

Our schools therefore determine our capacity for national achievement. In the same way, what a province or a region can do — the progress it can achieve — depends on the skills and knowledge available within its compass. The presence of natural resources, however rich and abundant, means little or nothing unless the people have the skill and the knowledge to develop and make use of them. A nation, therefore, is as developed or underdeveloped as the skill and knowledge of the persons comprising it.

The University of Mindanao can set the pattern for the provincial and regional universities that we will establish in the future. Your experience will guide us in this task. This is the historic role of your University.

An incalculable part of the economic progress we want will depend for its attainment on the countless other men and women prepared by the schools for specific skills. Even the broad academic knowledge in the arts and humanities will play a tremendous role, indeed perhaps a leading one, for it provides that most important ingredient of progress — the comprehension of man.

Man himself, you will agree with me, is the only objective of progress. And this is where education fulfills an important function — to provide man hope against the innumerable perils of living. — *Speech delivered by President Ferdinand E. Marcos at the University of Mindanao in Davao City, May 7, 1967.*

PEACEMAKERS

“The Sermon on the Mount says: ‘Blessed are the peacemakers.’ It does not say blessed are the peacelovers. There’s nothing special about a peacelover. ‘Blessed are the peacemakers’ — those who work for it, by every means, by diplomacy, by the use of force, but especially by their work to build institutions of justice and habits of reliance on law both within nations and between them.” — *Henry R. Luce.*