



PRESS RELEASE

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PHILIPPINE FOOD AND CULTURAL BAZAAR 2019

26 April 2019 - Philippine Ambassador Akmad Atlah Sakkam and Madame Ruby Sakkam, together with Bishop William Shomali and Father Gerald of the Vicariate of Jordan rolled out the red carpet for the first ever Philippine Food and Cultural Bazaar at the Embassy compound attended by enterprising Filipino community leaders and artists.

The one-day event was attended by several hundred exhibitors, visitors, and special guests who sampled staple Filipino home cooked meals such as dried fish, lumpia, pansit, and rice cakes, dried mangoes, halo halo, including favorite snacks from the Philippines.

The highlight of the Filipino dishes made available to the guests was prepared by Consul General Maria Agnes Cervantes, the Waray/Bisaya specialty dish called *Balbacua*, or the beef hoof soup boiled and left to simmer until creamy and reduced. The Tagalog version of *Balbacua* is called Bulalo or cow marrow soup with vegetables, an equally delectable foodie favorite in the Philippines.

Another fan favorite was the Philippine Bingo game hosted by POLO OWWA officials, which had the most attendance. Prizes included balikbayan boxes, TV unit and kitchen wares.

The Philippine Bazaar was also attended by ASEAN Embassy officials including friends from the US Embassy and leaders of the local Christian churches.

The proceeds of the Bazaar will benefit several school-age Filipino children in Amman. END