



PRESS RELEASE

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PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, DUBAI HOSTED BAYANIHAN DANCE COMPANY PROGRAM



Philippine Ambassador to UAE Libran N. Cabactulan, Madame Remedios Fe Cabactulan, and Founder of the Abu Dhabi Music and Arts Foundation Madame Hoda Kanoo join the Bayanihan dancers after the program.

19 February 2007 – Philippine Ambassador to United Arab Emirates Libran N. Cabactulan reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs that the Embassy, in cooperation with the Abu Dhabi Music and Arts Foundation's President and Patron His Highness Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, presented the Bayanihan, the National Folk Dance Company of the Philippines at the Grand Auditorium of the Cultural Foundation on 3 February 2007.

Ambassador Cabactulan welcomed the guests and extolled the many achievements of Bayanihan as the national folk dance company of the Philippines. "Its achievements spanned over fifty years since it was founded. I acknowledge the untiring support of Madame Remedios Fe F. Cabactulan in all the cultural activities of the Embassy especially in bringing the Bayanihan to Abu Dhabi for the first time," he stated.

Mrs. Hoda Al Khamis-Kanoo, founder of the Abu Dhabi Music and Arts Foundation, expressed the appreciation of the United Arab Emirates for the opportunity to witness and experience the Filipino cultural heritage.

The Bayanihan's repertoire included *Sakuting*, *Bakya*, *Jota*, *Danza*, *Mantones de Seda*, *Alitaptap*, *Pandanggo Oasiwas*, *Maglalatik*, *Bangko* and *Tinikling*, and ethnic tribal dances such as *Madal Tahau*, *Tiruray*, *Tahau*, *Bagobo* and *Tiboli*,



The Bayanihan dance group performs a Muslim dance called *Singkil*.

showcasing the many facets of Filipino culture through dance. Much appreciated by the locals in the crowd were the dances depicting the Muslim influence in Filipino culture, such as *Kazilimut-Malong*, *Kuntao*, *Vinta* and *Singkil*. END