

# PSSR Editor's Notes

This issue of PSSR contains articles written from the perspectives of linguistics, geography, and history. They offer the reader a glimpse to the world of social science research that is not often touched upon in academic scholarship.

Vicente Christopher A. Santiago's **Isang Multi-criterial na Pagiiba ng Pangngalan at Pandiwa sa Romblomanon/Ini** is an exploration into the grammatical structure contained in a Philippine language from Romblon. He points out that no language should be pegged solely in relation to a single language system and further emphasizes the need for a multi-criterial perspective in which one doesn't just examine semantics but also the morphology of syntax specific to noun-verb combinations.

Santiago examines Romblomanon/Ini which is a direct branch of Waray and is said to have around 94,000 speakers. His article is based on actual fieldwork done in Romblon in 2014. The article provides a useful description of the structural features of Romblomanon/Ini and can be an invaluable resource for the study of Philippine languages. These structural features provide the evidence for variations in noun-verb combinations. It would be interesting to explore the variations found in other Philippine languages.

Lou Angeli A. Ocampo's **Storying Emotional Geographies among dispossessed Ibaloi and Kankanaey miners** examines the narratives of Ibaloi and Kankanaey miners and how they were dispossessed of their land by an unfair legal system. Ocampo's use of "emotional geography" is worth mentioning here. Traditional research rarely places much emphasis (if any) on emotions. Only recently have geographers probed into the emotional attachment of people to places. She notes that "Beyond being an individual impulsive response of the body, emotions are reactions and expressions of acquiescence and resistance, of success and failure, of comfort and struggles and anything in between of the body." Emotions rendered in relation to space are important sources of information for understanding identity in geography especially as these emanate from indigenous peoples.

Emotional geographies are more likely to clash with state legalese which are impersonal and buried in technicalities. This situation can result not only in dispossession (as it is in the cases of the Ibaloi and Kankanaey) but also a silencing and denial of identity. As Ocampo observes "The struggles of the Ibaloi and Kankanaey to protect land and resource rights are often lost in legal technicalities created by structural inequalities of a colonial and capitalistic view of land and resources." The challenge at this point is to transform and reshape the legal narratives into one that is more accommodating of emotional narratives emanating from peoples that have historically been marginalized and rendered voiceless.

Science for national development appears to be the cross-cutting theme of Francisco Jayme Paolo A. Guiang's article entitled **State-Science Engagements through the Research Exploits of the National Research Council of the Philippines during the Commonwealth Period (1934-1941)**. Guiang looks back at the NRCP research bulletins of that period. In doing so, he is able to provide a glimpse of the early existence of NRCP as the country's research advisory council. He notes the council's instrumental role as well in efforts during the period to push for scientific progress as a vital component towards self-government and refers to this as the "science-state nexus." He argues that the council's research exploits were able to mobilize the Filipino scientific community despite limited government support and in the context of the prospect of eventual independence.

The primacy of science in the pursuit of national development goals is also recognized in the 1935 Constitution which provides that "The State shall promote scientific research and invention, Arts and Letters shall be under its patronage" (Article XIII Section 4). It is also acknowledged in the 1987 Constitution in which "Science and technology are essential for national development and progress" (Article XIV Section 10).

But while the mandate of the council is to act as an advisory body on matters pertaining to scientific research, Guiang observes that the NRCP sources he consulted for this article are silent on the question of its overall contributions to policymaking. He notes, however, that "Whether or not their research work shaped actual government policies was beyond the control of the council because it was the Commonwealth politicians who had to ensure that scientific advice translate into legislation." Indeed, one might even argue from his article that there was no effective partnership between the scientific community and the state. Rather, science became subordinated to the state and its primary actors - the politicians.