

JOEL TORRE EULA VALDEZ
ANGEL AQUINO JADE LOPEZ
Introducing MIGUEL AGUILA

Matatakal mo ba ang
mga luha ng isang **ina**?

Masusukat mo ba ang
pangungulila ng
isang **anak**?

Makakamit kaya ang pangarap
para sa **pamilya**?

ina...anak, pamilya

a jp bautista film



Coming to your area!

The film that captured the hearts of more than 50,000 OFWs and their families in the Philippines, Singapore and Brunei is now coming to touch the hearts of those who see it.

A MUST SEE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

*An image
captures a feeling,*

*A story
shares a message,*

*A movie
becomes a movement.*



Our film showing of "Ina, Anak... Pamilya (Mother, Child...Family)" was a great success. Congratulations to everyone who supported this project.

Calling on all Overseas Filipino Communities:
We can now bring this film to your area (selected countries only) so that Filipinos abroad can see for yourselves how this wonderful movie served as a sounding board for both parents and children affected by separation due to migration.

FILMOGRAPHY

FORMAT: 75 mins. Digital Film

GENRE: SATIRE, DRAMA – ADVOCACY FILM

MTRCB RATING: General Patronage

PRODUCED BY: **Information-Media for Progress *thru* Alternative Communication Technologies (IMPACT), Inc.**, a non-profit, non-government organization SEC REG NO. CN200518190

OBJECTIVES OF THE FILM:

The movie intends to raise consciousness among migrants and of different sectors of society to understand, appreciate and advocate the agenda of children and families of migrants:

1. To provide an avenue in rediscovering the essential concepts of family togetherness despite the distance brought about by migration;
2. To promote the concept of savings and wise spending, the importance of hard work, and value of education;
3. To provide information on migration realities and concerns, and at the same time, preserve the positive values of the Filipino family.

MAIN CAST:

NITA RUIZ (MOTHER) – EULA VALDEZ

MANUEL RUIZ (FATHER) – JOEL TORRE

TEACHER/MENTOR OF MICO – ANGEL AQUINO

MAY (DAUGHTER OF NITA) – JADE LOPEZ

MICO (SON OF NITA) – MIGUEL AGUILA

NICOLAI (MAY'S BOYFRIEND) – LANCE OÑATE

MOVIE REVIEWS

Unanimously given a “G” rating because of no objectionable scenes for all audiences. Moreover, the movie sends good moral lesson to its viewers.
MTRCB REVIEW

“It's a very good film. It is a value-loaded film and it sends the right message across.”
CBCP-CINEMA REVIEW

Reaction from the Attendees of the premier screening:

“It is so timely! And this is where people will come to have to choose between values and materialism...”
IMELDA MARCOS
Former First Lady

“Very timely...para makita natin ang katotohanan kung ano ang nararamdaman ng bawat isa...magulang, anak, mag-asawa syempre...so sana mapanood ito ng ating mga minamahal na kapuso at hindi lamang iyon...yung mensahe ng pelikula dapat maintindihan natin...”
GERMAN MORENO
Actor/TV Host

It is so timely! We all need it. Well, I've been crying...look at my eyes. And praise God! God Bless the producers for coming up with such a good movie...we need it. We are being reminded of so many things...kailangan nating gawin ito...”
DULCE
Singer

PRESS/MEDIA REACTIONS

Flashing on the silver screen are scenes...that bring a lump in my throat.
Alwin M. Ignacio
DAILY TRIBUNE

It is far from most mainstream movies that tend to romanticize and trivialize Filipino migrant workers' concerns.
MANILA STANDARD TODAY

This is not your usual film!
MOD MAGAZINE

“The movie is a Hybrid!”
MANILA BULLETIN



During the press conference of *Ina... Anak, Pamilya*, from left Brian Magpantay, Kyla Velasco, Jane Lopez, and Jeff Tison.

Ina... Anak, Pamilya Giving Back to OFWs

By CHARLOTTE DIANCO
Photo by BOY ABANTE

INA... ANAK, PAMILYA is a digital movie that is a tribute to the lives of OFWs and their families.

Directed by Bianca, the film is a tribute to the lives of OFWs and their families. It is a story of a family that is separated by the ocean, but their hearts are always together. The film is a tribute to the lives of OFWs and their families.

It is a story of a family that is separated by the ocean, but their hearts are always together. The film is a tribute to the lives of OFWs and their families. It is a story of a family that is separated by the ocean, but their hearts are always together.

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A Film for a Cause A Tribute to OFWs and their families

“Deeply Moving!” “Heartwarming!”

This is not your usual film!

“INA... ANAK, PAMILYA is a drama, satire in digital film that revolves around Mico (Miguel Aguila) Through Mico's eyes, viewers are made to see the pain of separation, the struggle of the family members, and ultimately, the triumph of the Filipino Family.”

MOD MAGAZINE INA... ANAK, PAMILYA:
GIVING BACK TO OFWS

88 AUGUST 2009 VOL. 14 NO. 4 AUGUST 2009

PREMIER SCREENING
JULY 7, 2006 7:00 pm
CINEMA 10
SM MEGAMALL



EVENTS! EVENTS! EVENTS! EVENTS! EVENTS!



PRESS CONFERENCE
JULY 7, 2006 4:00 pm
CABALEN RESTAURANT
4TH LEVEL, BLDG. B- SM MEGAMALL





SM PAMPANGA

AMAZING TRUE STORY!

Last December 17, 2006, around three to four thousand OFWs and their families watched the Advocacy Film “Ina...Anak, pamilya” at Cinema 6 SM San Fernando Pampanga.

After watching the said film, an eldest child among four siblings called their

OFW mother in the United States. Right after then, the mother called the Organizer of the event. The leader of the Migrants’ Desk under the Commission on Family and Life, Archdiocese of San Fernando Pampanga recounted that he was troubled and surprised of that unexpected call all the way from US.

To his amaze, the mother informed him that after her children watched the film, they called to tell her that

“Mom, now we understand you and what you are going through as an OFW.”

The rest of what happened remains to be told.

There were succeeding stories and reactions from the audience that day from Pampanga and Cebu. We were indeed speechless, no words can describe the joy we felt in our hearts to know that our film touched people’s lives...that our talents and efforts were put to good use...and we know that He indeed works in different ways in our lives.



SM CEBU

We thank you for all your prayers and support. We hope that we can reach out to more families next year. Indeed, this is the Best Christmas gift we can ever yet give.

Peace to all and Merry Christmas!

**JP BAUTISTA
LOGIE NINALGA
IMPACT**

A Reflection of Migrant Experience in Brunei ...

By Rev. Fr. Jojo C. Gonda



.....We showed the movie INA...ANAK...PAMILYA seven times and around 1500 OFWs watched it. The emotions flowed freely and more sharing was expressed regarding their situation of being separated from their families especially their children. They mentioned how little choice they have, since life in the Philippines is very difficult and jobs and good salaries are not easily accessible and available for them to raise a good family. They made

wrong and immoral choices even if they had the right intentions for doing such for the sake of their families.

It is nice and encouraging that the local church in Brunei was very supportive of this migrant ministry. Bishop Cornelius Sim, D.D. is also the Chairman of the Bishops Conference of Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei Commission on Migrants and Itinerant People. He supported all our activities and gave inspiring insights every time we showed the movie. The Philippine Ambassador, Virginia Buenavides, also supported our cause. The leaders of the Parish Pastoral Council, Joselito Santiago was very active in all our endeavors for the OFW.



The Church cannot keep a blind eye on the situation of migrants. Family, moral and spiritual values are sometimes being compromised. The church must sound off its voice to evangelize and promote the family, moral and spiritual values to these migrants and the families they leave behind. The stories of these OFWs and their families continue to flow even in newsprints and on television. We cannot stop the phenomenon of migration as long as we continue to live in poverty and we continue to lack job opportunities and enough salary to maintain a decent family.

As a church, this is one of our real missions. We have to bring the story of Jesus come alive in the lives of migrants and their families. We cannot allow many of them to fall prey to excessive materialism and consumerism, to distorted family values and to compromise their moral and spiritual principles. We may be waiting for heroes but we are actually welcoming victims. Such a dark situation requires that we heed Christ's invitation for all of us to bring the light of the Good News of salvation to all and concretely to the migrant Filipinos and their families. When they experience Christ in their lives, they in turn will reach out to others and be the new Storytellers of the Gospel of Christ.



Confessions of an OFW's son

By Alwin M. Ignacio, Contributor

07/29/2006

Flashing on the silver screen are scenes so uncannily familiar, they bring a lump in my throat. A very distraught Nita Ruiz (Eula Valdez), a OFW, is seen waiting fretfully for the arrival of her daughter. She is home for a short vacation from being a domestic helper in Hong Kong. Her daughter, May (Jade Lopez), finally arrives, obviously intoxicated. The mother approaches her lovingly and tells her how worried she is. May snaps back, "Sinabi ko bang maghintay at mag-alala ka?" The second dramatic moment is when Nita bids her children good-bye with a promise that this leaving is the last. Once she comes back in two years' time, she will stay home for good. As she turns her back, the brave front collapses, and tears fall instantaneously.

This is all deja vu for me. Been there, done that. I cannot shake the fact that as I watch the many memorable moments of Ina...Anak...Pamilya, a full-length digital film brought by SMART Communications and Information-Media for Progress thru Alternative Communication Technologies (IMPACT) Inc., colored-MTV bits and pieces of my life flash back. You see, I am an OFW's son.

Ina...Anak...Pamilya revolves around Mico Ruiz (Miguel Aguila). Through his eyes, we see the pain of separation, the struggle of the family members to understand their mother's departure and how to cope in her absence, the support groups available to OFWs and their kin, and ultimately, the triumph of the family.

The movie is part drama, satire, comedy in digital film that tells of the longing of an OFW's child, Mico Ruiz, for the love and care that a youth needs while growing up. The plot is like those of millions of OFWs' lives, where Mico's mother opts to work abroad with the promise of a better life for her family. Manuel, Nita's husband, is left to take care of the children, but has difficulty coping with the responsibility as a "houseband." The kids, Mico and his older sister May, are left to grow up on their own.

Directed by JP Bautista, who also wrote the story and screenplay along with Logie Ninalga, the film mirrors the emotional, psychological and moral facets encountered by spouses and kids left to take care of themselves while the mother tries her luck in a foreign land.

Aside from Valdez, Lopez and Aguila, other cast members are Joel Torre as Manuel, the house husband; Angel Aquino, teacher and mentor of Mico; Lance Onate, May's conscientious boyfriend; and Brian Masigan as its narrator.

"This is a story that needs to be told. There are approximately eight million Filipinos who are working abroad to give their families a better future," says Jane Basas, SMART head for International Services. "As we strive to keep them connected to their families, we support this initiative to give due recognition to the country's economic heroes and draw attention to their concerns, specifically the issues faced by their children, and how solutions can be offered to them. I believe this movie is a good start."

Writer and director JP Bautista explains, "The film is made not only for entertainment . . . although it casts big stars like Joel Torre and Eula Valdez, and popular stars like Angel Aquino, Jade Lopez, Miguel

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Aguila and Lance Onate. This film is rather designed to deliberately make people aware of some issues that society may not have taken seriously. These may vary from issue to issue and information to information that citizens need to be conscious of in order to make sound decisions that can affect their lives."

"It can also be a basis for discussion in forums on OFW re-integration. As the director, I want to open the hearts and minds of the filmgoers especially those whose parents work internationally. Most people think that since the financial security of these kids are somewhat achieved, walang problema. We are not saying na masama ang mag-abroad. We are well aware that parents are deciding to work elsewhere with the best of intentions. However, what most people don't realize is that no amount of money, toys or enrolling to the best school can change the fact that the child was robbed of parental love. This void can never be filled."

Can this film really change minds about the OFW phenomenon? Bautista answers: "This entails a long discussion. Nevertheless, it is just like asking, can the media really affect the minds and behavior of young children and our outlook as well? Indeed, the media can be used in various ways; why not make use of it positively? Whether this film can change people's perspective or not, it is still worth a try. As for Ina ...Anak...Pamilya, there are a lot of people who feel that this film says some things that should be said, and there are people who find it detestable and preachy. "It is the kind of film that starts passionate arguments . . . that must mean it is pretty good, because people don't get passionate about mediocre things and perhaps some of that applies to films as well."

"I can relate to the character that I portray," says Eula. "You see, my husband just left us a week ago to work abroad. The saying of good-bye is always difficult. Especially for my sons, lalo na yung sa eldest. He is very close kasi to his stepdad. I have to constantly explain to them why he is working abroad and we are here. Mabuti na lang that my son is emotionally mature for his age and I know he understands. Pag nami-miss niya ang dad niya, itsurang mahal ang phone bills, I let them talk. Sa tutoo lang, I can just pack my bags and go with him. I am glad that my partner is supportive of my showbiz career. Alam niyang mahal ko ang pag-arte. In time I guess I really have to decide if we all go abroad and be with him or just bear that he is not with us."

"When I was younger, I had the chance to work in New York. I was performing for a play. Despite the tremendous success of the production, sobrang lungkot ko," relates Joel when asked if he already had an OFW experience. "You might say I am over-acting, but there was one time, while I was my home, while the snow is falling, I was crying like crazy. Mind you, six months pa lang akong away from my loved ones ha. No amount of applause or monetary success can really fill the void, that feeling that you are alone and sobrang lonely."

The movie allows its audience to realize the need of properly guiding children with OFW parents. Kids must always feel secure and assured that despite the distance, they are loved. Adults who they live with must provide them with affection that is not condescending, for you cannot feign compassion and understanding. This may be easier said than done, but I guess it is the only way to go. I will be forever grateful to my mother for risking it abroad to secure our future. True, we had our lion's share of personal and domestic struggles, but I have learned that some givens left me with no choice except to accept it gracefully. To accept it bitterly or gracefully is an individual's decision. Being an OFW's son opened my eyes to the truth, that life is no fairytale and that we make our own 'happily ever after' stories.



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'Ina...Anak, Pamilya' explores pains and gains of migration

A movie entitled "Ina...Anak, Pamilya," written and directed by Jenny Pearl "JP" Bautista, and produced by Information Media for Progress thru Alternative Communication Technologies (IMPACT), Inc., has been described as a "non-mainstream type of presenting the vicious cycle of problems that hounds OFWs and their families."

"Ina...Anak, Pamilya" is a documentary-feature hybrid film where information and entertainment, facts and fiction were conscientiously mixed to raise consciousness among migrants, families, policymakers, private and civic sectors of society as well as move the viewers to understand, appreciate and actively participate in advocating the agenda for social and economic stability among the OFWs and their families and the rest of the community."

JP Bautista, the director, believes that through this film, "we will be able to open the minds and hearts of OFWs and their families and all stakeholders, to value the hard-earned monies by the so-called modern-day heroes. Policies and programs must be in place for sound and secured economic activities or investment opportunities at the same time move them to realize the urgent need to strengthen weakening family values and relationships as a result of temporal separation in exchange for a better life."

The movie stars veteran actors **Joel Torre, Eula Valdez and Angel Aquino** together with upcoming artists **Miguel Aguila** and **Jade Lopez**.

The director noted that "the experience of coping with the Lebanon crisis is one sad and painful reality and must not be repeated and this is what makes the movie timely and relevant. The film can be a good rallying point for all sectors to re-visit the **'Reintegration program of Government'** in the hope of putting all 'actions and resources' together to ensure full force implementation – as a long term empowerment for OFWs and their families towards achieving social and economic stability – starting with the family as one of the strongest basic institutions of society."

She added: "Deep and hurting truths lie in the drama, a satire film...it is an ordinary story but given a dramatic twist that logically points out realities in our own everyday lives being lived by a typical Filipino family."

"Ina...Anak, Pamilya" was launched last July at Cinema 10 of **SM Megamall**, with **SMART, Inc.** as major sponsor. Although a low-budget production, the movie was well-received and it generated favorable response and commitment of support, as well as invitations from NGOs for its screening here and abroad. Schedules for international screening are being finalized and set for December this year.

Among those who attended the special premiere screening for "Ina...Anak, Pamilya" were prominent personalities representing the political groups, civic and religious sectors, academe, business, media/TV stations, veteran movie and theater artists. Favorable reactions came from **former First Lady Imelda Marcos, Dulce, German Moreno**, officials of the **National Youth Commission, CBCP's Father Corros**, **former Congressman Isidro Aligada, Felipe Neri** and families of OFW/migrants.

Rachelle Ann Go's reasons to celebrate

Most performers can consider themselves lucky if, within a year, they have one or two big reasons to celebrate: A hit album, songs that have topped the charts, an award, a career that just keeps getting better and better, or a successful private life.

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OVERSEAS FILIPINOS IN EUROPE PREMIERS A MOVIE ON ISSUES OF OFWS AND THEIR FAMILIES

By: Estrella Mai Dizon-Anonuevo

Watching hundreds of our kababayan gathering to watch a Tagalog movie in theaters and auditoriums in Europe is a wonderful experience. In Balxert Theater in Geneva, Switzerland, we were so excited seeing the movie "Ina, Anak ...Pamilya" posted on theater billboards together with Mama Mia, Star Wars and the Dark Knight. The overseas Filipino viewers were also very excited because watching a Filipino film in a movie house is a treat here in Europe.

Our organization, Atikha and Impact sponsored the movie premier together with OFW Caucus for Sustainable Development since it tackles urgent issues of overseas Filipinos and their families. Problems of children in coping with separation from their mothers, difficulty of husbands of being both father and mother in the family, lack of planning for return and reintegration and the negative values and attitudes being developed among the children of OFWs such as consumerism were dealt with in the film.

The film captured the anguish of children growing up without mothers. It showed the capacity of the children to get involved so that their parents can be with them the soonest possible time. It also showed the need for the OFW parents to listen to their children no matter how young they are and that they can learn a great deal from them.

While the film was being shown one hears some of the viewers crying. Most were teary eyed at the end of the film because they felt the conflict of emotions being felt by the mother (Eula Valdez) because of her desire to be with her children to fill the gap caused by their separation while at the same time feeling the need to go abroad to provide them with a better life. Most of the viewers felt that the film is realistic. A few commented " Maganda ang pelikula at parang nakikita ko ang sakripisyo na ginagawa ng asawa ko sa Pilipinas... kung paano inaalagaan ang mga anak namin at pinupunuan ang aking pagkukulang." (I can see through the film the sacrifices of my husband and how he is trying to fill the void of my absence from my children).

During the open forum conducted after the film showing, some agreed with the film's message that the presence of the parents on the lives of the children is more important than the material things they can provide. There were several who mentioned that there is a need for the overseas Filipinos to save and invest for their future to be with their family the soonest possible time and not to splurge on their hard earned money on unnecessary things.

The movie was written and directed by Jenny Pearl "JP" Bautista who believed that through this film, "we will be able to open the minds and hearts of OFWs and their families and other stakeholders , to value the hard-earned monies by the so-called modern day heroes.

Atikha hoped that the film was able to make the viewers especially the OFWs appreciate the emotional turmoil that migration brings on the lives of the children and the family left behind and to make concrete interventions to strengthen family relations and to plan for their successful return and reintegration.

Anny Hefti, one of the leaders of OFW Caucus and organizer of the movie premier in Switzerland mentioned that the hybrid character of the film using both documentary and drama was successful in being both informative and entertaining. "Such films are very effective tools of information and education and have the capacity of mobilizing Filipinos who would not normally attend discussions on issues affecting them. If this is a forum on the social cost of migration we would have only 4 participants compared to the hundreds of viewers of the film. I hope more creative forms of information and education using film as a medium will be produced targeting the overseas Filipinos", she added.

In Maastricht, Ambassador Romeo Arguelles, one of the Philippine ambassadors who is very active in promoting migration and development initiatives among the Filipino community attended the successful movie premier at Lumiere Cinema. He mentioned that the film was very relevant and timely considering the magnitude of migrants coming from the Philippines and he was glad of the big turn out not only of Filipinos but other foreign nationals. " We are glad that the premier was successful and this was because of the presence of very active Filipina volunteers for the event and it highlighted the need for us to organize here in Maastricht" added Rohlee De Guzman, the organizer and representative of COS Limburg.

All of the organizers in the different cities agreed that there should be more OFWs who should see the film. " Seeing the impact of the film and the successful turn out here in Rome, we are going to show the film again and we will request all the different Filipino community to sponsor the film showing" mentioned Tina Liamzon, president of Pilipinas OFSPES. Grace Cabactulan and Doris Alfafara Fernandez, of Stichting Habagat are also planning to organize film showing in other cities of Netherlands.

The movie was premiered in Bern, Luzern and Geneva, Switzerland; Rome, Italy; and Amsterdam and Maastricht, the Netherlands from September 12-28, 2008. There are also plans of movie premiers to be organized in Cologne, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium, United Kingdom and other European cities.

The movie premier was organized by Atikha in partnership with Impact, OFW Caucus for Sustainable Development in Switzerland, Stichting Habagat, Damayan, Bisdak, COS Limburg in the Netherlands and Pilipinas OFSPES in Italy. Atikha is a non-government organization based in the Philippines involved in addressing the social cost of migration and mobilizing overseas Filipino resources for sustainable development. The OFW Caucus for Sustainable Development is a network of organizations based in Europe, Middle East, United States and the Philippines involved in issues of migration and development. The film is produced by Information/Media for Progress thru Alternative Communication Technologies (IMPACT) Inc.

The movie premier was sponsored by PAG-IBIG Fund as part of their program to provide services to the overseas Filipinos. Representatives of PAG-IBIG from Switzerland and Rome visited the various activities lined up in Europe for the movie premier and training on financial literacy.

[Film on overseas Filipino Workers moves Pinoys in Netherlands](#)

[Maastricht area news](#), posted October 15th, 2008 **76 Views** [ShareThis](#) [ShareThis](#)

A film about the plight of overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) recently earned praise in the Netherlands, the Department of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday.

The movie “Ina ... Anak ... Pamilya,” produced with a modest budget, develops the theme that OFWs and the loved ones they left behind should work to strengthen their family bonds.

In his report to the DFA, Philippine Ambassador to The Netherlands Romeo Arguelles, who graced the premier showing of the movie at the Lumiere Cinema in Maastricht, said many Filipinos and their Dutch partners were emotionally affected by its theme.

Arguelles said the film reminded the families of OFWs left behind to value the hard-earned money sent by their loved ones abroad.

Aside from the showing in Maastricht, another premier was also conducted the day before in Amsterdam, where OFWs were also given lessons in financial literacy.

At the end of both film showings, an open forum brought out concerns of Filipinos and their foreign spouses about the need for financial planning, not only by the Filipinos working abroad but also by the family he or she leaves behind.

Arguelles said the twin showing in the Netherlands drew more than 150 guests, and was made possible by Mai Dizon-Anonuevo, executive director of ATIKHA-Overseas Workers and Communities Initiatives Inc.

Source: [Global Nation](#), 15 October 2008

This entry was posted on Wednesday, October 15th, 2008 at 10:37 am and is filed under [Maastricht area news](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

SFA-AGR-605-08

**PHILIPPINE FILM ABOUT OFWS PRAISED IN THE
NETHERLANDS**



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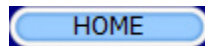
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10 October 2008 - Philippine Ambassador to The Netherlands Romeo Arguelles graced the premier of the movie "Ina...Anak, Pamilya" at the Lumiere Cinema in Maastricht, The Netherlands on 28 September 2008. The movie, which was produced with a modest budget, drew praises from the audience (mainly Filipinos with their Dutch partners), many of whom were emotionally affected by the

movie's theme, that Filipinos abroad must never forget to reinforce the concept of family as one of the strongest basic institutions of Philippine society. On the part of the families left behind, they are reminded to value the hard-earned income generated by their loved ones abroad.

In addition to the showing in Maastricht, another premier was also conducted the day before in Amsterdam where the attendees benefitted from a training on financial literacy awareness. At the end of the showing for both events, an open forum took place where fellow kababayans (and their foreign spouses) identified the need for better financial planning awareness that involves not only the Filipino working abroad but also the family he or she leaves behind.

The twin showing in the Netherlands drew more than one hundred fifty guests, and was made possible by Ms. Mai Dizon-Anonuevo, Executive Director of ATIKHA-Overseas Workers and Communities Initiatives Inc., who was present in both premieres. Several Filipino and Dutch organizations based in the Netherlands also helped organized the film showing, namely, Stichting Habagat, Damayang Pilipino sa Nederland, BisDak Network NL, the United Migrants Domestic Workers and COS Limburg. END



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RP film gets praise in The Netherlands

10/11/2008 | 11:25 PM

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MANILA, Philippines - A movie on the Filipino family earned praise following its showing in The Netherlands last September, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said Saturday night.

The DFA Web site (www.dfa.gov.ph) said Philippine ambassador Romeo Arguelles joined Filipinos in the premier of "Ina...Anak, Pamilya" at the Lumiere Cinema in Maastricht Sept. 28.

"The movie, which was produced with a modest budget, drew praises from the audience (mainly Filipinos with their Dutch partners), many of whom were emotionally affected by the movie's theme, that Filipinos abroad must never forget to reinforce the concept of family as one of the strongest basic institutions of Philippine society," it said.

Also, the families left behind were reminded to value the hard-earned income generated by their loved ones abroad.

In addition to the showing in Maastricht, another premier was also conducted the day before in Amsterdam, where attendees benefited from training on financial literacy awareness.

Following the showing for both events, an open forum took place where Filipinos and their foreign spouses identified the need for better financial planning awareness.

Such awareness involves not only the Filipino working abroad but also the family he or she leaves behind.

The twin showing in The Netherlands, organized by Mai Dizon-Anonuevo, executive director of ATIKHA-Overseas Workers and Communities Initiatives Inc., drew more than 150 guests.

Several Filipino and Dutch organizations based in The Netherlands also helped organized the film showing, including Stichting Habagat, Damayang Pilipino sa Nederland, BisDak Network NL, the

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Film on OFWs moves Pinoys in Netherlands

Philippine Daily Inquirer
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MANILA, Philippines—A film about the plight of overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) recently earned praise in the Netherlands, the Department of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday.

The movie “Ina ...Anak...Pamilya,” produced with a modest budget, develops the theme that OFWs and the loved ones they left behind should work to strengthen their family bonds.

In his report to the DFA, Philippine Ambassador to The Netherlands Romeo Arguelles, who graced the premier showing of the movie at the Lumiere Cinema in Maastricht, said many Filipinos and their Dutch partners were emotionally affected by its theme.

Arguelles said the film reminded the families of OFWs left behind to value the hard-earned money sent by their loved ones abroad.

Aside from the showing in Maastricht, another premier was also conducted the day before in Amsterdam, where OFWs were also given lessons in financial literacy.

At the end of both film showings, an open forum brought out concerns of Filipinos and their foreign spouses about the need for financial planning, not only by the Filipinos working abroad but also by the family he or she leaves behind.

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The Ensemble of Thoughts

Bringing Thoughts Together

Sunday, August 26, 2007

Ina Anak Pamilya

Today I spent the beginning of the day at The Substation to attend an event organized by the Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics to celebrate the Philippine's National Heroes Day. In true HOME style, there was a performance by the women from the shelter, after which was the main event, which was a film screening of "Ina Anak Pamilya" and a declaration of the "Domestic Work is Work...not Slavery" campaign. Soon, hopefully, we will be able to launch the Workers & Employers (WE) Campaign.

It was a simple film that touched many heartstrings within the audience. It was a simple docu-drama about the impact of being a foreign domestic worker has on her family back home, the social problems it has caused and the amount of heartbreak it entails.

It isn't a really issue-heavy film, it was basically to touch the hearts of the audience to make people understand the sacrifices these domestic workers have made just to make their lives better. It's full of anguish and regret, but all in the hopes of coming back to a better life, only to return again to earn more. If anything, this film does humanize these FDWs much more, and will allow employers to see their domestic workers as mothers and wives as well.

She leaves her home
To leave poverty
Not because of want
But because of need

We who are lucky

Folio

[-s.t-]

North, Singapore
Thoughts are an ensemble
journal merely an effort
Thoughts may just be
they can nonetheless
think, therefore I am

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the sacrifice they've made
to better our lives,

They do it not for us
but for their families back home
for they have no other choice
other than to come here alone

Remember that they too are mothers
just like your own
They take care of your children
to take care of their own

But how can they do so
if they're not around
To experience their first step,
first word, first love, first day at school

How sad would it be if you were in her shoes
Returning only to see that your child has grown up
Thinking each night about what you have missed
and yearning so much to turn back the time

So as human beings
we need to befriend them and be their solace
because they're human beings too

Posted by [-s.t-] at [11:55 PM](#)

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