



Gawilan Sr. and to us tribal leaders that we were terrorist, criminal and other fabricated crimes, whichu94TD7n9necrimes,

October 29, 1997 a Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as “An Act to Recognize, Protect and Promote the Rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples, Creating a National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, Establishing Implementing Mechanisms, and Appropriating Funds therefore”.

Immediately after the approval of said law, former Associate Justice Juan Cruz filed a complaint before the Supreme Court of the Philippines questioning the constitutionality of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) whereby he sought to nullify the law and to stop the implementation of programs for the indigenous peoples. This is a clear manifestation that some interested individuals do not want the indigenous peoples to freely exercise their rights in accordance with the existing laws, international treaties, covenant and standards. In the hearing held for the purpose, I and all other indigenous peoples organizations and non government organizations were mobilized to show moral support for the law.

discriminate you by saying do not vote this guy, he is a Matigsalug Manobo, he is a warrior or he is a criminal. But today, when our ancestral domain was secured and titled in the name of our tribe, we were given the chance and opportunity to win in the election because we gained the respect of the migrants and truth of the matter is that yours truly was elected for three consecutive terms as member of the Legislative Council in our locality and my cousin is the incumbent Mayor in the place where I came from.

To this end, distinguish guest, friends, ladies and gentlemen I am encouraging everyone

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