

Jejomar Binay

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Jejomar "Jojo" Cabauatan Binay (born November 11, 1941) is the current mayor of the Makati City, Philippines. He is also the President of the United Opposition (UNO), President of Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-Laban (PDP-Laban) and President of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

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Background

Education and early career

Binay studied at the Philippine Normal College Training Department, University of the Philippines Preparatory High School, and earned a bachelor's degree in political science and Bachelor of Laws from UP (LIB). Binay joined the Youth Fraternal Order of DeMolay Loyalty Chapter, Manila, Philippines under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines, Sponsored by Free and Accepted Masons of NCR. Mayor Binay receive a DeMolay Leadership award in

Jejomar Binay



Jejomar Binay in 2009

Mayor of Makati City

Incumbent

Assumed office

June 30, 2001

Preceded by Elenita Binay

Mayor of Makati City

In office

1986 – June 30, 1998

Preceded by Nemesio I. Yabut

Succeeded by Elenita Binay

Born	November 11, 1941 Paco, Manila, Philippines
Nationality	Filipino
Political party	PDP-Laban (2001–present) UNO (2005–present)
Spouse(s)	Elenita Binay
Children	Ma. Lourdes Nancy Binay Mar-Len Abigail Binay Jejomar Erwin Binay, Jr. Marita Angeline Binay Joanna Marie Blanca Binay
Residence	Barangay San Antonio, Makati City

March 16, 1996 by the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay for outstanding leadership and DeMolay Legion of Honor (*Honorary*) given by the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay on July 13, 1996. In his collegiate, he also joined Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity in the University of the Philippines (Eta Chapter).

Religion	Roman Catholic
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He passed the bar exam in 1968, and took masteral subjects in public administration and law in UP and University of Santo Tomas, respectively.

In between jobs and earning degrees, Binay gave lectures and taught law, political science and public administration at the then Philippine College of Commerce (now, Polytechnic University of the Philippines), Philippine Women's University and St. Scholastica's College.

Binay gave free legal assistance to poor clients and victims of human rights abuses during the Marcos regime. His passion for protection of human rights developed during his student days in UP, where he was a member of the UP Student Council being University Councilor and was among the acknowledged firebrands of the burgeoning student movement.

Martial Law

Binay joined the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG) and the August Twenty-One Movement (ATOM), formed shortly after the assassination of Ninoy Aquino in August 1983. He also helped found the Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism, Inc. (MABINI), a group of progressive lawyers that included Senators Lorenzo Tañada, Wigberto Tañada, Rene Saguisag and Joker Arroyo.

For helping political prisoners, many MABINI lawyers, including Binay, were locked up in local jails and military stockades.^[1]

Political career

Post EDSA Revolution

After the EDSA Revolution, President Corazon C. Aquino appointed Binay acting mayor of Makati. Binay was Aquino's first appointed local official.^[2]

Binay was later elected mayor of Makati in 1988, during the first free elections under the Aquino administration, and was reelected in 1992 and 1995.

He was also appointed Governor of Metro Manila in 1987 in concurrent capacity and was later elected by his peers in Metro Manila as Chairman of the Metro Manila Authority.

Binay joined pro-democracy forces in thwarting the mutinies. His active role in the defense of the Constitution earned him the nickname "Rambotito" (or little Rambo, after the screen hero), the Outstanding Achievement Medal and a special commendation from President Aquino herself.

As MMDA Chairman

In 1998, Binay was appointed Chairman of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) with cabinet rank. He was also appointed as Vice-chairman of the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission and Traffic

Czar for Metro Manila.

Reelection as Mayor of Makati

Binay was reelected as mayor of Makati in 2001, winning over actor-TV host and then Vice Mayor Edu Manzano via landslide. In 2004, Binay ran for another term and won again by a landslide against Councilor Oscar Ibay.

He ran for his third and last term as mayor in 2007 and won again by a landslide, beating incumbent Senator and actor Lito Lapid. His margin over Lapid has been considered as the largest margin in a local election in Makati City.^[1]

Presidential campaign

Binay, president of the United Opposition, announced his bid for the presidency at Makati City Hall in his 67th birthday on November 11, 2008. He will run under the banner of the Partido ng Demokratikong Pilipino-Laban (PDP-Laban). Binay's candidacy has earned words of support from former President Joseph Estrada. However, he went down to running for Vice President as Joseph Estrada's running mate. His 2010 election campaign advertisement contain silly reenactment of his childhood days being mocked because they were poor, and he had to feed pigs instead of playing with his peers. In another advertisement, he tries to draw support by porttaying himself to be one of the poor, a victim of fire tragedy in his childhood, his father had to sequester coins from the burned down house to start anew. His advertisements are a laughing stock to most Filipinos who are already accustomed to these kind of publicities through heavily funded TV advertisements.^[3]

Suspension

In October 2006, the Department of the Interior and Local Government issued a suspension order against Binay, his vice mayor, and all members of the City Council following an accusation of 'ghost employees' on the city payroll by former city councilor Roberto Brillante, a political rival.^[4] Refusing to cooperate with the suspension order, Binay barricaded himself inside the Makati City Hall. Among those who expressed support for Binay were former President Corazon Aquino, actress Susan Roces – who is the widow of Arroyo's rival in the 2004 presidential elections, Fernando Poe Jr. - and several Catholic bishops.^{[5][6]} After a three-day stand-off, the Court of Appeals issued a temporary restraining order. Before it lapsed, the court issued an injunction order, thereby preventing the Office of the President from enforcing its suspension order until the case is resolved.^[7]

Binay was upheld by the courts in a graft case filed by the Ombudsman over allegations of overpricing in the purchase of office furniture. The case was also filed by Brillante, who at that time was leading in Makati a Palace-supported signature campaign to amend the Constitution. The Sandiganbayan Third Division dismissed the graft case filed against Binay and his six co-accused for lack of factual basis.^[8] Critics claim the suspension order was intended to distract attention from the government's own scandals.^[9]

BIR Garnishment

On May 2, 2007 the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) froze all the bank accounts of the city government of Makati and the personal accounts of Binay and his Vice Mayor Ernesto Mercado.

The BIR issued the order after it said the city still owed the BIR P 1.1 billion in withholding taxes of city employees from 1999 to 2002. BIR revenue officer Roberto Baquiran signed and issued the warrant of

garnishment against the bank accounts that belonged to Binay, his vice mayor, the city government and the city's treasurer and accountant.

The city government protested the garnishment order, saying the city had already paid P200 million to the BIR as part of a settlement agreement agreed to by Finance Secretary Margarito Teves and former BIR chief Jose Bunag. The city also said the order was flawed, since Baquiran has no authority to issue writs of garnishment. Freezing the personal accounts of Binay and Mercado were also unlawful, they said. The city government also maintained that the freeze order would cripple city government services.^{[10][11]}

The garnishment orders were eventually lifted by Malacañang, but not after Binay slammed the move as politically motivated and patently illegal. Business leaders also voiced concern over the adverse effects of the unprecedented BIR action on public services in the country's financial center.^{[12][13]}

And again, barely a week before Election Day, the Ombudsman suspended Binay based on allegations made by a local candidate allied with Malacanang. It would be revealed that the charges were supported by falsified statements. As president of the United Opposition (UNO), Binay had been very active in campaigning for the opposition bets for the Senate, and had been issuing critical statements against the Arroyo government. In a repeat of the October 2006 incident, heavily-armed policemen barged into the City Hall after office hours, forcibly opening the offices and occupying the building. Binay confronted police officials and representatives of the Department of Interior and Local Government, while hundreds of supporters once again swarmed the city hall quadrangle to show their support.^[14]

The suspension order generated national media attention, and prompted even administration senatorial candidates to protest publicly, saying the action further undermined their chances in the elections.^[15] In the election that followed, Binay and his entire slate in the polls won by a landslide.^[16] The opposition slate for the Senate eventually won by a landslide.^[17]

Personal life

Binay is married to Elenita Sombillo, a doctor of medicine. Dr. Elenita S. Binay was elected Mayor of Makati in the 1998 elections, and served until 2001. Their union bore them five children: Maria Lourdes Nancy, Mar-Len Abigail (currently serving as representative of 2nd District of Makati City), Jejomar Erwin (Makati City Councilor), Marita Angeline and Joanna Marie Blanca.^[1]

Civic Work

Binay is also active in civic work. Besides being a member of the Rotary Club of Makati, R.I. District 3830, he is currently on his third term as the National President of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines and has been elected Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee Chairman on February 8, 2008. He also holds electoral positions in international organizations, namely: Vice President for Membership (2006- 2008), United Cities and Local Governments-Asia Pacific Chapter; Life Honorary Member (since February 2001) and Member, World Executive Committee – International Union of Local Authorities-Asia Pacific; Member, Executive Committee (2006-2009), Network for Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlement (CITYNET); and Chairman, Finance Sub-Committee, World Scout Organization. He also holds the rank of colonel in the Philippine Navy Reserve Force.^[18]

Higher Studies

Binay took up graduate studies at the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP), the Command and General Staff College (CGSC), the Center for Research and Communication (now known as the University of Asia and the Pacific), the Joint Services Command Staff College (JSCSC), and the UP School of Urban and Regional Planning. He was senior executive fellow of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. ^[19]

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Preceded by Nemesio I. Yabut	Mayor of Makati 1986 – 1998	Succeeded by Dr. Elenita S. Binay
Preceded by Dr. Elenita S. Binay	Mayor of Makati City 2004–present	Incumbent
Preceded by Office created	Chairman of the Metro Manila Authority 1990-1992	Succeeded by Ignacio Bunye
Preceded by Prospero Oreta	Chairman of the Metro Manila Development Authority 1998-2004	Succeeded by Benjamin Abalos Sr.

External links

- Personal website (<http://www.jejomarbinay.com.ph>)

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Categories: Chairpersons of MMDA | Living people | 1942 births | Filipino politicians | Filipino Roman Catholics | People from Makati City | Scouting in the Philippines | Mayors of places in the Philippines | University of the Philippines alumni | John F. Kennedy School of Government people

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