



Day 1 of the 12 Days of Action

Via Zoom

21 September 2021

Background:

Following the yearlong Jai Jagat 2020 campaign spearheaded by Ekta Parishad, there was enough interest generated to continue for the 2020 decade. Supporters expressed the need for an international campaign that could bring people together across the world. Whether the focus was climate (*violence to the earth*) or poverty & discrimination (*violence towards people*) or wars and conflicts (*violence between people*), the idea was to **Make Violence History**. This would give people and communities full bandwidth to usher in an array of nonviolent actions, moreso in this period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thus, Ekta Parishad and Jai Jagat have initiated to hold **12 days of action between September 21st to October 2nd** as the 2021 (International Day of Peace to International Day of Nonviolence).

In solidarity with Jai Jagat, the ANGOC Regional Network and Ekta Parishad are organizing a series of webinars to highlight initiatives and lessons in addressing violence. The objective of these learning events through webinars is to discuss and exchange on solutions to addressing violence, highlighting local experiences as a bottom-up approach towards countering inequality.

With ANGOC's continuing commitment towards a people-centered sustainable development, the topics of the learning exchange-webinars will include on the overall theme of "*Food and freedom, Jobs and justice, Land and labor, Peace and prosperity.*" This initiative contributes to the mission of the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) as the network continue to work towards facilitating exchanges of experiences, lessons, innovations, and evidence-based recommendations for stakeholders. We will continue to strive to secure food and freedom, jobs and justice, land and labor, peace and prosperity for the present and succeeding generations.

Day 1/September 21

On 21 September, Day 1 of the 12 Days of Action, the ANGOC Regional Secretariat shall organize "***In search of peace and land rights during the Martial Law Era in the Philippines.***"

Considered as one of the darkest day in the history of the Philippines, 21 September 2021 marks the 49th anniversary of the declaration of *martial law* in the Philippines in 1972 by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, which was characterized by corruption and violence.

In that time of violence that marred the country's history, the webinar shall reflect on: a) the role and thinking of the Catholic Church, and b) how the land rights and the movement for agrarian reform was impacted by authoritarian rule.

In consideration of the time zones in the different countries in the region, the program will start at:



1:30 PM (India, Sri Lanka)
 1:45 PM (Nepal)
 2:00 PM (Bangladesh)
 3:00 PM (Indonesia, Cambodia)
 4:00 PM (China, Philippines)

The webinar is expected to last for a maximum of two hours.

Duration (minutes)	Session	Description	Resource Person
5	Opening	Welcome, announcements	Denise Hyacinth Musni, ANGOC
5		Overview of 12 Days of Action	PV Rajagopal, Ekta Parishad
10	Declaration of Martial Law in the Philippines, 21 September 1972	Some observations on the significance of the 1972 Declaration of Martial Law	Edgardo Valenzuela, former Executive Director of ANGOC
10	The role and thinking of the Catholic Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can peace be attained during martial law? • The contribution of the Catholic Church in building the social movement 	Archbishop Antonio J. Ledesma, S.J., former Chairperson of ANGOC
10	Land rights and the search for agrarian reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The evolution of the land and agrarian reforms in the country • The impact of martial law in the struggle for land rights 	Gerardo "Gerry" Bulatao, former Undersecretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform
40	Plenary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflections by the participants 	Moderators: Edgardo Valenzuela, Don Marquez
10	Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final remarks of speakers 	Archbishop Antonio J. Ledesma, S.J. Gerardo "Gerry" Bulatao
5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement for Day 2 	Denise Hyacinth Musni
5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting of candles and group photo 	