



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

23 JAN -9 P12 :06

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 410

Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING MELVIN JERUSALEM FOR HIS OUTSTANDING VICTORY OVER MASATAKA TANIGUCHI TO BECOME THE NEW WBO MINIMUMWEIGHT CHAMPION

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2023, Filipino boxer Melvin Jerusalem welcomed the new year with a second-round knockout over Masataka Taniguchi to become the new World Boxing Organization (WBO) minimumweight champion at the EDION Arena in Osaka, Japan,¹ bringing back the world championship title to the Philippines;²

WHEREAS, it was a close first round as Taniguchi applied pressure³ but a jab-straight combination from Jerusalem landed the defending champion on his back who struggled to get back up, prompting the referee to call the fight;⁴

WHEREAS, the 28-year-old Bukidnon fighter improved his ring record to 20 wins and 2 losses with 12 knockouts after the win;⁵

WHEREAS, Jerusalem was unrated by the *TheRing* heading into the fight, while Taniguchi was rated number 3 in the world. The victory was the ninth straight win for Jerusalem who showed championship potential in his first world title opportunity in 2017, pushing Wanheng Menayothin to a close decision loss for the WBC strawweight title in Thailand;⁶

¹ January 6, 2023. Jerusalem dethrones champ in 2nd round KO, wins world title in Japan Available at: <https://www.philstar.com/sports/2023/01/06/2235806/jerusalem-dethrones-champ-2nd-round-ko-wins-world-title-japan> (Date last accessed: January 9, 2023)

² January 7, 2022. Melvin Jerusalem beats Japanese foe by TKO to nab WBO title Available at: <https://sports.inquirer.net/492430/melvin-jerusalem-beats-japanese-foe-by-tko-to-nab-wbo-title#ixzz7prDPfLL> (Date last accessed: January 9, 2023)

³ January 8, 2023. Jerusalem never expected KO win. Available at: <https://www.philstar.com/sports/2023/01/08/2236019/jerusalem-never-expected-ko-win> (Date last accessed: January 9, 2023)

⁴ Supra note 1.

⁵ Supra note 1

⁶ Melvin Jerusalem KOs Masataka Taniguchi in 2, wins WBO strawweight title. Available at: <https://www.ringtv.com/648244-melvin-jerusalem-kos-masataka-taniguchi-in-2-wins-wbo-strawweight-title/> (Date last accessed: January 9, 2023)

WHEREAS, Jerusalem offered the victory for the Philippines and for his family and promised to continue training hard;⁷

WHEREAS, Jerusalem's talent, discipline, perseverance, and dedication to the sport of boxing continues to be a source of pride for the country and proves that the Philippines continues to be the home of world-class boxers;

RESOLVE BY THE SENATE, that the Senate of the Philippines recognizes and commends Melvin Jerusalem for his outstanding victory over Masataka Taniguchi to become the new WBO Minimumweight Champion.

Adopted,


JOEL VILLANUEVA

⁷ Ibid.