

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
Senate  
Pasay City

Eighteenth Congress

Second Regular Session

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RESOLUTION No. 91

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND  
SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF  
THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE  
DEATH OF THE FIRST FEMALE GOVERNOR  
OF LANA DEL SUR PRINCESS TARHATA  
ALONTO-LUCMAN

WHEREAS, Princess Tarhata Alonto-Lucman, an affiliative leader, distinguished politician, loving wife to renowned Muslim figure and Congressman, Sultan Rashid Lucman, mother to seven children including former Vice Governor of Lanao del Sur, Normalah Alonto-Lucman and former Vice Governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), Datu Haroun Al-Rashid

Alonto-Lucman, Jr., caring aunt to Philippine Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Atty. Adnan V. Alonto, and Marantao Municipal Mayor, Akira Alonto; grand aunt to Governor of Lanao del Sur Mamintal Bombit Alonto-Adiong, Congressman for the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Lanao del Sur, Ansaruddin Alonto-Adiong, Congressman for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Lanao del Sur, Yasser Alonto-Balindong, and Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament member, Ziaur-Rahman Adiong, and great grand aunt to Vice Governor of Lanao del Sur Mohammad Khalid Rakiin Adiong, and a protective matriarch of the Alonto-Lucman political alliance, passed away at the age of 94 on February 26, 2021 at Amai Pakpak Medical Center in Marawi City;

WHEREAS, born in Ditsaan Ramain, Lanao (now Lanao del Sur), on June 26, 1926, Princess Tarhata hailed from a family of political leaders: Her father, Sultan Alauya Alonto, had served as delegate from Lanao to the Philippine Constitutional Convention of 1934 and the first Maranao to be elected Senator under the Philippine Commonwealth in 1935, her eldest brother, lawyer Achmad Domocao Alonto, became Congressman in 1953 and Senator in 1955, and her other older brother, Sheik Abdul Ghaffur Madki Alonto, also a lawyer, was elected the first Governor of Lanao del Sur in 1953 who earlier served as Commissioner of National Integration and appointed Philippine Ambassador to Libya and other Muslim countries;

WHEREAS, under the American tutelage in the 1930s where public education was given free for everyone, Princess Tarhata was personally tutored and handled by American teachers, notably her adopted mother, Mrs. Spencer, who was part of the Thomasites sent by the United States to conduct humanitarian work in the Philippines. Later, she was able to pursue public education and within one year of attending school in her hometown, she was accelerated to grade 4 at the age of 6 years;

WHEREAS, before her untimely demise, Princess Tarhata was elected and became the first female Governor of Lanao del Sur where her invaluable work as Governor

resulted to strengthened equal rights for Moro women, inclusion of Lanao del Sur in the list of 22 pilot provinces of the Provincial Development Assistance Program, a joint undertaking of the national government and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to enhance agricultural production as part of the national government's Green Revolution project, and institutionalized performance-based budget planning process thereby removing the illegal practice of the office in giving commission before funds could be released;

WHEREAS, it was under Princess Tarhata's leadership as Governor of Lanao del Sur when Muslim-Christian relations were peaceful and strong. Princess Tarhata respected the Christians' festivities and church practices, and supported the national government's *balik baril* program where civilians and rebels were encouraged to turn in their guns in exchange for their boat fare to do pilgrimage to the holy lands of Mecca and Medina by helping find solutions to settle clan wars, even using her personal savings to settle vendetta (*rido*), and make rebels and soldiers cease firing;

WHEREAS, in 1975, when the country was under martial rule, Princess Tarhata was unceremoniously removed as Governor of Lanao del Sur and her family became exiles in Saudi Arabia. After the People Power Revolution and in September 1986, she returned to Philippines and officially replaced Lanao del Sur Governor Saidamen Pangarungan as OIC Governor of Lanao del Sur. After serving her term as Lanao del Sur's appointed chief executive, Princess Tarhata continued to accept the role of a vendetta settler;

WHEREAS, her years of dedication to public service will never be forgotten by being an active negotiator and mover of peace and development in Mindanao and by declaring to all Muslims and Christians that Islam is peace. Princess Tarhata indeed is a woman leader, politician, pioneer, and peace negotiator: Now, therefore,

be it


*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the passing of first female Governor of Lanao del Sur Princess Tarhata Alonto-Lucman.*

*Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to her bereaved family.*

Adopted,

  
VICENTE C. SOTTO III  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 1, 2021.

  
MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA  
*Secretary of the Senate*

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