

FLORENCIO "BUTCH" B. ABAD

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 Cabined 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.

Florencio B. Abad

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Batasan Paribansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City 1126
Philippines

See Florencio B. Abad
CTC 10112438
March 15, 2004
Basco, Batanes

PROFIL

FAX # 6312123 - LYN

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	Special Committee on the 20 Priority Provinces
	Vice-Chairman	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/NDP
	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		<i>(One-Year Study Leave at Harvard University)</i>
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 <i>(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)</i>

1980-1984	Program Officer	The Association of Foundations
1976-1979	Trade Unionist	Federation of Free Workers (FFW)/Ateneo Workers College

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Masters in Public Administration	J. F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1993-1994. (<i>Ford Foundation and Asia Foundation Scholar</i>)
Bachelor of Laws	Ateneo College of Law, 1980-1985, (<i>President's Scholar</i>), Passed the Philippine Bar, 1986.
Bachelor of Science	Major in Business Administration, Ateneo de Manila University, 1972-1976, 1980.
High School	Ateneo de Manila High School, 1968-1972.
Grade School	Lourdes School, Quezon City, 1966-1969/Basco Elementary School; 1961-1966.

SPECIAL TRAININGS

June 23 – July 11, 2003	Tax Policy, Fiscal Analysis and Revenue Forecasting Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Georgia State University Atlanta, George
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, BATANES DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.; President, KAISAHAN TUNGO SA KAUNLARAN NG KANAYUNAN AT REFORMANG PANSAKAHAN; 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 : 13 July 1954
Province : Basco, Batanes
Birthplace : Sampaloc, Manila
Civil Status : Married to Henedina Vitug Razon with four children
(*Julia, Pio, Luis and Paz*)
Languages Spoken : Ivatan, Pampango, Filipino and English.