A leader, public servant, activist, liberal stalwart, educator and lawyer, Florencio “Butch” Abad is recognized and respected by peers as a fervent architect of reform and national transformation.

Currently Secretary of Budget and Management in the new Aquino administration, Abad has been in the public service intermittently for more than a decade, serving in various capacities after the restoration of democracy after Martial Law. He started his political career by serving as Representative of Batanes in 1987, following the footsteps of his forebears.

After his first congressional stint, he was enlisted to serve as Secretary of Agrarian Reform under the first Aquino administration. However, this too was abbreviated due to how his fervent stand for agrarian reform did not sit well with certain members of Congress. He then returned to serving the people of Batanes as House representative in 1995, serving three consecutive terms.

During his time in the Congress, he championed reforms as chair of the appropriations committee and authored vital legislations, such as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law, the Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization Act, the Electricity Power Industry Reform Act, among others. Having gained respect from his peers, he served as a member of various congressional committees, such as the committees on basic education, energy, agricultural modernization and agrarian reform.

He was appointed as Secretary of Education in 2004. In this capacity, he continued pursuing the reforms in basic education that he started when he was a legislator. But a year after—because of fraud in the 2004 elections that was exposed and that questioned the legitimacy of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo—he and other reformists in Cabinet dubbed as the “Hyatt 10” resigned and called for President’s Arroyo’s resignation.

It was also during his stint in public service that he emerged as a respected political leader. He is credited to having helped steer the revival of the Liberal Party into a reform-oriented political party. He served as its president from 1999 to 2004, but more profoundly, he continues to be considered as a key party figure and as a respected political mentor by other Liberals. The latter included President Benigno S. Aquino III himself, whom Abad served as campaign manager in his Senatorial and Presidential bids in 2007 and 2010.

Now, six months into his current stint as Budget and Management Secretary, he has already spearheaded key public expenditure management reforms and helped the Aquino government achieve gains in good governance. Under his watch, the 2011 National Budget was passed on time, the first time it has happened in over a decade. Another key reform he initiated is the new thrust of the Department to engage civil society organizations in the budget process more actively.

Abad has been innately nationalistic and pro-active since his college days, being one of the leaders who fearlessly fought the Marcos dictatorship. He started early as an anti-Martial Law activist and a human rights advocate, and worked as a trade unionist at the Federation of Free Workers. For his activism, Abad was twice detained as a prisoner of conscience in 1978 and 1980.
Abad has also worked in the academe, and the public and non-government sectors. He served as a research director at the Ateneo Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs in 1986 and has been a regular lecturer at the Ateneo de Manila University’s College of Arts and Sciences, School of Government, College of Law and Graduate School of Business. He was also a legal and management consultant to different local and foreign foundations.

He completed his secondary and college education at the Ateneo de Manila University where he obtained a bachelor’s degree in Business Management in 1980. He continued his childhood dream of becoming a lawyer at the Ateneo College of Law as a President’s scholar and passed the Bar Examination in 1985. He was a fellow of the Edward Mason Program in Public Policy and Management at the Kennedy School of Government in Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he successfully completed his studies with Masters in Public Administration.

Abad, a proud Ivatan, was born on July 13, 1954 in Sampaloc, Manila, to a family of politicians and artists. His father, the late Jorge A. Abad, was a four-time congressman under Liberal Party and served as Secretary of Departments of Public Works and Transportation and Communications. His mother, Aurora Barsana Abad, was also elected representative and an OIC Governor of their home province, Batanes. He is the seventh of 14 siblings, three of whom have passed away. Among his siblings is the late Pacita Abad, an internationally-renowned painter.

He is married to Batanes Rep. Henedina V. Razon, with whom he was blessed with four children, namely: Julia Andrea, currently Secretary of the Presidential Management Staff; Pio Emmanuel, an artist and painter; Luis Andres, currently Chief-of-Staff of the Secretary of Finance; and Cecilia Paz, a culinary arts student.
## Professional Background

**July 2001 – June, 2004**  
**Representative**  
Lone District of Batanes Islands  
House of Representatives  
Congress of the Philippines

**October 2002**  
**Vice Chairman**  
House Contingent  
Congressional Oversight Committee on Official Development Assistance (ODA)

**October 2001**  
**Vice Chairman**  
House Contingent  
Joint Congressional Power Commission

**Chairman**  
Committee on Appropriations

**Vice Chairman**  
Committee on Accounts

**Member**  
Committee on Energy

**Member**  
Congressional Oversight Committee on Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization

**July 1998 – June 2001**  
**Representative**  
Lone District of Batanes Islands  
House of Representatives  
Congress of the Philippines

**Vice-Chairman**  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Sub-Committee on Agriculture, Housing, Indigenous Peoples and Anti-Poverty

**Vice-Chairman**  
Chairman  
Committee on Public Works and Highways  
Sub-Committee on Oversight

**Member**  
Committee on Agriculture  
Committee on Basic Education  
Committee on National Defense  
Committee on Agrarian Reform  
Committee on Energy  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Committee on Natural Resources

**Commissioner**  
Lecturer  
Congressional Commission on Agricultural Modernization  
Ateneo School of Government

**1995-1998**  
**Representative**  
Lone District of Batanes Islands  
House of Representatives  
Congress of the Philippines
Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Special Committee on the 20 Priority Provinces
Special Committee on Cooperatives Development
Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Trade and Industry
Subcommittee on Revenue Generating Agencies, Ways and Means

Member
Committee on Appropriations
Committee on Agriculture
Committee on Agrarian Reform
Committee on Public Works
Committee on National Defense

HOR Adviser
Government Panel on Peace Talks with CPP/NPA/NDF

Commissioner
Congressional Commission on Agricultural Modernization

1994-1995
Lecturer
Ateneo Graduate School of Business
Director
Land Bank of the Philippines
Consultant
Office of the Speaker Pro-Tempore, HOR
Executive Director
National Headquarters - Liberal Party

1993-1994
(One-Year Study Leave at Harvard University)

1992-1993
Consultant
Office of the Speaker Pro-Tempore, HOR
Executive Director
Kaisahan tungo sa Kaunlaran ng Kanayunan at Repormang Pansakahan (KAISAHAN, a rural development NGO)

Lecturer
Political Science Department
Ateneo College of Arts & Sciences

1991-1992
Consultant
Office of the Speaker Pro-Tempore, HOR
Executive Director
KAISAHAN

1990
Secretary
Department of Agrarian Reform
Cabinet Officer for Regional Development for Region II
Vice-Chairman
Presidential Agrarian Reform Council
Director
Land Bank of the Philippines
Director
Development Academy of the Philippines
Director
Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation

1987-1990
Representative
Lone District of Batanes Islands
House of Representatives
Congress of the Philippines
Chairman
Committee on People's Power and Participation
Vice-Chairman
Committee on Agrarian Reform

1986-1987
Research Director
Ateneo Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs/Office of Constitutional Commissioner Joaquin Bernas, SJ

Talk Show Co-Host “Street Pulse” RPN 9

1976-1986
Human Rights Advocate/Anti-Martial Law Activist (detained in Fort Bonifacio and Camp Bicutan in 1978 for leading a march protesting the fraudulent elections in April, 1978; again detained and subsequently placed under house arrest with wife, Dina, in 1980 at Camp Karingal for their advocacy of human and trade union rights)
1980-1984  Program Officer  The Association of Foundations
1976-1979  Trade Unionist  Federation of Free Workers (FFW)/Ateneo Workers College

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Bachelor of Laws  Ateneo College of Law, 1980-1985, (President's Scholar), Passed the Philippine Bar, 1986.
Bachelor of Science  Major in Business Administration, Ateneo de Manila University, 1972-1976,1980.

SPECIAL TRAININGS

June 23 – July 11, 2003  Tax Policy, Fiscal Analysis and Revenue Forecasting
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
Georgia State University
Atlanta, Georgia

September 30 – October 3, 2002  Modelling and Managing Competitive Electricity Markets
London Business School, University of London
London, United Kingdom

July 15 – August 20, 2000  Program on Budgeting & Financial Management in the Public Sector
John F. Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

AFFILIATIONS

DEVELOPMENT WORK – Founding President, BATAVES DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.; President, KAISAHAN TUNGO SA KAUNLARAN NG KABAYANAN AT REFORMANG PANSAKAHAAN; Founding Trustee, NATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE; Founding Trustee, GASTON Z. ORTIGAS PEACE INSTITUTE; Founding Trustee, COALITION FOR PEACE; Founding Trustee, COCONUT INDUSTRY REFORM (COIR) MOVEMENT; Provincial Peace Partner, NATIONAL UNIFICATION COMMITTEE; Founding Trustee, PHILIPPINE AGRARIAN REFORM FOUNDATION FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PARFUND).

POLITICAL - President, LIBERAL PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES; Founding Trustee, INSTITUTE FOR POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE; Convenor and Past Chairman, COUNCIL OF ASIAN LIBERALS AND DEMOCRATS.

PROFESSIONAL – Member, INTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES; Senior Partner, ABAD, CRISTOBAL & CASIS LAW OFFICE; Member, PHILIPPINE LAWYER'S ASSOCIATION.
PERSONAL DATA

Date of Birth : 19 July 1954
Province : Basco, Batanes
Birthplace : Sampaloc, Manila
Civil Status : Married to Henedina Vitug Razon with four children
(John, Flo, Luis and Pez)
Languages Spoken : Ivatan, Pampango, Filipino and English.