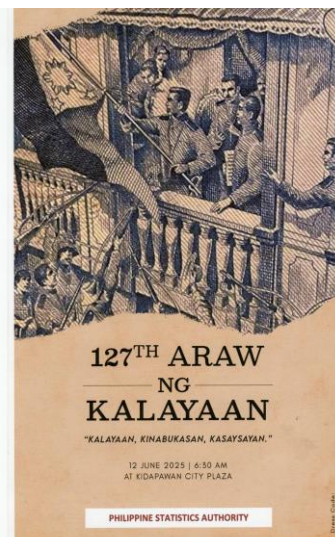


# PRESS RELEASE

## PSA Cotabato Joins Kidapawan City in Commemorating the 127th Araw ng Kalayaan

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*In photo are the selected PSA personnels together with the Kidapawan City Mayor Jose Paolo Evangelista and other local officials during the 127<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence celebration, June 12, 2025.*

The Philippine Statistics Authority – Cotabato Province (PSA Cotabato) with the leadership of its OIC-Chief Statistical Specialist Norhayyah A. Tula, proudly attended the 127<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day celebration organized by the City Government of Kidapawan on June 12, 2025, joining local officials, uniformed personnels, other national government agencies personnels, and community leaders, with the theme “Kalayaan, Kinabukasan, Kasaysayan” demonstrating its unwavering dedication to patriotism, solidarity, and serving the public with excellence.

The event commenced with a flag-raising and wreath-laying ceremony at Kidapawan City Plaza, led by the City Mayor Jose Paolo M. Evangelista, alongside local officials and uniformed personnels, followed by a 21-Gun Salute performed by the 72<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Battalion, 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division of the Philippine Army. These symbolic acts serve as a solemn reminder of the country’s history and the enduring values of freedom, patriotism, and sacrifice.



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COTABATO PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL OFFICE



Performed by Hon. Galen Ray T. Lonzaga, a member of the Kidapawan Masonic Lodge No. 170, this citywide celebration also featured the “Pagpupugay ng Watawat”, a solemn and patriotic ceremony that honors the Philippine flag as a symbol of national identity, unity, and sovereignty.

In an inspirational message by Hon. Mayor Evangelista, he emphasized the importance of preserving democracy, fostering inclusive development, and ensuring that the sacrifices of the nation’s heroes continue to inspire future generations. He also added that as a public servant, our loyalty should not be to certain individuals, but to our country, the Philippines.

The celebration concluded with a cultural program where artists and performers from the City of Kidapawan Performing Arts Guild paid tribute to the nation’s history through music, dance, and theatrical presentations.

The 127th Araw ng Kalayaan celebration in Kidapawan City served as a reaffirmation of the country’s commitment to freedom, unity, and national development.

Approved for release:

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