

# STUDIES ON PHILIPPINE MINOR LANGUAGES

Proceedings of the Third Philippine Linguistics Congress  
held on May 31 - June 2, 1983 at the  
University of the Philippines, Quezon City

Edited by  
Consuelo J. Paz  
Anicia del Corro

A Publication of the  
CECILIO LOPEZ ARCHIVES OF PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES  
and the  
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS  
College of Social Sciences and Philosophy  
University of the Philippines  
Diliman, Quezon City  
June 1984

Ma. Theresa C. Samalla  
1st sem 96-97

THE ARCHIVE

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF  
PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS

---

---

PUBLICATION FOUR

JUNE 1984

---

---

STUDIES ON PHILIPPINE MINOR LANGUAGES

Proceedings of the Third Philippine Linguistics Congress  
held on May 31 - June 2, 1983 at the  
University of the Philippines, Quezon City

Edited by

Consuelo J. Paz  
Anicla del Corro

A Publication of the  
Cecilio Lopez Archives of Philippine Languages  
and the  
Department of Linguistics  
College of Social Sciences and Philosophy  
University of the Philippines  
Diliman, Quezon City

Our thanks to:

Norlinda Sarceno  
Anna Roldan  
Israel Vasquez  
Noel Estrabo

for typing, proof reading, mimeographing, sorting and all  
other details which were necessary for the production of  
this volume.



## Introduction

More than 80% of the Philippine languages are considered minor. What are the criteria to consider them as such? What is the nature of the studies that have been done on them? Are these languages considered at all in language planning for the nation?

These are some of the questions that this volume intends to answer, and in so doing, focus attention on Philippine minor languages, an aspect in Philippine linguistics which Philippine linguists have often neglected.

The articles are arranged from the general to the more specific in scope, geographically moving from the north to the southern part of the Philippines. Bonifacio Sibayan sets the perspective for this compilation with a general discussion of Philippine minor languages with reference to language planning. Each article has an original input into the field and more specially so for Jan Tan's study of Yadasen nouns and Tsunekazu Moriguchi's preliminary report on Karao, languages which have not been studied before and find print for the first time in this volume.

The paper of Consuelo Paz is valuable for the exhaustive listing and annotation of the early works on the Philippine minor languages. It should save a researcher much effort in searching for reference materials on these languages.

Antoon Postma, for Mindoro minor languages and Pedro Guasa for Bukidnon, present a survey and sociolinguistic analysis related to the use of these minor languages.



Yukihiro Yamada presents a structural analysis of Itbayat folktales, with the text included. A stress on semantic considerations is evident in Ernesto Cubar's study of functional shift in borrowed words from noun to verb, and Elmer Wolfenden's study of verb aspect in Masbateno discourse.

Evan Antworth's study of the correspondence of Proto-Austronesian phonemes as reflected in Sambal dialects is the only diachronic study in this volume.

Purita Quidlat uses the tagmemic model in the study on Higa-onon phrase structure. And Ernesto Constantino discusses a controversial issue in Philippine languages - the subject, predicate and focus, with application to Isinay.

It is my hope that this volume would be a start to a growing concern for Philippine minor languages.

A. del Corro



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Philippine Minor Languages and Language Planning . . . . .	1
Bonifacio P. Sibayan Professor Emeritus of Linguistics and Education, PNC President, Linguistic Society of the Philippines	
Mga Unang Pag-aaral Tungkol sa Mga Maynor na Wika . . . . .	13
Consuelo J. Paz Department of Linguistics and Asian Languages University of the Philippines	
A Morphological Study of Itbayat Folktales . . . . .	56
Yukihiro Yamada Kochi University, Japan	
Syntactic Functions of Yadasen Nouns . . . . .	84
Jan Tan Department of Linguistics and Asian Languages University of the Philippines	
A Preliminary Report on the Karao Language in Benguet . . . . .	94
Tsunekazu Moriguchi University of Kumamoto	
Subject Predicate and Focus Marking in Isinay . . . . .	113
Ernesto Constantino Department of Linguistics and Asian Languages University of the Philippines	
From Borrowed Noun to Verb: A Study of Functional Shift in Philippine Languages . . . . .	119
Ernesto H. Cubar University of the Philippines	
Sambal Reflexes of Proto-Austronesian Phonemes . . . . .	134
Evan L. Antworth Summer Institute of Linguistics	
Minor Languages of Mindoro . . . . .	148
Antoon Postma, SVD	
Verb Aspect in Masbateno Discourse . . . . .	165
Elmer Wolfenden Summer Institute of Linguistics	
Talaandig or Bukidnon? . . . . .	190
Pedro A. Guasa, Jr. Central Mindanao University	
Higa-onon Phrase Structure . . . . .	199
Purita B. Quidlat Mindanao State University in Iligan	