

{xtypo_quote} Filipinos, especially good-looking males, working in the Middle East

need more than just sympathy. Because reports of a man raping another man in the

Middle East

are getting more frequent . . . Yes it's weird, but it's true; some men do rape other men in some parts of the world – Francis Oca {/xtypo_quote}

This Father's Day and all the days that follow, perhaps we should remember the sacrifices being made by Filipino fathers who become overseas workers for the simple reason of economic survival. They work hard – from the sands of Saudi Arabia to the sands of Nevada – just to give food to their loved ones in the

Philippines

and pay for the education of their children, along with providing basic necessities to them. But Filipino politicians pay lip service to the sacrifices of the Overseas-Filipino workers (OFW), whom they call the “new heroes of the fatherland.”

Francis Oca, an OFW leader in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), wrote on June 16, 2007, about the plight of a Sorsoganon, Reynaldo Cortez, “a welder in one of the car-care shops at Sinaya in Riyadh . . . When a Pakistani driver tried to molest him sometime in 2003, he fought back, and in the process of defending himself stabbed to death his would-be rapist.” Eventually, Mr. Cortez met a cruel fate and was beheaded. He was one of several OFW fathers who were meted the capital punishment in the KSA.

There are more Filipino fathers in Death Row in the KSA and other states in the Middle East.

To read Francis Oca's article about Mr. Cortez, please go to:

[Report from Riyadh: Filipino Men Are Being Raped](#)

So today, the 100th anniversary of Father's Day that has become an international tradition, let us not only remember the sacrifices of Overseas-Filipino fathers like Reynaldo Cortez but also pray for them and their families.

Let us also include in our prayers the Filipino government officials – from Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to the rest of the employees of the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration (OWWA) – that they may do their duties faithfully so that no other Filipino father meet the fate of Reynaldo Cortez and the other OFWs who were meted the capital punishment that they did not deserve. Amen.

Remembering the Overseas-Filipino Fathers on Father's Day - MabuhayRadio

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On behalf of the webmaster, the writers, columnists and contributors of the MabuhayRadio.com, we wish all those who have sired or adopted children and those who are practicing the diligence of a good father of a family a Blessed and Happy Father's Day. # # #

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