

Malacañang
Manila

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 809

**DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF PAETE, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, AS THE
"CARVING CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES"**

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Paete, Province of Laguna, derives its name from the old Tagalog word "*paet*", meaning *chisel*, a basic tool for carving, carpentry and woodworking;

WHEREAS, over the century, Paete and carving have co-existed and its artisans have produced countless statuaries, architectural embellishments and souvenirs that are known not only in the country but also in other parts of the world;

WHEREAS, artisans from Paete have, of late, also been known for their prize-winning entries on sculpted ice and butter which have earned honors in international competitions in the hotel industry;

WHEREAS, Paete is located in the fourth district of Laguna, which is part of a heritage cluster of attractions for international and domestic visitors due to the concentration of art shops, craft houses and historical churches;

WHEREAS, there is a need to continue to strengthen Paete's carving industry in order to promote the region as a prime tourist and trading destination in the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the Municipality of Paete, Province of Laguna, as the "**Carving Capital of the Philippines**".

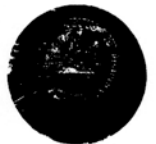
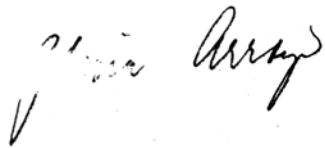
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines, to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this **15th** day of March, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

By the President:



EDUARDO R. ERMITA
Executive Secretary



PGMA Hologram # **29949**