Did the Left get it right?

A personal reaction by Danilo A. Arao
Some clarifications are in order

- Exactly who among the “leftist personalities” are STILL with the “Left”?

- One indicator: Comelec’s Certified List of Candidates for Senator
  - What’s their affiliation now?
J.V. Bautista

☐ From Sanlakas to Erap’s party?
Risa Hontiveros

☐ From Akbayan to Noynoy’s party?
Liza Maza

- APPARENTLY with Gabriela Women’s Party, even if Independent
Satur Ocampo

- OBVIOUSLY still with Bayan Muna
Bautista openly supports Erap, Jinggoy

“(Jinggoy Estrada) holds the second highest position in the Senate and is an experienced chief executive officer having served as mayor of San Juan. Jinggoy is a multi-awarded actor.”

Hontiveros all-out for Noynoy

"Senator Noynoy has been consistently leading the surveys ever since. Since the campaign period is about to end, NP tries to use shameless black prop to overtake LP’s lead."

What about Maza and Ocampo?

Unlike Bautista and Hontiveros, they were “guest candidates” of Villar’s Nacionalista Party.

Ocampo: “What clinched the alliance was the positive response of Sen. Villar and his party to the people’s issues that we presented to all the presidential frontrunners. Of all the candidates, it was Sen. Villar who engaged us in earnest discussions on a common platform and program.”
Broad alliance work among “leftists”

- Mainly “tactical”
- Seldom permanent
- Clear basis/bases of unity
- Consistent, constructive criticisms
- “One foot in, one foot out”

**THEREFORE, NP-Makabayan alliance should be analyzed in the context of the Left’s broad alliance work**
The better questions to ask

WHO AMONG THE “LEFT” BECAME “RIGHT”?

DID MAKABAYAN GAIN ANYTHING FROM ITS ALLIANCE WITH THE NACIONALISTAS?
Looking at PL numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party-list group</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Probable seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Makabayan-affiliated PLs (Bayan Muna, Gabriela Women’s Party, AnakPawis, Kabataan Partylist, ACT Teachers, Katribu)</td>
<td>3,202,690</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akbayan, Partido ng Manggagawa</td>
<td>1,188,730</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D.A. Arao

TWSC (24 June 2010)
Looking at gruesome numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PL group</th>
<th>Killings</th>
<th>Disappearances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bayan Muna</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AnakPawis</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriela Women’s Party</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabataan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suara Bangsamoro</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anak ng Bayan</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>197</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Karapatan (Jan 2001-March 2010)
To rephrase the question

☐ Did Makabayan get it right?

☐ ANSWER:

- It was successful in increasing mass base
- But failed to maintain or increase seats in HOR
- And Ocampo and Maza lost in the senatorial race
- MY PERSONAL OPINION?

Somehow...
Thank you!

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