

The First International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation: Supporting Small Languages Together
Honolulu, Hawai'i, March 12-14, 2009

The State of the Art of the Documentation of Philippine Languages

Hsiu-chuan Liao
National Tsing Hua University

Number of Philippine Languages

- *Ethnologue* (Gordon 2005):
 - 175 languages in total
 - Of these, 168 are Austronesian.

Previous Studies on the State of the Art of Philippine Linguistics

- Constantino 1971
- McKaughan 1971
- Reid 1981
- Quakenbush 2003, 2005
- Liao 2006

Philippine Languages—Ia

- **Philippine languages** (geographical): indigenous languages of the Philippines:
 - All Austronesian languages spoken in the Philippine archipelago (including the Sama-Bajaw or Samalan languages, which have been proposed to belong to the 'Extended Barito Family' of Southeast Borneo, rather than the Philippine subgroup) (Blust 2005)
 - Chabacano (a Spanish-based Creole)

Philippine Languages—Ib

- Austronesian languages that have been proposed to be part of a Philippine subgroup but are *not* spoken in the geographic confines of the Philippine are excluded:
 - Yami: Taiwan
 - the Sangiric, Minahasan, and Gorontaloic languages: northern Sulawesi
- Languages that are spoken in the geographic confines of the Philippine but are *not* considered to be indigenous to it are excluded:
 - English, Spanish, and Chinese languages

Research Questions

- What types of work have been done on the documentation of Philippine languages since the Independence of the Philippines in 1946?
- Are these studies mainly done by Filipinos or non-Filipinos?

Studies on Philippine Languages: Three Periods

- ❖ The Spanish Period: started from the sixteenth century to the end of the nineteenth century
- ❖ The American Period: started from 1900 and ended after World War II.
- ❖ The Independence Period: started after the Independence of the Philippines in 1946.

Sources of Bibliographical Information

- *Bibliography of the Summer Institute of Linguistics 1953-2003* (Johnson et al. 2003)
- *A bibliography of Philippine Linguistics* (Johnson 1996)
- *Journal of Philippine Linguistics* (1970-2009)
- *Studies in Philippine Linguistics (SIPL)* (now *Studies in Philippine Languages and Cultures (SPLC)*)
- Annual Reports of **Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino**
- Abstracts of theses and dissertations, Department of Linguistics, University of the Philippines
- Web search

The Documentation of Philippine Languages: Since 1946

- Dictionaries/Lexicon/Vocabulary
- Grammars
- Texts

Dictionaries—Ia

- Dictionaries: **92**
 - **Major languages** (i.e. languages that are spoken by more than one million speakers): **47**
 - **Minor languages** (i.e. languages that are spoken by less than one million speakers): **35** [Sama-Bajaw(3); Chabacano(3)]
 - Dictionaries of Technical Terms: 10 [6 + *4]

Dictionaries—Ib: Major Languages

- Major languages: 47
 - Tagalog/Filipino: 19 [slang (1); Fil-Chamorro-Eng(1)]
 - Cebuano: 5
 - Ilokano: 4 [Ilk-Fil-Eng (1)]
 - Hiligaynon/Ilonggo: 6 [Hil-Fil (1); Hil-Fil-Eng (2)]
 - Bicol: 4 [Eng-Fil-Bik (1)]
 - Samar-Leyte/Waray: 2 [Fil-Samar-Eng (1)]
 - Kapampangan: 3 [Kap-Fil (1)]
 - Pangasinan: 1 (Benton 1971)
 - Maranao: 1
 - Magindanao: 2 [Magindanao-Fil (1)]

Dictionaries—Ic: Minor Languages

- Minor languages: 35
 - Ivatan (1); Itbayat (1)
 - Casiguran Dumagat Agta (1); Dupanigan Agta (1 [*paper/on-line]); Yogad (1); Isnag (1); Ibanag (1); Ifugao (2); Bontok (2 [*1 on-line dictionary])
 - Tina Sambal (1); Ayta Mag-anchi (1)
 - Masbatenyo (1); Romblomanon (1); Aklanon (1+*1); Tausug (3); Mansaka (1)
 - Central Tagbanwa (1)
 - Agusan Manobo (1); Binukid (1); W. Bukidnon Manobo (1)
 - Hanunoo (1)
 - Tboli (1); Tirurai (1)
 - North Mangyan (1)
 - Yakan (2); Mapun (1)
 - Chabacano (3)

Dictionaries—Id: Technical Terms

- Terms of Mass communication: 2 [1 + *1]
- Business Terms (in 7 languages): 2 [1 +*1]
- Military Terms: 2 [1 +*1]
- Agricultural Terms (in 7 languages): 1
- Terms in Art: 1
- Glossary of Rattan Industry: 1 (Barraca 2007)
- Wordlist on Copra Production: 1 (Rodil 2008)

Dictionaries—II: Microgroups

- Bashiic/Batanic: 2
- Cordilleran/Northern Luzon: 14 (5 + 9)
- Central Luzon: 5 (3 + 2)
- Inati: 0
- Kalamian: 0
- Greater Central Philippines: 52 + **1 [Central Philippines (44 = 36+8), South Mangyan (1+**1), Palawanic (1), Manobo (3), Danao (3), Subanun (0)]
- Bilic: 2
- North Mangyan: **1
- Sama-Bajaw: 3
- Chabacano: 3

Dictionaries—III: Languages

- Dictionaries: 92
 - Bilingual: 71 [English (63); Filipino (6); German (1); Spanish (1)]
 - Monolingual: 3 [Filipino/Tagalog]
 - Trilingual: 15 [x-Fil-Eng (14); Fil-Chamorro-Eng(1)]
 - Multilingual (7 lgs): 3 [Eng-Fil-Seb-Hlg-Mar-Tau-Mag]

Major Development-I: Monolingual Dictionaries

- *Diksiyunaryo ng wikang Filipino* (Linangan ng mga Wika sa Pilipinas 1989)
- *Diksiyunaryo ng wikang Filipino* (Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino 1998)
- *Diksiyunaryong monolingwal sa Filipino* (Gonzalez 2005)

Major Development-II: Bilingual Dictionaries

- *Diksiyonaryong Hiligaynon-Filipino* (Alcantara 1997)
- *Pampango Filipino Lexicon* (Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF))
- *Maguindanawn Filipino Lexicon* (KWF)
- *Akean-Filipino Leksikon* (old) (KWF)
- *Leksikong Akean-Filipino* (new) (KWF)
- *Ibanag Filipino Lexicon* (KWF)

Major Development-IIIa: Trilingual Dictionaries

- *Modern English-Pilipino-Pampango dictionary* (Tunglo 1987)
- *English-Tina Sambal-Filipino dictionary* (Elgincolin et al. 1988)
- *Ivatan-Filipino-English dictionary: The cultural dictionary of Batanes* (Hidalgo et al. 1998)
- *Katawagan: Hiligaynon-Filipino-Ingles* (Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino 2000)
- *Bokabularyong traylinggwal: Ilocano-Filipino-English* (Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino 2003)

Major Development-IIIb: Trilingual Dictionaries

- *Hiligaynon-Filipino-Ingles* (KWF)
- *Diksiyunaryo Filipino-Samar-Ingles* (KWF)
- *Diksiyunaryo English-Filipino-Bikol* (KWF)
- *Bokabularyong Traylinggwala Tausug-Filipino-English [1999]* (KWF)
- *Diksiyunaryong Chabacano-Filipino-Ingles* (KWF)

- *Traylinggwala ng Diksiyunaryong Pang-MassCom* [old] (KWF)
- *Traylinggwala na Diksiyunaryong Pang-Mass Communication* [new] (KWF)

Major Development-IV: Technical Terms

- *Mga Terminong Pansakahan sa Pitong Diyalekto* (KWF) ‘agricultural terms (7 lgs)’
- *Tumbasang Diksiyunaryo ng mga Katawagan Pangmilitar: (Ingles-Fil.-Seb.-Hlg.-Mar.-Tau.-Mag.)* [old] (KWF) ‘military terms (7 lgs)’
- *Tumbasang Diksiyunaryo ng mga Katawagan Pangmilitar* [new] (KWF)
- *Diksiyunaryong Panghanapbuhay* [old] (KWF) ‘business terms’
- *Diksiyunaryo ng mga Katawagan Panghanapbuhay* [new] (KWF)
- *Mga Katawagan sa Sining* (KWF) ‘terms in art’

- *Traylinggwala ng Diksiyunaryong Pang-MassCom* [old] (KWF) ‘mass communication’
- *Traylinggwala na Diksiyunaryong Pang-Mass Communication* [new] (KWF)

Grammars—Ia

- Grammars: 90 publications
 - Major languages: 38
 - Minor languages: 52 [Sama-Bajaw (4); Chabacano (1)]

Grammars—Ib: Major Languages

- Major languages (38)
 - Tagalog/ Filipino: 11
 - Cebuano: 3
 - Ilokano: 9
 - Hiligaynon/Ilonggo: 3
 - Bikol: 3
 - Waray/ Samar-Leyte: 1 (Diller 1971)
 - Kapampangan: 6
 - Pangasinan: 2 (Amurrio 1970; Benton 1971)
 - Maranao: 0
 - Magindanao: 0

Grammars—1c: Minor Languages

- Minor languages (52)
 - Cordilleran/Northern Luzon languages: 18
 - Central Philippine languages: 8
 - Manobo languages: 6

Grammars—II: Microgroups

- Bashic/Batanic: 3
- Cordilleran/Northern Luzon: 29 [11 +18]
- Central Luzon: 10 [6+ 4]
- Inati: 0
- Kalamian: 0
- Greater Central Philippines: 40+**1 [Central Philippines (29 = 21 + 8), South Mangyan (1+**1), Palawanic (2), Manobo (6), Danao (0), Subanun (2)]
- Bilic: 1
- North Mangyan: 1 + **1
- Sama-Bajaw: 1
- Chabacano: 4

Texts—I

- 24 texts (2 + 22)
 - Mainly of minor languages (esp. Northern Luzon languages and Manobo languages)
- Mainly done by SIL linguists

Texts—II

- Main publication outlets of texts
 - *Studies in Philippine Linguistics (SIPL)* (now *Studies in Philippine Languages and Cultures (SPLC)*)
 - Linguistic Society of the Philippines (LSP) Special Monograph Series
 - Endangered Languages of the Pacific Rim (ELPR) Publications Series
 - De La Salle University Press

Observation-I

- **Tagalog (or Filipino)** has been the most well documented language (since the Spanish Period).
- Among other major languages, Ilokano, Cebuano, Hiligaynon/Ilonggo, Kapampangan, and Bikol are more well-documented than Samar-Leyte/Waray, Pangasinan, Maranao, and Magindanao.
- Nearly no documentation (as well as other kind of linguistic studies) has been done on **Pangasinan** after 1971.

[Lomboy, Russel R. 2009. A survey on the status of the Pangasinan language: Attitudes of speakers and domains of use. MA thesis, the Department of Linguistics, Bilingual Education, and Literature, Philippine Normal University.]

Observation-II

- Northern Luzon languages, Bashiic languages, Manobo languages, Sama-Bajaw languages, and Chabacano appear to have been more well documented than Central Luzon languages, North Mangyan languages, South Mangyan languages, Kalamian languages, and Subanun languages.

Observation-III

- Relatively few documentations have been done on the **Negrito languages** of the Philippines.
 - Dictionaries: **4** (92 in total)
 - Grammars: **8** (90 in total)
[mainly done by SIL linguists]
 - Texts: **2** (24 in total)

Filipinos' Involvement in the Documentation of Philippine Languages—I

- Are documentations of Philippine languages mainly done by Filipinos or non-Filipinos?
- Dictionaries: **45** (92 entries in total)
 - Major languages: **25** (47 in total)
[mainly done by Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF)]
 - Minor languages: **6** (35 in total)
 - Dictionaries of technical terms: **10** (10 entries in total)
[mainly done by Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF)]

Filipinos' Involvement in the Documentation of Philippine Languages—II

- Are documentations of Philippine languages mainly done by Filipinos or non-Filipinos?
 - Most documentations of Philippine languages have been done by non-Filipinos.
 - In the 1970s, a number of linguists affiliated with the University of Hawai'i were involved in the documentations of Philippine languages.
 - After the 1970s, most documentations of Philippine languages have been done by SIL linguists.

Recommendation-I

- More works should be done on the following major languages: **Pangasinan**, Samar-Leyte/Waray, Maranao, and Magindanao.
- Detailed reference grammars with the quality of Schachter and Otanes's (1972) *Tagalog reference grammar* should be prepared for other major languages as well, and if possible, also for minor languages.

Recommendation-II

- Documentation of minor languages, especially of the 30 extant **Negrito languages**, is in urgent need.
- Documentation of the following non-Negrito languages and/or language groups is of special need: North Mangyan languages, South Mangyan languages, Subanun languages, and Central Luzon languages.

Recommendation-III

- More local Filipinos' involvement in the documentation of Philippine languages is needed.
 - Courses on Philippine linguistics and/or Austronesian linguistics need to be offered by most, if not all, major universities in the Philippines.

Selected References

- Gordon, Raymond G., Jr., ed. 2005. *Ethnologue: Languages of the world*, 15th edition. (<http://www.ethnologue.com/>)
- Constantino, Ernesto. 1971. Tagalog and other major languages of the Philippines. In *Current Trends in Linguistics, Vol. 8: Linguistics in Oceania*, ed. by Thomas A. Sebeok, 112-154. The Hague and Paris: Mouton.
- McKaughan, Howard P. 1971. Minor languages of the Philippines. *Current Trends in Linguistics, Volume 8: Linguistics in Oceania, Part One*, ed. by Thomas A. Sebeok, 155-167. The Hague: Mouton.
- Quakenbush, J. Stephen. 2005. Philippine linguistics from an SIL perspective: Trends and prospects. In *Current issues in Philippine linguistics and anthropology: Parangal kay Lawrence A. Reid*, ed. by Hsiu-chuan Liao and Carl R. Galvez Rubino, 3-27. Manila: Linguistic Society of the Philippines and SIL Philippines.
- Reid, Lawrence A. 1981. Philippine linguistics: The state of the art: 1970-1980. In *Philippine studies: Political science, economics, and linguistics*, ed. by Don V. Hart, 212-273. DeKalb: Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Northern Illinois University.
- Johnson, Rex E., compiler. 1996. *A bibliography of Philippine linguistics*. Linguistic Society of the Philippines Special Monograph Issue No. 39. Manila: Linguistic Society of the Philippines.
- Johnson, Rex A., Grace O. Tan, and Cynthia Goshert, compilers. 2003. *Bibliography of the Summer Institute of Linguistics Philippines 1953-2003* (50th Anniversary Edition). Manila: Summer Institute of Linguistics Philippines. [Bibliography alphabetically listed by language names]

Acknowledgments

- Ministry of Education, Taiwan
- Ricky Nolasco
- Alice Karaan
- May Ocampo-Viaje
- Teresita Fortunato