



BUKLOD AS THE MESSENGER

What is the aim of Buklod?

Buklod aims to gain control of the Philippine government, both the Presidency and majority of the two Houses of Congress, if not immediately then eventually.

Why does Buklod want to control the government?

To be able to effectively and successfully pursue and implement its ideology, documented as Buklod Objectives and Beliefs.

Would Buklod accept working with other parties in a coalition?

Yes, provided that there is an upfront enforceable agreement between Buklod and the other parties on how to move the country forward.

Why does Buklod disqualify as members those who have previously been elected/appointed to government positions?

They are already trapped in their current ways and tainted, rightly or wrongly, by the failures of the past. Moreover, the country needs new faces and new thinking.

How will Buklod achieve its goals?

The Party will:

- articulate its ideology
- attract/recruit members who believe in the ideology and will support and help in its successful implementation
- draw from its membership leaders and candidates for elective office
- campaign for election of Buklod candidates
- implement Buklod's ideology upon successful election of its members; this will result in the substantial improvement of people's lives and the creation of a better Philippines

So, is the achievement of Buklod's goal a long-term pursuit?

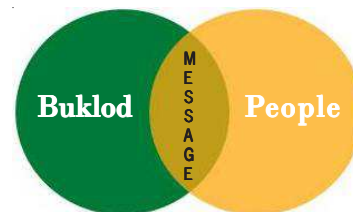
It could be, but not necessarily; Buklod's movement may create a spark.

Anticipating that Buklod's potential candidates would be comparatively unknown nationally and locally, how can they win?

Buklod aims to make itself well-known for its ideology and vision for the country, so that Buklod candidates would have a fair chance of winning.

How will the Filipino people come into the picture?

Buklod (the messenger) will articulate its ideology (the message) to the Filipino people. When the people accept this ideology and elect Buklod candidates, the ideology will become the people's own. When elected, Buklod will uphold and implement the ideology for and on behalf of the people.



How can volunteers help/participate?

- be a Party member
- recruit other members
- spread Buklod's ideology
- volunteer as Party leader
- express interest in running for office under Buklod
- participate in Buklod-led community and other activities

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THE MESSAGE

(Buklod Ideology)

- Eradicate poverty
 - Relocate all illegal settlers and provide them with decent housing, particularly those living on sidewalks, under bridges, and along banks of rivers and other waterways
 - Strengthen land reform law and successfully enforce it
- Pursue agricultural development with vigor and intensity
- Substantially improve education
 - Motivate parents to keep their children in school and provide students with support, such as free meals and transportation
 - Extend primary/secondary education to 12 years from the current 10 years
- Establish affordable health program for the poor
 - Immediately provide free treatment for fixable physical deformities (e.g., cleft palate, club foot) and selected rare diseases of children
- Improve/sustain economic growth
 - Promote fair distribution of economic wealth
 - Promote high level of employment
 - Select and promote industries where Filipinos can excel in a global environment
- Foster fair competition and trade dealing, thus easing the process of starting a business and promoting creativity
- Develop a robust capital market
- Draft and implement overall plan for infrastructure development relating to irrigation systems, national highways, railways, bridges, ports, airports and others
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the tax system and implement reforms to make taxation a strong driver of economic progress
 - Reduce tax rates where possible to generate more economic activities
- Renegotiate but not repudiate foreign national debt
- Carry out population management that is acceptable to the people
- Provide solutions to the NPA/MILF conflicts
- Implement further decentralization to LGUs
 - Base allocation of national funds on local economic need
 - Reject federalism, which is not a solution, but a step backward
- Substantially reduce, if not completely eradicate, graft and corruption, especially at high levels of government
- Stop degradation of environment
 - Stop illegal logging and reforest denuded areas
 - Clean the waterways and the air
- Adopt a comprehensive land use code that allows for a pleasant living environment for all citizens and promotes efficient utilization of land resources
- Modernize the Armed Forces
 - Give first priority to: modern/adequate equipment for ground troops deployed to conflict areas, and the needs of the Coast Guard and the Navy
- Make the National Police a much more effective force in preventing and fighting crime
 - Support and preserve the national character of the police force, which provides check and balance in the use of the force
- Recommend to the people a single language to be used in everyday life and in school to promote greater creativity and spur national progress
 - Submit recommendation in a referendum
- Raise citizens' awareness regarding their responsibility for their own progress and development
 - Make them realize the importance of helping themselves
 - Make them accept their obligation to respect the rights of other citizens