Josefa Llanes Escoda

Josefa Llanes Escoda (September 20, 1898- January 6, 1945), was in Dingras, Ilocos Norte, was a pioneering social worker and a fierce advocate for women's rights in the Philippines. After earning a teaching degree from the Philippine Normal School in Manila and a master's in Social Work from Columbia University.

In 1925, she dedicated her life to social welfare and youth development. In 1940, she founded the Girl Scouts of the Philippines, bringing leadership and empowerment to Filipino girls. During the Japanese occupation in World War II, she and her husband risked their lives smuggling food, medicine and messages to American and Filipino prisoners of war. Tragically, she was executed at the age of 46, and was likely buried in an unmarked grave in La Loma Cemetery. Today, she is honored on the 1,000-peso banknote, symbolizing her enduring legacy.