

PRESS RELEASE

Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines, Manama

Building 2186, Road 2755, Block 327, Adliya, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Tel. No. +97317721234 (4 lines) +97317720857 (fax) ▪ <http://manamape.dfa.gov.ph/>



AMBASSADOR ANNE JALANDO-ON LOUIS ATTENDS GRADUATION CEREMONY ON 14 FEBRUARY 2025 AND CONGRATULATES GRADUATES OF THE PIONEER BATCH OF THE ATENEO LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP - LEADERSHIP, INNOVATION, FINANCIAL LITERACY AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ALSE OF-LIFE) PROGRAM IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN



Ambassador Anne Jalando-on Louis (seated, 7th from left), Dr. Philip Arnold Tuaño (7th from right), Dean of the Ateneo School of Government, and Dr. Cristina Liamzon (5th from left) and Dr. Edgardo Valenzuela (6th from left), Co-Program Coordinators and Founders of the Ateneo Leadership & Social Entrepreneurship - Leadership, Innovation, Financial Literacy and Social Entrepreneurship (ALSE OF-LIFE) Program, with the 33 graduates of the ALSE OF-LIFE Program for OFWs at the Graduation Ceremony in Movenpick Hotel on 14 February 2025.

Also in the photo are (seated, from left to right) Mr. Jeymar Cabrera and Ms. Jiemarie Mortel-Ladrica, Attachés of the Embassy, Mr. Ric Advincula, ALSE Bahrain Lead Secretariat, Mr. Erwin Ereño, a panelist for the students' Business Plan presentations, Ms. Celia T. Viernes-Cabadonga, OIC of the Embassy's Migrant Workers Office (MWO), Mr. Renne Subido, Volunteer Teacher of ALSE OF LIFE, and his spouse, Mrs. Puralyn Fiel-Subido (4th from right), Ms. Juvilyn Anns Gumabay (3rd from right), Welfare Officer, and Ms. Monabel Liza T. Pablo (2nd from right) and Mr. Carl Arlbrecht B. Bautista (rightmost), members of the ALSE MENA Secretariat based in Doha, Qatar.

The Philippine Embassy in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, led by Ambassador Anne Jalando-on Louis, congratulated the pioneer batch of the Ateneo Leadership & Social Entrepreneurship Overseas Filipinos' – Leadership, Innovation, Financial Literacy and Social Entrepreneurship (ALSE OF-LIFE) Program, comprising

thirty-three (33) students during a Graduation Ceremony held at the Movenpick Hotel in Muharraq, Kingdom of Bahrain, on 14 February 2025.

The Graduation Ceremony was also attended by Dr. Philip Arnold P. Tuaño, Dean of the Ateneo School of Government and Keynote Speaker, and Mr. Edgardo Valenzuela and Ms. Cristina Liamzon, Co-Program Coordinators and Founders of the ALSE OF-LIFE, and other guests.

The ALSE OF-LIFE program is a 6-month, 12-session executive program on leadership, innovation, financial literacy and social entrepreneurship for Overseas Filipino Workers. Its implementation is in line with a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) and Ateneo. The ALSE OF-LIFE Program was launched in the Kingdom of Bahrain and implemented in June 2024 by the Ateneo School of Government, in partnership with the Embassy and the Filipino Club Bahrain, the umbrella organization of the Filipino community in Bahrain.



(Left photo) Ambassador Anne Jalandon-Louis congratulates the 33 graduates for successfully completing the ALSE OF-LIFE program. She also commended their dedication and hard work in order to complete the program. She likewise noted the importance of the ALSE OF-LIFE program in providing OFWs with knowledge on financial literacy, leadership, and social entrepreneurship, which will help OFWs prepare for their return or reintegration in the Philippines. Ambassador Louis also encouraged the graduates to put their learnings into good use and to inspire and be good examples to other overseas Filipinos. (Right photo) Mr. Philip Arnold Tuaño, Dean of the Ateneo School of Government, thanks the Embassy and the ALSE Bahrain Secretariat for the successful completion of the ALSE OF-LIFE Program in Bahrain.

In her message to the graduates, Ambassador Anne Jalandon-Louis congratulated and commended them on their dedication and hard work. The undersigned also encouraged the graduates to implement their business plans, particularly in their respective communities back home, and to be an inspiration to others in the Filipino community who aspire to be entrepreneurs and to achieve financial security.

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In his speech, Dr. Philip Arnold Tuaño, Dean of the Ateneo School of Government, thanked the Embassy and the ALSE Bahrain Secretariat for the successful completion of the ALSE OF-LIFE Program in Bahrain. He also encouraged the graduates to promote good governance and social responsibility, and to support various programs that contribute to the enhancement of the economic performance and democratic processes in the Philippines.



(Left photo) Ambassador Anne Jalando-on Louis (3rd from right), Mr. Renne Subido (4th from left), Volunteer Teacher, and his spouse, Ms. Puralyn Fiel-Subido (3rd from left), awarded the Plaques of Recognition for “Inspirational ALSE OF-LIFE Journey: An Impactful Essay”, to four (4) students (from left to right), Ms. Vilma Gayo, Ms. Marinel Ladines, Ms. Michelle Lacbayen and Mr. Fidelito Bandalan. (Right photo) Ambassador Louis and Mr. and Mrs. Subido with the members of the top group who presented the business plan, entitled, “SUKI: Socio Ugnayan Kabute Initiative”, comprising (from left to right) Ms. Czerina Martin, Ms. Michelle Lacbayen, Ms. Jennyrose Diloy, and Mr. Fidelito Bandalan.

During the program, Ambassador Louis and Mr. and Mrs. Subido awarded the Plaque of Recognition to the top four (4) students who submitted the most inspiring ALSE OF-LIFE essay, namely, Ms. Vilma Gayo, Ms. Marinel Ladines, Ms. Michelle Lacbayen and Mr. Fidelito Bandalan.

The eight groups who presented their business plan proposals, as a requirement of the program, were also recognized during the graduation ceremony. Of the 8 groups, the top 3 are the groups who submitted the following proposals: 1) Socio-Ugnayan Kabute Initiative (SUKI), 2) JARA Agriculture, and 3) AVAM Odorless Hog Raising Farm.



(Left photo) Mr. Edgardo Valenzuela, Co-Program Coordinator and Founder of the ALSE OF-LIFE Program, with Mr. Carl Arlbrecht B. Bautista and Ms. Monabel Liza T. Pablo, ALSE MENA Secretariat, leads the induction of the graduates into the Ateneo ALSE OF-LIFE Alumni. (Right photo) Ambassador Anne Jalandon-Louis and Dean Philip Arnold Tuaño witness the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Migrant Workers Office-Bahrain, represented by MWO OIC Celia T. Viernes Cabadonga, and the Ateneo ALSE OF-LIFE, represented by Mr. Edgardo Valenzuela.

Mr. Edgardo Valenzuela, Co-Program Coordinator and Founder of the ALSE OF-LIFE Program, together with Mr. Carl Arlbrecht B. Bautista and Ms. Monabel Liza T. Pablo, ALSE MENA Secretariat, led the induction of the graduates into the Ateneo ALSE OF-LIFE Alumni.

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