



Bangkok, Thailand

21 October 2008

ADVISORY

The Philippine Embassy received a letter dated 13 October 2008 with no return address from a certain Ms. Teresita Abisona, a copy of which is hereto attached, regarding the alleged operation of **Sultan Kudarat Polytechnic College** in offering a course for non-Education degree holders wanting a Thai teacher's license.

Also in response to various queries on the above matter, not only from Filipino teacher-applicants but from other nationalities as well, the Embassy would like to stress the following points:

1. The Embassy has not endorsed nor has it received official communication from any school offering a course for non-Education degree holders intending to secure a Thai teacher's license;
2. If the name of Ambassador Antonio V. Rodriguez was indeed used by Sultan Kudarat Polytechnic College in promoting such course, as claimed by Ms. Abisona, it was done so without express permission and approval, and therefore, without official clearance from Manila;
3. Information and details for any activity endorsed by the Embassy will be channeled and disseminated through the official website, through email blasts to members of the Filipino community in Thailand, and posted in the Consular Section of the Embassy;
4. Only when the Embassy has done consultations/dialogue with a particular school and properly endorsed such school in official communications to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Education of Thailand, will public announcements/advisories be issued in the Embassy official website, and through email blasts to members of the Filipino community in Thailand;
5. If you are in the process of applying for this course, you are advised to refrain from continuing to do so, until the school has been endorsed by the Embassy and has gone through proper and official channels in establishing their operations and confirming the legality of their existence here in Thailand;

6. For those who have already paid any amount of money to the school, please inform the Embassy and include details as to how you got hold of the information about this school, the names of the teachers/administrators, the dates of attendance in such classes, etc.; and
7. If there is doubt whether an activity is officially endorsed by the Embassy or not, please feel free to inquire immediately through the following contact details:

Philippine Embassy

Tel. Nos. 02-259-0139/40

Fax number- 02-259-2809

Email address: bangkokpe@gmail.com

Very truly yours.

For the Ambassador:



CHARLES C. JOSE

Consul General

October 13, 2008

H.E. Ambassador Antonio V. Rodriguez
Ambassador – Republic of the Philippines
760 Sukhumvit Road, opposite Soi 30 / 1
Prakanong Bangkok 10110

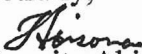
Dear Hon. Sir,

Yesterday, some friends invited me and I went to a convocation at the First Hotel. It offered a “course for non-education degree holders wanting a teacher-license here”. The name **H.E. Ambassador Rodriguez** was used in writing and several times in the opening speeches, who endorsed this activity. No official letter was shown so I became suspicious and wrote this:

1. The name of H.E. Ambassador Rodriguez was used without any official proof endorsing this activity. Something like a document that shows it was cleared legally at home.
2. Sultan Kudarat Polytechnic **College** had its name in all handouts but is most likely fishy:
 - a. Why a college (not university, many) in Mindanao? I lived nearby so I know.
 - b. Why not University of the Philippines (that has a branch here)?
 - c. How can a Mindanao school be authorized to conduct courses here in Thailand?
3. The group supposed to run this were all Filipinos here and in the Philippines:
 - a. It was headed by Mr. Francis Basco using a **C/o address** -- Kwong Chow School
 - b. The other Filipinos were from scattered schools with no clear organization
 - c. All listed **telephone numbers** but no clear official Thailand address.
4. This group offered English courses and a “**ladderized** Master Degree Course” (sic). It also offered what I came for a “course for non-education Filipino degree holders”:
 - a. How can this happen in Thailand if it is not authorized in the Philippines?
 - b. How can they conduct a course required by a Thai law without authorization?
 - c. How can they get **Baht 5,000. DOWN payment** for an authorized course?
5. If this group and activity do not have the authority from the Philippines, your office, or Thai government, **could this be illegal?**
How could Sultan Kudarat a low-level college in southern Philippines, have the authority over the University of the Philippines here, and other big universities there?
This group of Filipinos offer unauthorized courses in Thailand to get B22,000., but why are they not organized, with legal documents and an official office address?
I asked about the “official receipt” but Francis Basco said to “deposit” in a bank account and present the deposit slip to enroll. Why? Obrom here victimized me like this before
If this group offers a B22,000. course for non-education Filipinos with spurious details in course description, flown-in-teachers, organization and authorization could this be a fake.

How many Filipinos gave B5,000. then? In my need now, I will try anything to hold my job and income here. I cannot find the same I send to my sick grandmother and my immediate family. I don't know government so I turn to our embassy. This trick victimize Filipinos like me, please help us. In many ways we are already victims here in salary and work. We have no choice in RP. As victims now we shall suffer twice: “losing money and not getting a license”.

Respectfully,


Ms. Teresita Abisona