



FILIPINOS UNDETERRED IN THE TEST OF TIMES

JONATHAN LUMAPAC NERI

Who would have thought the world could change,
could put so much fear, could shatter many dreams
but a race with heroic blood and a nation with so much faith
could do so much more, could withstand all the pain.

When Yolanda came, when Odette hits
When Covid was rising, when inflation breaks
I heard of stories of heroic deeds
Filipinos are helping Filipinos, in times of need.

When we all lost our jobs because of pandemic
When there was nothing on the table, when we could hardly feed
A good Samaritan, put up a community pantry
giving food to passersby, sharing goods to all in need.

What did our teachers do when we needed to close our schools?
What did our physicians and nurses do when our hospitals were full?
Have our teachers not taught online, so that children could learn?
Did our doctors and nurses not risk their lives, and not braved the rain?

In my hometown, a village was wiped-out by a dreadful mudslide
A child lost a father, and a husband lost a wife.
Yet, no matter how tragic their situation is, they can still wear a smile
They have found comfort in one another and have never lost sight.

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INSTABRIGHT e-GAZETTE

ISSN: 2704-3010

Volume IV, Issue I

August 2022

Available online at <https://www.instabrightgazette.com>



Indeed, to be a Filipino is such an honor and a pride
We are a nation of strong people, a nation of great minds
Like a herd of Tamaraws, that protect each other in the wild
Filipinos are family oriented undeterred in the test of times.



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