

Presidential Proclamation No. 02-98

Regarding the Death of the Late Former Governor Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, 31 March 1998, at approximately 10:45 a.m., Palau time, after a lifetime of public service and commitment to the people of the State of Aimeliik and the Republic of Palau, Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai was called to his eternal rest; and

WHEREAS, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai was born on 6 May 1920 in Medorm hamlet, Aimeliik State, Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai attended and graduated from Honga Sanneng (3rd grade) at Peleliu and Hosyuka Nineng (5th grade) in Koror during the Japanese Administration in Palau; and

WHEREAS, as a young man before World War II, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai worked as a surveyor in Aimeliik, leader of young men's group (Seinendang) from Medorm, and worked at Nekkeng with Nettai Sangio Kengkyushio, a Japanese Company; and

WHEREAS, during the outbreak of World War II, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai was recruited and given a rank as "Tsuji" under Mr. Inochue Kakka, and worked as reporter or informant; and

WHEREAS, during Naval Administration of Palau, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai became classroom teacher, and later on promoted to the position of Principal; and

WHEREAS, later, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai continued his long and outstanding public service career as a Chief Clerk (Municipal Government), appointed Community judge representing Aimeliik, leader of young men's group (Seinendang) from the whole Aimeliik, one of the founder of Bai-ra-Seisang, six terms Magistrate, LCHO representing Aimeliik, Advisor to George B. Harris, Stanton, and Hughs, and Judge of LCHO until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai became the second elected Governor of Aimeliik State; and

WHEREAS, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai also served in many boards and commissions, including Aimeliik PTA (chairman), Vocational Education & Curriculum, Palau Fishing Authority, Aimeliik Bilingual (chairman), Palau Housing Authority (chairman), and the Palau Society of Historians; and

WHEREAS, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai was well versed of many Palauan histories, including customs and traditions, and at the same time, held traditional titles of Louch of Ngerchol of Peleliu State and Tkulachudel of Uchelkeiukl of Aimeliik State, and was Urebau of Ngerkedolang, Ngchemiangel, Aimeliik State for a short period of time; and

WHEREAS, the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai is survived by his sons- Clarence Srid, Miles, Silverio and Hiroshi Rengulbai; daughters- Korang M. Ngirblekuu, Margarita M. Bautista, Hilaria R. Fritz, Faye "Fideles" R. Downing, Maireng Rengulbai, Rrekong R. Harms and Klong K. Rengulbai; brothers- Uchermelekl Desebel and Turbur Teruo Rengulbai; sisters- Mellekl Kyota, Bartol Kuartel, Kukong Fritz, Olsudong Rengulbai and Dirrachesel Kerengokl Ngiralmu; and 36 grandchildren;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau and by the provisions of 1 PNC 503(c) and of Executive Order No. 24, I, Kuniwo Nakamura, President of the Republic of Palau, hereby proclaim that a state of national mourning shall be observed throughout the Republic as a tribute to the late Tkulachudel Meruk Rengulbai and that to properly observe the occasion of the death of this distinguished public servant, all flags regularly flown within the jurisdiction of Palau, and national flags of the Republic flown at liaison offices of Palau in other countries, shall be flown at halfmast for a period of two days, commencing on 8 April 1998 and ending on 9 April 1998.

SO PROCLAIMED this 7th Day of April 1998 at Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Kuniwo Nakamura
President of the Republic of Palau