

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO BE ADMITTED A CITIZEN OF
THE PHILIPPINES. MANUEL YU, PETITIONER AND APPELLANT, VS.
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, OPPOSITOR AND APPELLEE.**

G.R. No. L-17748. November 28, 1962

Ponente: MAKALINTAL, J.

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/fc85b8a59e40/>

MAKALINTAL, J.:

Manuel Yu appeals from the decision of the Court of First Instance of Manila denying his petition for naturalization on the ground that he does not have a lucrative lawful occupation.

The following appears from appellant's evidence: He was born of Chinese parents in Manila on March 22, 1934 and is at present residing with his mother, a widow, at 1319 Soler Street. Still single at the time of the trial, he has continuously resided in the Philippines, never leaving the country except for a short vacation in China while still a child. He is registered with the Embassy of the Republic of China as a citizen thereof (Exhibit H); and has the corresponding certificate of registration (Exhibit K) and immigrant certificate of residence (Exhibit J) issued by the Bureau of Immigration.

Appellant speaks and writes Tagalog and English (Exhibit M). He finished his elementary education at the Chinese Republican School, Magdalena St., Manila; his high school education at the Quezon College, Manila; and a semester of commerce at the Mapua Institute of Technology (Exhibit N-1).

The evidence likewise shows that appellant believes in the principles underlying the Philippine Constitution; that he has conducted himself in a proper and irreproachable manner during the entire period of his residence in the Philippines in his relations with the constituted government as well as with the community in which he is living; that he has mingled socially with the Filipinos and has evinced a sincere desire to learn and embrace their customs, traditions, and ideals; that he is not opposed to organized government or affiliated with any association or group of persons who uphold and teach doctrines opposing all organized governments, nor does he defend or teach the necessity or propriety of violence, personal assault, or assassination for the success and predominance of men's ideas; that he is not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; that he has not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude, and has not been charged with the commission of any offense (Exhibits O; 0-1 to 0-9 and 0-11); and that he is not suffering from mental alienation or any incurable contagious disease (Exhibit P). The nation of which he is a subject grants by law to Filipinos the right to become naturalized citizens thereof, and is not at war with the Philippines.

From appellant's evidence it seems that except for the lack of lucrative employment, he is qualified to become a Filipino citizen.

It is alleged that appellant is earning P1,440.00 annually as sales representative of the Victory Steel Chair Factory, 1319 Soler St., Manila, which is owned by his mother, Ong Kim. As evidence of this allegation appellant relies on his own testimony as well as on his mother's sworn written statement to that effect, which, however, was not testified to by her when she took the witness stand to verify the date and place of his birth. Where the applicant

for naturalization claims to be employed by either of his parents he must submit more satisfactory proof than has been adduced herein that he is actually employed and worth the salary he is receiving, in order to eliminate any suspicion that his parents have employed him only as a convenient arrangement to satisfy the statutory requisites for naturalization.

But granting that appellant earns P120.00 monthly, he cannot be said to have a lucrative trade or occupation. Such amount is not sufficient (*Lo Chicombing vs. Republic*, 111 Phil., 428; *Sy Ang Hoc vs. Republic*, 111 Phil., 488; *Tan vs. Republic* 112 Phil. 131) in view of the present high cost of living and the low purchasing power of our currency (*Sy Piñero vs. Republic*, L-17399, October 30, 1962). Invoking the case of *Lim vs. Republic*, 92 Phil., 522; 49 Off. Gaz. [1] 122, appellant asserts that the free board and lodging, worth P60.00 monthly, furnished by his mother-employer, should be added to his monthly salary in cash in order to arrive at his correct earnings. Even then, a monthly income of P180.00 will not qualify him, since even the amount of P250.00 has been considered not lucrative for purposes of naturalization (*Ong vs. Republic*, L-15764, May 19, 1961).

The decision appealed from is affirmed with costs against appellant.

Bengzon, C. J., Padilla, Bautista Angelo, Labrador, Concepcion, Reyes, J. B. L., Barrera, Paredes, Dizon, and Regala, JJ., concur.

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.