



## APPENDIX 1.8

### RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UP FACULTY ASSEMBLY, SOME MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, AND THE COLLEGE OF LAW ON THE SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE OF THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS, 21 AUGUST 1971

While it may be unfair to generalize that the College of Business Administration and the College of Law as traditionally conservative, it is interesting to highlight how their faculty members reacted, in the form of written resolutions, to Marcos's most significant utilization of his constitutional police powers before declaring martial law—the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus on 21 August 1971. In comparison to the stand of the other colleges and the UP Faculty Assembly, the resolution of the College of Business Administration was rather tame. It gave Marcos the benefit of the doubt (“allow such proofs to stand the test of our courts”). In a similar vein, the College of Law's resolution starts by acknowledging that the constitution allows the president to order the writ's suspension, but urges him to lift it mainly to calm an already agitated citizenry, thereby performing “a redeeming act of statesmanship.”

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UP FACULTY ASSEMBLY  
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Quezon City  
U.P. Faculty Assembly  
Condemns Writ Suspension  
Demands Immediate Lifting

Gravely concerned over the alarming situation brought about by Proclamation No. 889 by the President of the Philippines suspending the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus;

*Resolution Adopted by the U.P. Faculty Assembly*

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

Quezon City

U.P. Faculty Assembly

Condemns Writ Suspension

Demands Immediate Lifting

Gravely concerned over the alarming situation brought about by Proclamation No. 889 by the President of the Philippines suspending the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*;

Noting the resolutions and statements adopted by the faculties of the various colleges and units of the University, as well as the letter-memorandum addressed by University President Salvador P. Lopez to the President of the Philippines;

The THIRD FACULTY ASSEMBLY of the University of the Philippines

1. Unites with all other sectors of the nation in protest against this invasion of civil liberties;
  2. Endorses the position taken in the above-mentioned resolutions, statements and letter-memorandum;
  3. Condemns the suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*; and
  4. Demands the immediate lifting thereof.
- Approved as amended on 3 September 1971.

Figure 1. A copy of the resolution adopted by the UP Faculty Assembly.

Source: *UP Gazette*. 1971. "Resolution Adopted by the UP Faculty Assembly." *UP Gazette*, September 30: 133.

Noting the resolutions and statements adopted by the faculties of the various colleges and units of the University, as well as the letter-memorandum addressed by University President Salvador P. Lopez to the President of the Philippines;

The THIRD FACULTY ASSEMBLY of the University of the Philippines

1. Unites with all other sectors of the nation in protest against this invasion of civil liberties;
2. Endorses the position taken in the above-mentioned resolutions, statements and letter memorandum;
3. Condemns the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus; and
4. Demands the immediate lifting thereof.

Approved as amended on 3 September 1971

*Source*

*UP Gazette*. 1971. "Resolution Adopted by the UP Faculty Assembly." *UP Gazette*, September 30: 133.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY 16 MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, RE: THE SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE OF THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN 1971**

We view with deep apprehension the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus by President Marcos. His action has heightened the tension during the period when sobriety and calm are most needed.

We view with deep anxiety the possibility that such a suspension may stifle the opposition's voice, be it that of a businessman, a cleric or a student, because of fear of eventual arrest.

We view with deep concern the actuations of President Marcos which tend to make a scapegoat of the national democratic movement for the faults of our society and of the Marcos administration.

We urge the President, if he has the necessary proofs which he seems to imply he has, to allow such proofs to stand the test of our courts. We urge all citizens to join us in strongly urging the lifting of the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus.

*Source*

*UP Gazette*. 1971. "Resolution Adopted by the UP Faculty Assembly." *UP Gazette*, September 30: 136.

## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY SOME MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE OF LAW

We, the undersigned members of the faculty of the University of the Philippines, gravely concerned over the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus and the threat it poses to other fundamental rights, urge the President to lift the suspension.

We acknowledge that the constitution vests in him the power to order the suspension in case of insurrection or rebellion when the public safety requires it although we can endlessly argue over the motivation, necessity, wisdom and propriety of that suspension.

We are aware that even now the exercise of this power is being challenged before the Supreme Court and is the subject of unrelenting debate before the bar of public opinion.

We note the apprehension of abuse in the implementation of the proclamation of suspension and the precautions taken to allay fears of and prevent abuse.

We believe that taking into account what the suspension has so far accomplished and what the continued suspension exacts in terms of confusion, recrimination, apprehension if not panic in an already unsettled and disillusioned society, the privilege of the writ should be restored.

We believe that even without the exercise of extraordinary powers like the suspension, the concentration of constitutional powers in the President affords other alternatives towards the protection of public safety.

We believe even more that by zealously safeguarding the civil liberties of the people a government exists on the firm foundations of their trust and support.

We therefore call upon our President to exercise a redeeming act of statesmanship by forthwith lifting the suspension of the privilege of habeas corpus and arresting divisive forces that have been aggravated by the suspension.

### *Source*

*UP Gazette*. 1971. "Resolution Adopted by the UP Faculty Assembly." *UP Gazette*, September 30:133-34.