industry, or devoting himself to any profession for the exercise of which the law does not require any certificates of fitness from the national authorities.
Article 25

No Filipino who is in the full enjoyment of his political and civil rights shall be hindered from going freely from the territory, nor from removing his residence or property to a foreign country, without prejudice to the obligation to contribute to the military service and the maintenance of the public charges.

Article 26

A foreigner who has not been naturalized shall not exercise in the Philippines any office to which any authority or jurisdiction is attached.

Article 27

Every Filipino is obliged to defend the country with arms when he is called upon by the law, and to contribute to the expenses of the state in proportion to his holdings.

Article 28

The enumeration of the rights granted in this title does not imply the prohibition of any others not expressly stated.

Article 29

No previous authorization shall be necessary for the prosecution of public functionaries before ordinary tribunals, whatever may be the crime they have committed. A superior order shall not exempt them from responsibility for the manifest, clear, and determinate infraction of a constitutional provision. In other cases, it shall not exempt the agents who do not exercise any authority.

Article 30

The guaranties provided for in articles 7,8,9,10 and 11, and paragraphs 1 and 2 of article 20, shall not be suspended in the Republic now or in any part of it, but only temporarily and by means of law, when the security of the state in extraordinary circumstances requires it.

This having been promulgated in the territory to which it may apply, special law shall govern during said suspension, according to what the circumstances may demand.

The latter as well as the former shall be voted in the national Assembly, and in case this is closed, the government is authorized to issue the same, in conjunction with the permanent commission, without prejudice to the calling of the former at the shortest possible time and giving account of what may have been done.

But neither one nor the other law shall suspend any other guaranties than those mentioned in the first paragraph of this article, nor authorize the government to banish or deport any Filipino from the country.

Article 31

In the Philippine Republic no person shall be tried under a special law or by special tribunals. No person or corporation shall have privileges nor enjoy emoluments except as compensation for public service and which are fixed. "El fuero de guerra y marina" (the jurisdiction, privileges, and powers of the army and navy) shall extend solely to the crimes and misdemeanors having intimate connection with military and naval discipline.
Article 32

No Filipino shall establish right or primogeniture in succession ("mayorazgos"), nor institutions entailing property, nor accept honors, decoration of orders ("condecoraciones") or titles of honor and nobility from foreigner nations without authorization of the government.

Neither shall the government of the Republic establish institutions specified in the previous paragraph, nor grant honors, decoration of orders ("condecoraciones"), or titles of honor and nobility to any Filipino.

The nation may, however, reward by a special law approved by the Assembly eminent services rendered by citizens to their country.

TITLE V

OF THE LEGISLATIVE POWER

Article 33

The legislative power shall be exercised by an Assembly of Representatives of the nation.

The Assembly shall be organized in the form and under the conditions determined by the law which may be passed to that effect.

Article 34

The members of the Assembly shall represent the whole nation and not exclusively the voters who chose them.

Article 43

The President of the Republic shall communicate with the Assembly by means of messages, which shall be read from the rostrum by a Secretary of the government.

Article 47

The national Assembly shall, furthermore, have the following powers:
1. To make rules for its internal government.
2. To examine the legality of the elections and the legal qualifications of its members elect.
3. To appoint its President, vice president, and secretaries upon its organization.

While the Assembly has not been dissolved, its president, vice president, and secretaries shall continue in their office during the four legislatures; and
4. To accept resignations presented by its members, and to grant leaves of absence according to the rules.

Article 50

The assembly has the right to criticize the government, and each of its members that of interpellation.
Article 53

The office of Representatives shall be for a term of four years, and those who exercise it, are by way of reimbursement, entitled according to the circumstances to a sum determined by law.

Those who absent themselves during the whole legislature shall not be entitled to reimbursement, but may recover his rights by assisting all the following ones.

TITLE VI
OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION

Article 54

The Assembly, before the adjournment, shall elect seven of its members to constitute a permanent commission during the period that it is closed, the latter being obliged to designate president and secretary in its first session.

TITLE VII
OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARMENT

Article 56

The executive power shall be vested in the President of the Republic who shall exercise it through his Secretaries.

TITLE VIII
OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 58

The President of the Republic shall be elected by an absolute majority of the Assembly and special Representatives, assembled in a constituent assembly.

His appointment shall be for a term of four years, and he may be re-elected.

Article 61

The President of the Republic shall promulgate the laws within twenty days after they have been transmitted to him by the Assembly for final approval.

Article 65

The President of the Republic shall command the army and navy, declare war and ratify treaties, with the previous consent of the Assembly.

Article 68

The President of the Republic needs the authority of a special law:
1. In order to eliminate or exchange any part of Philippine territory.
2. In order to annex any other territory to the Philippines.
3. In order to admit foreign troops in Philippine territory.
4. In order to ratify treaties of alliance, offensive and defensive, special treaties of commerce, those which stipulate to give subsidy to a foreign power; and all those which may bind the Filipinos individually.
5. In order to grant amnesties and general pardons.
6. In order to coin money.
Articles 69
The President of the Republic has the power to make rules for the compliance and application of the laws, in accordance with the requisites prescribed in the same.

Article 71
The President of the Republic shall be only responsible in case of high treason.

TITLE IX
OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

Article 74
All that which the President may order or decide in the exercise of his authority shall be signed by the proper Secretary. No public officer shall comply with any order lacking this requisite.

Article 76
If they should be convicted, by the Assembly, their pardon needs the previous petition of an absolute majority of the Representatives.

TITLE X
OF THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Article 78
The courts shall not apply general and municipal regulations except insofar as they are in harmony with the laws.

Article 80
The President of the Supreme Court of Justice and the Solicitor General shall be appointed by the national assembly in occurrence with the President of the Republic and the Secretaries of the government, and shall be absolutely independent from the legislative and executive departments.

TITLE XI
OF THE PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLIES

Article 82
These organizations and powers of the provincial and municipal assemblies shall be governed by their respective laws. These shall observe the following principles:
1. The government and the management of the private interests of the province or town by their respective corporations, the principle of popular and direct election being the basis of the organization.
2. Publicity of their sessions within the limits prescribed by law.
3. Publication of the budgets, accounts and important ordinances.
TITLE XII
OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE

Article 84
No payment shall be made unless it be in accordance with the Appropriation Law or other special one, in the form and under the responsibilities which the law may determine.

Article 88
Each year the Assembly shall, at the recommendation of the President of the Republic, fix the military force of land and sea.

TITLE XIII
OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Article 89
The Assembly on its own motion or at the recommendation of the President of the Republic, may resolve to amend the Constitution, prescribing for this purpose, the articles or articles which are to be amended.

Article 90
This declaration made, the President of the Republic shall dissolve the Assembly, and convene the constituent assembly which shall meet within the following three months. The resolution provided for in the preceding article shall be inserted in the notice of the convention.

ARTICLE XIV
OF THE OBSERVANCE OF AND OATH TO THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LANGUAGES

Article 92
The President of the Republic and all other officials of the nation shall not enter upon the performance of their duties without previously taking the oath of office.
The President of the Republic shall take this oath before the National Assembly.
All other officials shall take it before the authorities prescribed by law.

Article 93
The use of the languages spoken in the Philippines is optional. It can only be regulated by law, and solely as regards acts of public authorities and judicial affairs. For these acts, the Spanish language shall be used for the present.
GIVE US YOUR LOVE

For a moment listen to this lament,
slowly, with difficulty, the people are rising,
who for ages have been prostrate
in the midst of Spanish maltreatment.

You, dear ones, where are now
the courage and honor that should be spent,
to righteousness that we know,
don't be a traitor.

Let us throw away the customs
that impugn the high quality
of the Filipinos, who are hopeless,
whose honor was stained by the white cow.**

What are wealth and honors,
even to be seen by men and praised in good language,
if our Motherland remains
under the cruel Spaniards, the horned Spaniards.

And so come, my friends,
help us deliver from the grave
the Mother that fell because of affliction,
in order to taste happiness.

Brothers of mine, banish fear
of the imbecile Spaniard's exaggerated boast,
it is the habit of he who is devoid of courage
to frighten us – even with his mouth.

And don't be afraid to fight
the race of executioners, the Spanish race,
they are here in order to usurp,
they want to get what is ours.

Rely in God and don't be taken in by
our enemy who has the ways of an animal,
he does nothing but sow fear,
and he always shouts "Viva! Viva!" though defeated.
Ah, give us your love, Heaven that looks upon us,
God, my Lord, don’t deny
to Your children the protection they ask for,
so that they would not lapse into bad habits.

Protect them and show them the way
of peace and prosperity,
so that our souls may not be led astray.

LAMPIRAN VII
THE CAZADORES

The cazadores were sent here
allegedly to eradicate lawlessness,
but it is not fight they seek,
but chickens and cattle to steal.

The people who are living in peace,
to the spaniards they are sent,
anything they see that can be eaten,
they grab like hungry ones.

They comb the whole house
for money which they pocket,
so also are the jewels and chosen clothes,
as unto the chick snatched by the hawk.

To the women they find,
their first greetings are shameful,
they do not respect even so little
the spotless honor the women possess.

And the tomatoes, watermelons,
melons and other things for sale,
nothing remains because of the grabbing
of the Spaniards.

All the milk vendors they see
promptly are scolded,
and the hare-brained [Spaniards] gulp [the milk],
and so nothing is spared [by the Spaniards].

The name "cazadores" is a misnomer,
it should be "cacadores" instead,*
for the promontory is far and distant,
indeed they are known to be greedy and cowardly.**

*Sumber : Teodoro A. Agoncillo, The Writings and Trial of Andres Bonifacio, Manila : Mayor Antonio J. Villegas and the Manila Bonifacio Centennial Commission in Cooperation with the University of Philippines, 1963, hlm. 11 – 12.
ANDRES BONIFACIO
EMILIO AGUINALDO
BENDERA FILIPINA

The Philippine Flag