

THE ARCHIVE

SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 16

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OF
LINGUISTICS

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SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 16

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ISSUE EDITOR

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES DILIMAN

The Archive is the official journal of the Department of Linguistics, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines Diliman. The Regular Series of the journal serves as a peer-reviewed publication for original works dealing primarily but not exclusively with Philippine languages and dialects.

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 - squibs
 - linguistic data sets
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THE PINOY NEW VERSION TESTAMENT: A PHENOMENON IN LINGUISTICS

ANICIA DEL CORRO

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Foreword

I initially felt daunted by the idea to come up with a special publication which features works of distinguished and influential scholars in Philippine languages and in the field of Linguistics in general. After all, these are well-established linguists whose schedules may not have room for our invitation anymore, especially given the timeline that we wanted to follow for this particular issue. The original plan was to invite those who delivered plenary lectures during the three most recent editions of the Philippine Linguistics Congress, a triennial conference organized by the UP Department of Linguistics. But the Editorial Team later on decided to expand the list to include esteemed scholars who have devoted much of their time in studying Philippine languages and linguistics.

Sa totoo lang, bahaga akong nag-alinlangan kung may papayag ba sa kanila na magpasa ng papel para sa publikasyong ito. Mabuti na lamang at lima sa kanila ang nagbigay ng positibong tugon—at apat ang nakapasa ng manuskrito. Bagama’t iba-iba ang kanilang mga papel, hindi matatawaran ang halaga ng bawat isa. Mabusisi ang kanilang mga isinagawang pag-aaral, malalim ang pagsusuri, at mayaman sa datos ang mga puntong kanilang isinulong. Tunay na maipagmamalaki ang bawat artikulong bumubuo sa labas na ito ng *The Archive*.

Reid, in his work entitled “Reassessing the Position of Isinay in the Central Cordilleran Family”, proposes a modification in the subgrouping of the languages under the Central Cordilleran family (CCo), particularly in Isinay’s placement as a first order branch—a claim which Reid himself proposed in his previous works (1974, 2006, 2015). By reexamining both phonological and lexical evidence, Reid in this work claims that the relationship that Isinay shares with the rest of the Central Cordilleran languages is much closer than previously thought, and that all the languages under CCo form a linkage, rather than a tree—reflecting a more or less similar period of split from Proto-Central Cordilleran.

Kahanga-hanga ang ipinakitang tapang ni Reid sa pagbabago ng kanyang naunang panukala dahil sa kanyang pagkakatuklas ng bagong ebidensiya. At labis akong natutuwa na pinili niyang ilabas ang pag-aaral niyang ito sa unang pagkakataon sa isyung ito ng *The Archive*.

Zorc’s article, albeit brief, is a very informative and meaningful elucidation of the status of Klata as an Austronesian, Western Malayo-Polynesian, Southern Philippine language. Zorc also revisited an earlier “assumption” on the position of Klata in the Southern Philippine subgroup, admitting that there was a lack of detailed analysis when he assumed that Klata was directly related to Blaan and Tboli. Building upon Savage’s work (1986), Zorc compared Klata

with both Proto-South Mindanao and Tiruray, yielding substantial lexical differences and thus validating Klata's status as an independent language, i.e. a single node under the Southern Philippine family. In the latter part of his paper, Zorc highlighted a number of Klata's grammatical features, owing to Evans (2017), all of them being consistent with similar forms among Austronesian and Philippine languages.

Mahalaga rin na mabanggit ang pagbibigay ni Zorc ng sapat na paglalahad hinggil sa mga datos at pagsisiyasat na nagsilbing batayan sa kanyang pagsusuri, gayundin ang tanong na galing kay Andy Hsiu, isang gradwadong mag-aaral ng Linggwistik, na siyang naging dahilan upang isagawa niya ang pag-aaral na ito. Considering how underinvestigated Klata and the rest of the Southern Philippine languages are, I am hopeful that Zorc's work will spark more interest in this area.

The third and the only synchronic paper in this issue is O'Grady and Bulalang's "Symmetrical Voice in Western Subanon". The study is an attempt to integrate the symmetrical voice system found in Western Subanon into the typology of case alignment, using the framework of Emergentism, a linguistic theory that O'Grady (2005, 2019) himself has staunchly postulated. This study is significant in many respects. It is the first application of the Emergentist framework on a Philippine-type language. Until recently, most theoretical works on Philippine-type languages have employed traditional functional and formal approaches and the data—more often than not—come from Tagalog. Secondly, it shows how the Emergentist framework could provide a straightforward account of Western Subanon's symmetrical voice system, consistent to how the same framework accounts for the kind of alignment found in accusative and ergative languages. Corollary to such an analysis however is quashing some of the traditional, generally accepted assumptions about the voice system of Philippine languages. One of these assumptions is the notion that voice is a type of thematic-role marker. O'Grady and Bulalang propose that voice serves to identify the base argument position, regardless of the argument's thematic role.

Mababatid na karamihan sa mga naisagawang pag-aaral ukol sa istruktura ng mga wika sa Pilipinas hanggang sa ngayon ay nakatuon sa Tagalog. Kapansin-pansin din na maraming mga katangian ang iba pang mga wika sa Pilipinas na naiiba, kung hindi man wala sa Tagalog. Karagdagang dahilan ito upang basahin at unawain ang papel nina O'Grady at Bulalang sa isyung ito ng *The Archive*. Bagama't masalimuot pa rin ang usapin hinggil sa mga aspeto ng gramar na mayroon ang mga wika sa Pilipinas (kabilang ang 'voice'), mahalagang hakbang ang pag-aaral nila sa Subanon upang simulan ang pagbibigay nang mas malaking tuon sa mga katangiang bukod-tangi sa gramar ng iba pang mga wika sa Pilipinas.

Completing this special issue's lineup is Del Corro's paper on the "Pinoy New Version Testament" as a "phenomenon in linguistics". The Pinoy New Version Testament (PNVT), published by the Philippine Bible Society, utilizes Taglish—a speech variety now commonly

used by the younger speakers of Filipino/Tagalog and characterized by an interlingual codeswitching (often intraclausal) between English and Tagalog—to make the Bible more comprehensible to the Filipino youth. Del Corro's essay describes the process of producing PVNT as “linguistics in action”, putting emphasis on how a language contact phenomenon created the heterogeneous language we now call “Taglish or Pinoy style Filipino”. It highlights “overriding motives” for using Taglish and how English words undergo “nativization”, i.e. retaining the same root but taking the inflectional forms of Tagalog.

Mainit na pinag-usapan ang pag-publish sa PVNT. Marami ang na-happy, marami rin ang naging awkward ang reaksyon. Kaya importante talagang mabasa ang essay ni Del Corro kasi dito niya in-explain ang process na pinagdaanan ng PVNT, especially sa point of view ng Linguistics.

Sa puntong ito nais kong pasalamatang lahat nang tumulong upang mabuo ang isyung ito bukod pa sa mga kontribyutor. Kabilang dito si Vincent Christopher Santiago, ang Managing Editor ng *The Archive*, sa matiyagang pagpapaalala sa mga gawain at pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga awtor at mga tagabasa. Nais ko ring pasalamatang mga naglaan ng kanilang panahon upang tulungan kaming busisiin ang nilalaman ng bawat artikulo sa isyung ito: Divine Angeli Endriga, Maria Kristina Gallego at John Venson Villareal. Thank you rin kina Michael Manahan at Elsie Marie Or sa kanilang tulong sa layout, disenyo at cover ng isyung ito. At sa Departamento ng Linggwistik, para sa tiwalang ibinigay nila sa akin at sa buong team—matamang salamat!

Aldrin P. Lee
Editor-in-Chief & Issue Editor for this Volume

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