

**PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN MANAMA CELEBRATES
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WITH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES
TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS**



Left photo: Ms. Kristel Ann Mendoza, handing-over a copy of the Magna Carta of Women to a passport applicant; Right photo: One of the Embassy's DCM made available exclusively for women passport applicants

**Serbisyo Para Kay Juana
07 March 2019**

On 07 March 2019, the Philippine Embassy in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, celebrated International Women's Day with its *Serbisyo Para Kay Juana Project*, which gives priority to its women applicants by designating one of the Embassy's Data-Capturing Machine exclusively for the use of female passport applicants. The Embassy also distributed pamphlets of the Magna Carta of Women to its female clients.

A week earlier, the Embassy kicked-off its Women's Month Celebration with its *Purple Friday First Friday services*. The Embassy has been conducting first Friday Services since October 2017 to provide Overseas Filipinos in Bahrain whose only non-working day is a Friday with the opportunity to transact business with the Embassy.



The Embassy personnel after conducting First Friday services, with H.E. Ambassador Alfonso A. Ver and Mme. Caroline Belinda C. Ver.

On 8 March 2019, the Embassy, in coordination with POLO-Bahrain, conducted a Post-Arrival Orientation Seminar (PAOS) at the Embassy lobby from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., for newly-arrived domestic workers in Bahrain. Embassy services (Consular and ATN services, POLO-OWWA, SSS and Pag-Ibig), Bahrain culture and relevant laws in the Kingdom were discussed during the PAOS by representatives of Post's concerned offices. Representatives from the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) were also present to discuss the said office's services for migrant workers in Bahrain.

A total of 161 domestic workers and agency representatives participated in the PAOS, 98% of whom are female.



Consul General Maria Paz G. Cortes delivering her Welcome Remarks during the PAOS. She later on gave an overview of Bahrain's culture, and discussed the "dos and don'ts" while living and working in Bahrain.



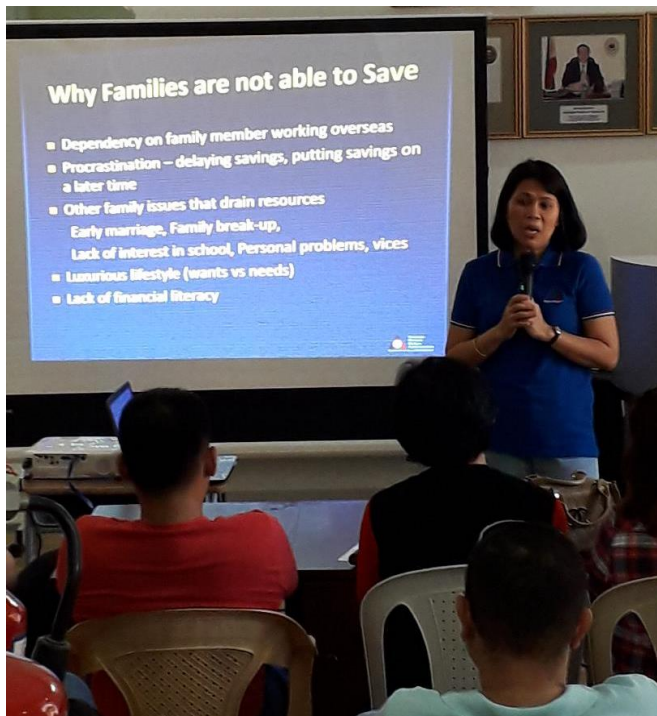
(Above) Labor Attaché Vicente M. Cabe, giving his inspirational message to the participants; (Below) Ms. Claudia Massey-Castilla, Senior Migrant Workers Specialist and Mr. Fahad Abdulaziz Al Asmi, Migrant Workers Specialist, of the LMRA, discussing LMRA services for expatriate workers and encouraging the workers to raise employer-employee concerns to the LMRA



**Financial Literacy Seminar
08 March 2019
Philippine Embassy**

OWWA also conducted a Financial Literacy Seminar from 2:30 to 4:30 P.M. at the Embassy Lobby. Welfare Officer Redina C. Manlapaz, the Resource Person of the seminar, emphasized that OFWs should spend wisely and save-up for the future. The participants were also taught to plan their monthly expenses, and were made to prepare a monthly budget plan for savings and family expenses.

Fifty-three (53) members of the Filipino Community, participated in the Financial Literacy Seminar.



Left photo: Welfare Officer Redina C. Manlapaz discussing the proper way to spend and save; Right Photo: Participants preparing their monthly income and expenses plans.

PINAY Ikaw Na! 4th Anniversary Celebration 08 March 2019 Baan Saeng Thai Restaurant, Manama Bahrain

Embassy officers and staff, together with Mrs. Caroline Belinda C. Ver, the wife of H.E. Ambassador Alfonso A. Ver, participated in the 4th anniversary celebration of the founding of PINAY Ikaw Na! (PIN), an all-female Filipino Community organization in Bahrain. PIN organized a seminar on breast and cervical cancer awareness, as well as offered free make-over sessions to the participants. A cooking contest, co-sponsored by Mama Sita's Mixes and Sauces, was also one of the highlights of the event.



Left photo: Cultural Officer, Ms. Josephine Tabangin (first from the left), Mama Sita's Mixes and Sauces Area Distribution Supervisor, Mr. Aries Geronimo (middle), and Mme. Caroline Belinda C. Ver (first from the right), wife of H.E. Ambassador Alfonso A. Ver, during the presentation of winners of the cooking contest co-sponsored by Mama Sita's; Right photo: Free make-over sessions from Pinay Ikaw Na!