

Republic of the Philippines  
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
**BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**  
Cotabato City

*Second Regular Session*

Resolution No. 356

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**RESOLUTION COMMENDING AL-BASHER BUTO, THE FIRST AND YOUNGEST  
BANGSAMORO CHESS PLAYER, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING FEATS IN  
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS, AND  
PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR HIS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, at the ongoing 2020 Fide Online World Cadets and Youth Rapid Championships (November 28-December 3), the Philippine team has a lone Bangsamoro representative in the person of Al-Basher Buto, a 10-year old Maranao boy. He is joined by 15 other Filipino players who will vie for the World Group, including International Master (IM) Daniel Quizon, WIM (woman international master) Kylen Mordido, Jerlyn Mae San Diego and Franiel Magpily, coached by First Asian Grandmaster Eugene Torre;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Buto, who has been participating in chess tournaments since the age of five, has already accomplished impressive feats, such as scoring gold in the 13th Asian Schools Chess Championship in China and capturing three individual and two team gold medals for the overall crown in the 8th Asean Age Group Chess Championship in Malaysia in 2017.<sup>2</sup> He also won a trophy at the National Age Group Chess Championship in Cebu of that same year;

**WHEREAS**, chess whiz Buto received no formal training, other than from his uncle Abdul Rahman Buto. Buto practiced chess by beating older players at sidewalk games in Quiapo, Manila.<sup>3</sup> His international wins gained the attention an mentorship of National

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<sup>1</sup> Reyes, March Anthony. 10-year-old prodigy makes national youth squad. (2020, November 26). Philippine Daily Inquirer. Retrieved from <https://sports.inquirer.net/409577/10-year-old-prodigy-makes-national-youth-squad#ixzz6fKPyOL00>

<sup>2</sup> Payo, Jasmine W. From Quiapo sidewalk to China—young Basty treks path to chess greatness. (2018, March 11). Philippine Daily Inquirer. Retrieved from <https://sports.inquirer.net/288232/quiapo-sidewalk-china-young-basty-treks-path-chess-greatness#ixzz6fKN7VFAa>

<sup>3</sup> Payo, 2018.



Master Rudy Ibañez, Fide Master Christopher Castellano, Candidate Master Henry Villanueva, and US Chess Master and National Master Marlon Bernardino;

**WHEREAS**, Buto's parents, Jamellah and Bong Buto, have been supportive of his joining tournaments, but have been unable to accompany him to international bouts due to financial constraints. The pandemic has caused him to stay home and participate at online tournaments, but the weak internet connection has cost him time at his games.<sup>4</sup> His father has already admitted to selling their house to support his training and other necessary expenses;<sup>5</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the Bangsamoro Sports Commission's functions<sup>6</sup> are to,

*"3. In coordination with the Bangsamoro Youth Commission, engage with organizations dealing youth, out-of-school youth, marginalized children, persons with disability, and other vulnerable sectors to develop their potential in sports;*

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*9. Provide such incentives, recognition and awards to deserving athletes and other persons and entities involved in or supporting sports development as may be permissible under the rules of amateurism;*

*10. Refer specific cases of athletes needing assistance and interventions to concerned Bangsamoro Government agencies, national government agencies and other stakeholders; and as far as practicable, establish, supervise, manage and maintain fully-equipped sports facilities and centers in strategic places in the area of autonomy."*

**WHEREAS**, the Bangsamoro Youth Commission should 'extend and provide support or assistance to deserving youth and youth organizations, including scholarship grants' as provided for in Sec. 15 of BAA 12 (Bangsamoro Youth Commission Act);<sup>7</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Buto has been a source of pride and hope for his local community, and the Bangsamoro at large, and if he is to achieve his dream of becoming a Grandmaster by the age of 14 or 16 years old,<sup>8</sup> he will need extra support from his family, mentors, community, and the Bangsamoro government;

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it**

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to recognize and commend Al-Basher Buto for his outstanding feats in national and international chess championships;

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<sup>4</sup> Reyes, 2020.

<sup>5</sup> Payo, 2018.

<sup>6</sup> Sect. 11 of BAA 12 (Bangsamoro Sports Commission Act of 2020) and Sect.11, Chapter 3, Title XVI, Book VI of BAA 13 (Bangsamoro Administrative Code)

<sup>7</sup> Sec. 15 of BAA 12 (Bangsamoro Youth Commission) and Sec. 15, Chapter 2, Title XVI, Book VI of BAA 13 (Bangsamoro Administrative Code)

<sup>8</sup> Payo, 2018.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, for the Bangsamoro Government, through the Bangsamoro Sports Commission and/or the Bangsamoro Youth Commission, to provide support for his continued training as a representative of the Bangsamoro and the Philippines to all future tournaments.

*Adopted,*

AUTHOR:

HON. RASOL Y. MITMUG, JR.



Certified correct:

**PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL**

*Secretary General*

Attested:

**HON. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG**

*Speaker*