



CITY ORDINANCE NO. 433

March 22, 2007

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE BACOLOD CITY BIBLE WEEK AND BIBLE SUNDAY EVERY LAST WEEK OF JANUARY, CREATING A STEERING COMMITTEE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Government recognizes the fact that the Holy Bible is one major excellent source of life-giving principles to develop a values-oriented, morally strong and socially responsible citizenry;

WHEREAS, President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued Presidential Proclamation 1923 dated October 27, 1979 which encourages the annual celebration of the National Bible Week and the National Bible Sunday every last week and last Sunday of the month of January, respectively;

WHEREAS, the said proclamation was concretized by subsequent proclamations by President Corazon C. Aquino (Presidential Proclamation No. 44, 1986, as an amendment to PP No. 2242, s. 1982) and thereafter by President Fidel V. Ramos thru Presidential Proclamation 1067 which urged that national attention be focused on the importance of reading and studying the Bible in order to mold the spiritual, moral and social fiber of our citizenry;

WHEREAS, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo further reinforced these proclamations by encouraging the nation to make God's Word a sanctuary in the midst of urgent change and fervent hope in search for national solidarity through prayer and hard work;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod has in the past, declared via a resolution, the last week of January 2006 as the National Bible Week in the City of Bacolod;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the City of Bacolod to institutionalize the National Bible Week celebration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD IN SESSION:

Section 1. TITLE

This ordinance shall be known as "AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE BACOLOD CITY BIBLE WEEK AND BIBLE SUNDAY EVERY LAST WEEK OF JANUARY, CREATING A STEERING COMMITTEE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

It shall likewise be known in its short title as the Bacolod City Bible Week and Bible Sunday Ordinance.

Section 2. OBJECTIVES

This ordinance has the following intents and purposes:

1. To promote the Bible as the transforming power of God to change the people's lives throughout the nation with the local government of Bacolod City recognizing further that it is righteousness which exalts a nation as the Lord abides in those individuals who abides in His Word;
2. To provide for the annual observation of the bible Week and Bible Sunday irrespective of whether the same is declared as a national celebration or not;
3. To encourage the greater involvement of the whole society in the celebration;
4. To provide an effective mechanism that shall guide the activities of the celebration.

Section 3. STEERING COMMITTEE

In order that there will be a more effective and sustained planning, coordination and promotion of programs and activities that would increase awareness of the importance of the Bible and ensure active participation and implementation from both the public and private sectors, the City Mayor shall create a Steering Committee to be composed of representatives from the government as well as from the private sector to be chaired by the Philippine Bible Society or its duly authorized representative.

Section 4. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

4.1 Powers. The City Steering Committee on the Bible Week shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. To formulate guidelines, plans and promote strategies for an effective city celebration and promotion of the Bible;
- b. To draw up an effective mechanism between and among the local government unit and the private sector particularly civic and religious and/or pastoral organizations, educational institutions and media groups for the mobilization, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of effective Bible information programs;
- c. To plan, coordinate, evaluate and make recommendations to the appropriate body for the celebration of the Bible Week and Bible Sunday for the coming year;
- d. To perform such powers and functions as may be deemed necessary and prescribed by the City Mayor or Sangguniang Panlungsod to carry out the objectives of this Ordinance.

4.2. **Meetings.** "The Steering Committee shall be organized by the City Mayor every first week of June of the year to plan and promote strategies for an effective celebration of the Bible Week for the coming year and may opt to meet as the need arises."

4.3. **"Secretariat.** The Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall be the Secretariat which shall document and maintain files of the activities relative to the preparation and implementation of the celebration of the Bible Week including all the standard requirements for accounting and audit."

Section 5. FUNDING

In order to ensure that the objectives, intents and purposes of the Ordinance are properly implemented, there shall be an allocation from the general funds of the City an initial amount of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00).

The City Steering Committee on the Bible Week may engage in resource generation/mobilization activities as may be allowed by law to further ensure the success and continued celebration of the Bible Week and Bible Sunday including its programs and projects provided all fund generation are officially undertaken, documented and subject to the standard accounting procedures.

Supplemental appropriations may be undertaken by the Sanggunian after due evaluation of the effectivity of the program.

Section 6. MISCELLANEOUS

The provisions of this ordinance may not be imposed upon people of other faith or persuasion.

In cases where the head of office of the government agency, department and/or the non-government organizations have a different faith, persuasion or conviction, he/she may assign a representative of the office to sit in meetings in behalf of the office and the responsibilities/capabilities thereof.

Section 7. EFFECTIVITY.

This ordinance takes effect upon its due passage and approval.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative:

Councilors: Greg G. Gasafaya, Lyndon P. Caña, Jocelle Batapa-Sigue, Homer Q. Bais, Jude Thaddeus A. Sayson, Napoleon A. Cordova, Catalino T. Alisbo, Reynold I. Iledan, Arturo V. Parreño.

Negative None.

Absent None.


Authors : Vice Mayor Renecito S. Novero, Councilors Ana Marie V. Palermo, Greg G. Gasataya, Lyndon P. Caña, Jocelle Batapa-Sigue, Homer Q. Bais, Dindo C. Ramos, Jude Thaddeus A. Sayson, Napoleon A. Cordova, Elmer T. Sy, Al Victor A. Espino, Catalino T. Alisbo, Reynold I. Iledan, Arturo V. Parreño and Marx Louie S. de la Rosa.

Passed : March 22, 2007 (142nd Regular Session).

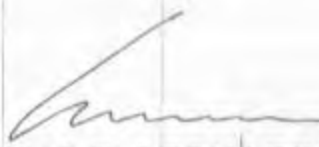
Comments: P a s s e d .
Vice Mayor Renecito S. Novero, Councilors Dindo C. Ramos, Elmer T. Sy, Al Victor A. Espino and Marx Louie S. de la Rosa were not yet around when this ordinance was passed.


ANA MARIE V. PALERMO
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


ATTY. NILO T. ALEJANDRINO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: April 19, 2007.


EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
City Mayor

NTA/HPL/jemz

