The State of the Art of the Documentation of Philippine Languages

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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 Gorontalic 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

- *A bibliography of Philippine Linguistics* (Johnson 1996)
- *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—la

- 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)]
  - Bikol: 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); Dupaningan Agta (1 [*paper/online]); 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

- *Diksyunaryo ng wikang Filipino* (Linangan ng mga Wika sa Pilipinas 1989)
- *Diksyunaryo ng wikang Filipino* (Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino 1998)
- *Diksilyunaryong 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-IIa: 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)
- *Diksyunaryo Filipino-Samar-Ingles* (KWF)
- *Diksyunaryo English-Filipino-Bikol* (KWF)
- *Bokabularyong Traylinggwal Tausug-Filipino-English [1999]* (KWF)
- *Diksyunaryong Chabacano-Filipino-Ingles* (KWF)

- *Traylinggwal ng Diksyunaryong Pang-MassCom* [old] (KWF)
- *Traylinggwal na Diksyunaryong Pang-Mass Communication* [new] (KWF)
Major Development-IV: Technical Terms

- *Mga Terminong Pansakahan sa Pitong Diyalekto* (KWF) ‘agricultural terms (7 lgs)’
- *Tumbasang Diksyunaryo ng mga Katawagang Pangmilitary* [new] (KWF)
- *Diksyunaryong Panghanapbuhay* [old] (KWF) ‘business terms’
  - *Diksyunaryo ng mga Katawagang Panghanapbuhay* [new] (KWF)
  - *Mga Katawagan sa Sining* (KWF) ‘terms in art’
- *Traylinggwal ng Diksyunaryong Pang-MassCom* [old] (KWF) ‘mass communication’
  - *Traylinggwal na Diksyunaryong Pang-Mass Communication* [new] (KWF)
Grammars—la

- 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

- Bashiic/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
24 texts (2 + 22)
- Mainly of minor languages (esp. Northern Luzon languages and Manobo languages)

Mainly done by SIL linguists
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.

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.
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


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