



Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat of the Society of Jesus

ENG January 2015

...to exchange social justice and ecology news, stimulate contacts, share spirituality and promote networking...

Narrative

Nilo E. Tanalega, SJ - Missionary for Overseas Filipino Workers

Roberto Archie R. Carampatan, sj (PHI)



Labor migration from the Philippines continues to rise, as employment prospects, both for skilled and non-skilled workers, in the country remain limited. At present, there are roughly 10 million Filipino international migrant workers all over the world. They are referred as Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW).

The unofficial count of Filipinos who left the country in 2013 was pegged at 1.3 million. Moreover, the feminization of labor migration continues as Filipino women remain courageous in leaving their families to work as household service workers, mostly in the Middle East, Hong Kong or Singapore.

Considered a temporary labor supply to the construction boom in the Middle East in the 1970s has become a permanent, and a growing phenomenon. The Philippine government must have found this very convenient to alleviate the ailing economy. If you ask young Filipinos what they want to become when they grow up, they would tell you that they want to work abroad.

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Flashnews

Latin America - Campaign for Hospitality



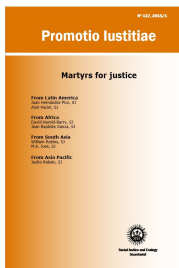
On the occasion of the International Migrants Day last 18th December the Campaign for Hospitality that was launched a year ago in Latin America, has prepared a song, *Migrar* (Migrate) to raise awareness about the rights and dignity of migrants. [You can listen to the song](#) on Youtube and [read the declaration](#) they issued.

India - Human Rights Day in Ahmedabad



The 66th International Human Rights Day was observed on 10th December 2014 in Ahmedabad with a public rally which brought together several citizens from all walks of life. The citizens came together to raise their voice in demanding human rights for all, very specially for the poor and the marginalised and other vulnerable sections of society like women and children. [To know more...](#)

Rome - Promotio Iustitiae 117: Martyrs for Justice



The new PJ issue renders homage to those Jesuits who gave their lives defending the poor and promoting justice. The issue collects a short number of narratives from various countries in which Jesuits were killed. The stories are profoundly moving because of the suffering they recount, because of the solidarity they express, and because they summon us to give ourselves over to the poor just as the martyrs did. At the end of the issue, some information about all the Jesuits who have been killed violently is provided. [Click here to download PJ 117.](#)

United Kingdom - Supporting victims of modern slavery



The Jesuits in Britain are supporting the victims of human trafficking by donating funds raised at Christmas and Easter. The collections at Farm Street Church will go towards the appeal to support victims of Human Trafficking, the Bakhita House Project, and the work of other charities, to support victims and to help with the prevention of this form of modern slavery. [Learn more...](#)

United States - Improving dental care for underserved



St Francis Mission is providing dental care for the Sioux Lakota people on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota, one of the country's poorest counties. Every patient is eligible for treatment regardless of his or her ability to pay, though donations are requested. Through its benefactors, St. Francis Mission makes up the shortfall. The clinic, which now has four dental chairs, relies on volunteer dentists, hygienists and dental students. [To know more...](#)

Rome - "No longer slaves, but brothers and sisters"

This was the title of the message of Pope Francis for the celebration of the Word Day of Peace on 1 January 2015. He focused on the abominable and growing phenomenon of man's exploitation by man, "which leads to contempt for the fundamental rights of others and to the suppression of their freedom and dignity", and takes many forms. He called to forge interpersonal relations marked by respect, justice and love. [Here you have the message...](#)



Lima - Catholic Bishops' declaration on climate change



On the road to COP21 that will take place in Paris, next December 2015, some Catholic Bishops have made a [declaration](#) on climate change. These Bishops work closely with vulnerable communities and see how climate change is affecting them. They

recognize the systemic failures of the present economic order based on the primacy of the market and profit, and they make a call to ensure concrete decisions are taken at COP21 to overcome the climate challenge and to set us on new sustainable pathways.

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Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat (SJES)

Borgo S. Spirito 4 - 00193 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39-06-6986-8393, Email: sjes@sjcuria.org

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