

A person is seen from behind, holding a large, glowing paper lantern. The lantern is lit from within, casting a warm orange light. The person's silhouette is dark against the bright, glowing lantern. In the background, another similar lantern is visible, also lit, against a twilight sky with soft blue and purple hues. The overall scene is peaceful and hopeful.

Our Efforts
to elect Servant Leaders
for our Country & People

**The Journeys of the
PMTL & PCM
in the Philippines**

A Brief Background on the Philippine Situation

Philippines was the first and only Catholic Christian country in the whole of Asia for more than 450 years

Until East Timor was separated from Indonesia in 1999 and became the second Catholic country in the region.

But despite its Christianity, there are so many unchristian things about it.

The present population of the Philippines is estimated at 108 million.

Around 70% of the population merely earn US\$10 or less a day, or just at the level of the daily minimum wage or below, according to data from the Philippine Statistics Authority.

A minimum wage could barely support a decent living for a family of 4 or 5 in the country.

Approximately 12 million Filipinos live in “extreme poverty”, according to the 2016 Report of the Philippine Statistics Authority.

At least 7 million of them are suffering from “extreme hunger”, according to International Care Mission (ICM), an international entity based in Hongkong which has operations in various provinces in the Philippines.

Due to poverty, around 10 million Filipinos have sought work in various countries, leaving behind their spouses and children.

Because of poverty, some 4 million Filipinos sell illegal drugs just to eke out a living for their loved ones.

Some poor mothers push their young daughters into cybersex prostitution, claiming that it is better than stealing or doing prostitution in night clubs or bars where their daughters are physically touched by customers.

In cybersex, their daughters have to perform naked only in front of the computer camera.

Some parents sell one of their kidneys, so they would have food for their children or money to pay their child's tuition fees. Many of these stories have been documented by television news reports.

Despite its Christianity, Philippines is a display of many unchristian things almost on a daily basis - -

- *killings in broad daylight*
- *rape of young girls sometimes as young as 2 years old,*
- *beggars,*
- *homeless people in the streets,*
- *prostitution,*
- *graft and corruption, among others.*

On the other hand, the richest 1% of the population owns and controls more than 50% of the country's wealth and resources.

In the last 10 years, the country's GDP growth performance was the 5th highest in the whole of Asia, a region of 47 countries.

But those tremendous economic growths did not substantially reduce the people's poverty.

Instead, they merely tripled the wealth of the 15 wealthiest Filipinos during the same 10 year period, as approximately 75% of the country's economic growth every year benefits only the country's 40 wealthiest families & their companies.

Philippines is becoming a country of two worlds, extremely different from each other – the world of the very few rich and the world of the many poor.

The country is now a picture of one of the worst cases of capitalism.

In the Philippines, Christianity is seemingly losing to predatory capitalism, greed, and lust for power.

Signs of unchristianity are everywhere.

Where did we go wrong?

We believe that the biggest part of the problem lies with leadership.

A great majority of our leaders – *in politics, government and business* – are Catholic Christians and are graduates of big Catholic Christian schools in the country.

And yet many of them are among the most unchristian leaders in their ways and lifestyles.

Our nation's political leaders come largely from political dynasties, families who have ruled their respective territories for decades, some for as long as 90 years.

According to a 2016 study, around 76% of the members of Congress (both Senate and House of Representatives) belong to political dynasties, while around 82% of our governors nationwide also belong to political dynasties.

And too often, they are interrelated.

In most instances, the congressman is the father, while the mother or the son is the mayor. In several cases, the mayor and vice-mayor are husband and wife, or parent and child.

There are only around 178 political dynasties in the country, according to another study.

And yet, they have already captured our country's political system. They have captured Congress and the local government units.

It seems that these political dynasties are not interested in fixing the country's dysfunctional political and economic systems.

In fact, it seems that these political dynasties want to keep the people poor.

They do not want the people to prosper. Because when they prosper, the people and their children become better educated. They become more independent, and therefore less afraid and less controlled by the political dynasties.

To keep their hold to power, political dynasties often resort to intimidation, violence, and even killings, to silence their opposition.

Most political dynasties have private armies or goons. Political killings, even outside churches and during broad daylight, are a reality during national and local elections.

PMTL Launching

September 15, 2015

As earlier mentioned, we believe that the biggest part of the problem lies with leadership.

We believe that if we are able to elect better leaders, especially servant leaders who are competent and truly dedicated to the common good, the situation of our country and people would improve a lot.

Thus, in late 2014, the leaders of various Christian faith-based organizations (FBOs) got together to discuss what we can do about the situation.

The goal of the group was to help in electing servant leaders for the country.

On 15 September 2015,
the **PMTL** or the **Pilipino Movement for
Transformational Leadership**
was officially launched.

#PHVOTE 2016

Catholic, Evangelical groups to back 2016 bets

'This is the first time in history that you have Catholics, the Protestants, the Evangelicals, coming together on a united front,' one of the members says



Paterno Esmaguél II @paterno_ii

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Updated 12:33 AM, September 16, 2015

MANILA, Philippines – The biggest names in the Philippines' Catholic and Evangelical churches joined forces on Tuesday, September 15, to launch a process to endorse candidates for the country's elections in 2016.

Coming from various Christian groups, members of the Pilipino Movement for Transformational Leadership (PMTL) will finalize a line-up of presidential, vice-presidential, and senatorial candidates by October 15.

Through a "people's primary," PMTL members will screen candidates then choose those to elect in 2016.

NATION



Faith-based groups launch ‘Gabay’ in choosing 2016 bets

By: [Aries Joseph Hegina](#) - @inquirerdotnet

INQUIRER.net / 02:24 PM September 15, 2015



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PMTL is a coalition of various Christian faith-based organizations from the catholic, evangelical and protestant communities.

The leaders decided to come together in unity to do God's work in the political field.

They agreed to create a mechanism for our combined memberships, as well as the people in general, so they could be appropriately guided in choosing and electing honest, competent, dedicated & God-centered servant leaders who can lead our country towards national transformation in accordance with God's teachings and the principles of good governance.

Among the convenors of PMTL were the country's biggest lay organizations - -

BCBP (Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen & Professionals)

CFM (Christian Family Movement)

Familia Community

FTCC (Federation of Transparochial Charismatic Communities)

LNP (Ligaya ng Panginuon)

IFP (Intercessors for the Philippines)

PJM (Philippine Jesus Movement)

UMC (United Methodist Church)

among others.

As our **Core Values**, we believe in

- 1) *God-centered, honest, competent, committed, strong-willed, servant leadership*
- 2) *good governance*
- 3) *common good*
- 4) *inclusive democracy*
- 5) *inclusive economy, and*
- 6) *equal opportunities for all.*

Our long-term goal is to attain national transformation in accordance with God's teachings by setting up a mechanism that would help in electing honest, competent, dedicated and God-centered servant leaders for our country.

Our immediate goal is to raise an army of millions of genuine Christian voters, within our ranks or among our combined memberships, who will all use our agreed or common voters' guide - - the **GabayKristo** - - in selecting the most qualified leaders for our people.

GabayKristo is the PMTL's agreed common criteria or voter's guide composed of twenty (20) specific questions.

Two-Pronged Approach

To achieve our short-term and long-term goals, PMTL has devised a Two-Pronged approach.

1) GabayKristo

A scientifically designed Voters' Guide

2) People's Primary

A process whereby the members of an organization select the best qualified candidates using the GabayKristo

1) GabayKristo

The GabayKristo is a scientifically designed voters' guide. GabayKristo is a product of various minds of experts and leaders from different organizations. It went through many debates and refinements.

1) GabayKristo

It is composed of 20 specific questions, divided into 4 categories, namely –

- 1) character & honor
- 2) competence & abilities
- 3) integrity in leadership & public service, and
- 4) faithfulness to God, country & people.

Each question must be rated from 1 up 5, 5 being the highest. Then total the rates in all 20 questions. The candidate with the highest score is the most deserving to be voted on.

1) GabayKristo

GabayKristo was a breakthrough.

It was the first time in the country's history that the faith-based organizations from the catholic, evangelical and protestant communities have agreed to use only one and common voters' guide to guide all their respective memberships in voting during elections.

1) GabayKristo

The country's population is approximately 85% Catholic Christians and 9% evangelical and protestant Christians.

1) GabayKristo

The combined memberships of the PMTL member organizations have at least 15 million voting-age members, enough to elect national leaders like the president and vice-president.

This means that, if only these 15 million Christian voters, whose organizations are PMTL members, would really vote as genuine Christians, we can elect servant leaders for the people.

1) GabayKristo

That's our short-term goal.

To orient and convert these 15 million Christian voters, who belong to the PMTL member organizations, to become genuine Christians voters.

2) People's Primary

The Second Component of our approach is the **People's Primary** - - a process where any PMTL member organization may choose or select the candidates for a certain position, using the GabayKristo, may release the list of candidates with the highest scores to their membership for guidance.

2) People's Primary

Any PMTL member organization may conduct a People's Primary among its members, using the GabayKristo.

It may release or not the results to its members. If it releases the results to its members, it will only serve as a guide and recommendatory. It will be purely voluntary for members whether to vote or not for the winning candidates. It will also be the sole discretion of the organization if it wishes to support and campaign for its winning candidates.

2) People's Primary

PMTL also formed the **People's Choice Movement (PCM)** as a separate and independent organization.

PCM will conduct a People's Primary or Selection Convention using the GabayKristo, to choose the best and most qualified candidates for different public offices.

PCM will then organize a campaign to support those chosen or selected candidates.

2) People's Primary

PCM will be partisan, unlike **PMTL** which shall remain non-partisan since all its member organizations are required to be non-partisan by their respective charters.

PCM will be separate and independent entity from the **PMTL**. It will have its own Board of Trustees, Officers and Committees. But every election, it must always use the GabayKristo as a guide in choosing the best qualified candidates to endorse.

Accomplishments

in the 2016 National Elections

2016 National Elections

PMTL conducted a People's Primary among its member organizations, using the GabayKristo as the voters' guide.

The results of the People's Primary were - -

- a tie for 2 Presidential Candidates
- 1 Vice-Presidential Candidate, and
- 10 Senatorial Candidates.

2016 National Elections

Then PMTL turned-over the results of the People's Primary to PCM who then publicly endorsed and campaigned for the candidates selected at the People's Primary.

2016 National Elections

Among the Accomplishments of PMTL during the 2016 Elections were - -

First, the forging of UNITY among faith-based organizations from the catholic, evangelical and protestant communities. This unity is crystallized in the use of **GabayKristo**, a common voter's guide all their respective memberships.

2016 National Elections

Second, the public endorsements of various Christian churches from the catholic, evangelical and protestant communities; the endorsement by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) in its 2 pastoral statements, as well the endorsements of the bishops from other Christian churches

2016 National Elections

Third, the support of the various media networks and outlets of the catholic, evangelical and protestant churches. The Catholic-run Radio Veritas, the most popular Catholic radio station in the Philippines, helped a lot in promoting GabayKkristo as a guide in choosing the best candidates. Radio DZAS, the biggest Evangelical radio station in the country, also contributed a lot in the promoting GabayKristo.

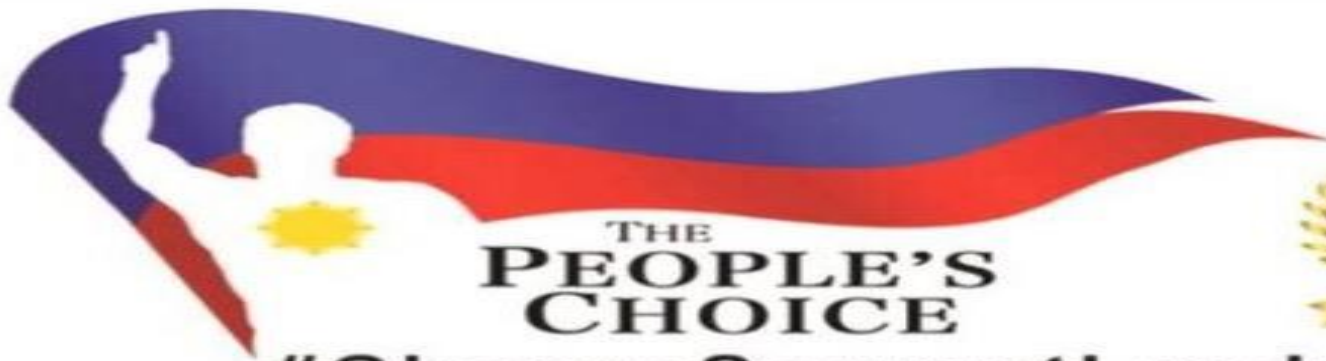
2016 National Elections

Fourth, many organizations donated hundreds of thousands of copies of GabayKristo in 4 different local languages, which were distributed to various provinces of the country.

2016 National Elections

Of the candidates endorsed and supported by PCM - -

- the 2 presidential candidates lost
- the vice-presidential candidate won
- 5 of the 10 senatorial candidates lost



**THE
PEOPLE'S
CHOICE**
#ChooseServantLeaders

*** President**



GRACE POE



MAR ROXAS

*** Vice President**



LENI ROBREDO

*** Senators**



RAFAEL ALUNAN



NERI COLMENARES



LEILA DE LIMA



DICK GORDON



TG GUNGONA



SUSAN OPLE



SERGE OSMENA



KIKO PANGILINAN



ROMAN ROMULO



JOEL VILLANUEVA



Vice President Leni Robredo
won in the 2016 National Elections.
PCM endorsed & supported her



**Senator Francis Pangilinan
won in the 2016 National Elections.
PCM endorsed & supported him**

2016 National Elections

However, it is difficult to claim that PMTL's and PCM's support mattered much to the electoral victories of those who won, since the 5 senatorial candidates who won were already doing very well in the pre-election surveys even before PCM endorsed them.

Accomplishments

in the 2019 Midterm Elections

2019 Midterm Elections

For the 2019 Midterm Elections, the PCM organized a **SELECTION CONVENTION** attended by 130 lay leaders from different faith-based organizations from the catholic, evangelical and protestant communities in the country. And through collective discernment using the GabayKristo, they chose the **TEN (10) BEST SENATORIAL CANDIDATES** that our country and people need during today.

2019 Midterm Elections

All the senatorial candidates (62 of them) were subjected to **2 Layers of Screening**.

The **First Screening** was the two knock-out issues. The candidate - -

- a) must believe in God, and
- b) must be against Charter Change / Federalism under the present administration.

2019 Midterm Elections

Those senatorial candidates who passed the above 2 knock-out issues were then subjected to the **Second Screening** –

the GabayKristo, a guide comprised of 20 specific questions which are divided into four (4) categories – *Character & Honor, Competence & Abilities, Faithfulness to public service, Faithfulness to God, the Constitution and the law.*

2019 Midterm Elections

Each of the 20 questions was graded from 1 to 5, 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest.

Then the scores were totalled.

The 10 candidates with the highest scores were declared the selected candidates.

2019 Midterm Elections

Once again, the CBCP endorsed the collective discernment process undertaken by the PCM through its Selection Convention.

Many Bishops from the catholic, evangelical and protestant churches endorsed the PCM's selection process through collective discernment.

2019 Midterm Elections

Like in the 2016 National Elections, the media networks and outlets of the catholic, evangelical and protestant churches contributed their part in promoting the PCM process and its results.

**PINILI NG MGA NAMUMUNO SA
RELEHIYOSONG ORGANISASYON NG MGA
KATOLIKO, KRISTIYANO AT PROTESTANTE**



THE
**PEOPLE'S
CHOICE**



ALEJANO AQUINO COLMENARES

**LUMAGDA SILA SA
ISANG KASUNDUAN
UPANG IPAG TANGGOL**



DIOKNO GUTOC HILBAY MACALINTAL



ROXAS TAÑADA

**ANG DEMOKRASYA , ANG
KARAPATANG PANTAO AT
ANG SIMBAHAN**

PARA SA INDEPENDENT NA SENADO

**PCM-endorsed Senatorial Candidates
at the People Power Monument
May 10, 2019**



**Candle-lighting & Prayer
For PCM-endorsed Candidates
May 11, 2019**



2019 Midterm Elections

Unfortunately, despite all the efforts, all but one of the PCM-endorsed candidates in the 2019 Elections lost to the candidates of the administration under President Rodrigo Duterte.

The one who won is already an incumbent senator who also previously ran for president in 2016.

WHY we fail to elect Servant Leaders

Despite all the endorsements by the bishops, priests, pastors and media outlets being run by catholic and evangelical churches, it is truly difficult to claim that we have now the power to elect servant leaders for our country and people.

In fact, it is closer to the truth if we say that we continue to fail in electing servant leaders for our people.

In our collective analysis,
we have identified
TWO (2) MAJOR OBSTACLES
that prevent us from electing
servant leaders.

The first Major Obstacle is the NON-PARTISANSHIP of the Laity Councils, Parish Pastoral Councils, and practically all the lay organizations nationwide.

Since all of them are non-partisan, as dictated by their organizational charters, they could not openly support and campaign for the candidates selected and endorsed by PCM. In short, there are no organizations, no people, no machinery at the diocese and parish levels that could support and campaign for the PCM-endorsed candidates.

The second Major Obstacle that prevents us from electing servant leaders is the **MISUNDERSTANDING of the Separation between the Church and the State** – not only by the people in general, but also by the Laity Councils, the Parish Pastoral Councils, as well as by many members of the Clergy.

This **MISUNDERSTANDING** prevents them - - *the members of the Laity Councils, the Parish Pastoral Councils, as well as by many of the members of the Clergy* - - from getting involved in supporting and campaigning for the candidates selected and endorsed by the PCM, despite the open endorsement by some bishops of the PCM selection process and its candidates.

These 2 Major Obstacles have prevented the members of the Laity Councils, the Parish Pastoral Councils, and the lay organizations from getting involved in supporting and campaigning for the PCM-endorsed candidates.

Clearly, there is no organization, people or machinery on the ground who support or could campaign for the PCM chosen candidates.

Our Recommendations

We believe that to elect servant leaders who can lead our society is one of the most solemn duties of all Christians, including the Clergy.

The Kingdom of God can only be built and may only reign under the leadership of genuine servant leaders.

Thus, we believe that the Laity Councils, Parish Pastoral Councils, Lay Organizations, the Laity, as well as the Clergy, must get involved actively in the name of “Principled Partisanship”, instead of remaining non-partisan in the political battlefield.

If we truly want the PCM chosen candidates to be elected to public office, we recommend the following things - -

- 1) PCM must build chapters in every diocese and parish nationwide

2) During election period, which is just a short period of 6 months every 3 years in the Philippines, the laity councils, Parish Pastoral Councils and Lay Organizations must shed their Non-Partisanship stand and must engage in “Principled Partisanship”.

PCM is engaged in Principled Partisanship, not “Party Partisanship”. PCM chooses the best candidates from all political parties, using the GabayKristo as criteria. PCM is not a member, supporter or ally of any single political party. PCM is partisan for the criteria of GabayKristo which includes God’s teachings, the common good, and the principles of good governance.

3) The Principle of the Separation between the Church and State must be clearly explained to the members of the Clergy, the Laity Councils, the Parish Pastoral Councils, Lay Organizations and the laity in general. The current misunderstanding about it must be corrected.

THANK YOU