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# The Discourse Grammar of Sinurigao

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## ABSTRACT

Sinurigao is not widely studied and its speakers in the province of Surigao del Norte, Philippines are slowly decreasing due to the intrusion of major languages (Dumanig & Jubilado, 2006). The informants are Surigaonons in Siargao Island, Surigao City and Mainit, Surigao del Norte. Using mixed-method research: discourse and sociolinguistic analyses with Transitivity Hypothesis and Stem-based Affixation Analysis of Nolasco (2005), this research examined the Sinurigao morphology, syntax, phonology, and semantic features. This study also delineated the effect of the contact of Sinurigao with other Philippine Languages (PLs). Modification on subject-verb agreement was made to suit the condition of Sinurigao language. The results reveal that Sinurigao morphology has <ag> affix for intentional, <a> for unintentional, <u> for usual statement(s), glottal visarga has written form like the -h- in tigmatahay to join the affix -ay to the stem. It also has unwritten form as observed in mata[h] and ba[h]ta`. Aside from possibility, ability and necessity, modality of doubt, dismay and shock are observed in Sinurigao. Furthermore, the study found out that economic crisis caused by colonization and neo-colonization affect Sinurigao and that social belonging forced speaker to shift own language to social language and frequent

contacts of different languages affect the minor languages like Sinurigao. These results justify the generation of **Sinurigao Yare Ameliorator Grammar Establisher Theory (SYAGET)**.

## KEYWORDS

Language, Pormada (Morphology), Tunada (Phonology), Plastada (Syntax) Pasabot (Semantics), S<in>urigao, Surigao-non, mixed-method design, Philippines

## INTRODUCTION

### **Status of Sinurigao**

Suriganon language speakers in the province of Surigao del Norte, Philippines are slowly decreasing due to the intrusion of major languages such as English, Cebuano, and Tagalog (Dumanig & Jubilado, 2006). Code-mixing of these languages is rampant in social networks, business areas, schools, church, radio stations, televisions, transportation vehicles and even in every home of Surigaonons which causes huge destruction in the original Sinurigao.

Mundiz (2010) somewhat refuted Dumanig and Jubilado's notion of major languages intrusion by concluding that languages in the Surigao provinces are actually aberrant forms of the Cebuano Visayan language—making Surigaonon and the compared languages a linguistic varieties of the language. Mundiz (2010) further concluded that Surigaonon, naturalis and even Cantilangnon, and Bisliganon Kamayo are Cebuano Visayan language variants, and delineated that speakers from the languages can understand each other without really having to speak the kind of language each speaker is acquainted with. Lewis (2009) has classified Kamayo language as intelligible with that of Surigaonon; while the latter is intelligible to the Cebuano language.

Dumanig and David (2013) explicated that the aforementioned three major languages are used in official domains of communication in schools, church services, and government transactions; usually in the written form particularly in printed and online newspapers, and orally heard in news stories on the radio and church services. In sharp contrast, the Surigaonon language is used only in the home and other informal domains of communication and is frequently used orally, usually when talking with friends and family members.

Surigao del Norte is located at the northeastern of Mindanao with Southern Leyte and Dinagat Provinces at its north, Agusan del Norte and Butuan City at the south and Surigao del Sur at the west (Gentile, 2004). Surigao del Norte is known as the north gateway to Mindanao with various tourist spots such as Siargao's Cloud 9 at General Luna, Magpupongko Beach at Pilar, Union Beach at Dapa, Sohoton Cave at Socorro, Caub at Del Carmen, and Surigao City's Buenavista Cave and Mabua Pebble Beach, Togonon Falls and Mapaso Hot Spring at Mainit, Mahucdam Lake at Tubod, and Lumondo Falls at Alegria.

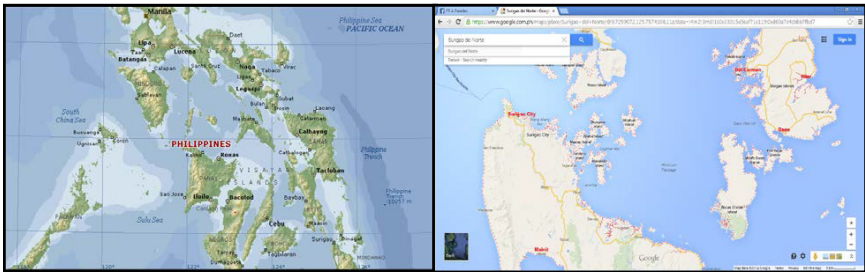


Figure 1. The Philippines and Surigao del Norte Map

Dumanig and David (2013) expounded that the Surigaonon language is one of the minor languages of the Philippines: it is not widely studied. In the 1990 census, there were 345,000 speakers of the language and this fell, in 2003, to 344,974 speakers of the Surigaonon language (Lewis, Paul, Simons, & Fennig, 2013). A survey conducted in the CARAGA region revealed, approximately 88,129, speakers of Surigaonon which is equivalent to 22.40% of the total population of the CARAGA region (Census, 2002). This data can be misleading because of the high rate of bilingualism in Cebuano.

Dumanig articulated that extensive bilingualism has affected the development of the Surigaonon language (Dumanig & Jubilado, 2006). Such phenomenon might lead to Subtractive bilingualism, the result of the erosion or loss of primary language (Fillmore, 1991). Most of the Surigaonons testified that they are ashamed of using Sinurigao when they visit other places due to teasing, and some decided to use the language of the place visited or stayed to be easily understood or to belong.

Dumanig and Jubilado illustrated the consonant and vowel sounds, stress, intonation pattern and morphophonemic processes of Surigaonon language (Dumanig, & Jubilado, 2006). Their study clearly showed that Surigaonon language is a distinct language, and because of that they encourage more studies

relevant to their research to provide more information about the language to preserve and promote it especially that today's young generations no longer use the Sinurigao of elders due to the fact that they engage more in code-mixing, code-switching or code-changing for socialization, business or work purposes.

### **Sinurigao: Morphophonemic Processes and Affixation**

Dumanig delineated that Surigaonon language consists of 18 consonants and three vowels with five sounds. Sinurigao also has 25 noun clusters and four diphthongs. Some Sinurigao words are spelled the same. However, they vary in meaning depending on how each syllable is stressed. The findings of Dumanig also show that Sinurigao follows two intonation patterns like the rising and falling intonations. The rising one is usually used in asking yes or no queries and the falling intonation happens in ending indicative and imperative statements. Furthermore, Dumanig empirically elucidated that there are morphophonemic permutations in the Sinurigao and it happens through deletion, alternation and metathesis (Dumanig, & Jubilado, 2006).

### **Sinurigao: Morphosyntax Analysis**

Dumalagan found out that Surigaonon language inflects on focus and aspect and it employs a procedure in verbal affixation in the actor, objective, instrumental, and locative-benefactive focus.

*Prefixation is more commonly used than infixation and suffixation, and other features that have been found to affect verbal inflection are plurality and reciprocity of action (Dumalagan, 2001).*

The previous researches have contributed a lot in understanding Sinurigao or Surigaonon. Their works are appropriate guides in studying the language. Though, there were no discussions on the specific effects of language contacts on the morphophonological, morphosyntactical and semantic features of Sinurigao. In this light, the need to understand Sinurigao in another approach must be done. There is a need to study Sinurigao using Stem-based Analysis in affixation for its morphological features and Transitivity Hypothesis for syntactical features (Nolasco, 2003, 2005, 2007). In phonological features, Praat phonetics computer program created by Boersma and Wennink (1992-2013) is one of the advanced programs appropriate to be employed in analyzing Sinurigao. Further, there is a need to look at the situation of Sinurigao in contact with other Philippine

languages (PLs) using Thomason's (2001) language contact hypothesis to know how other PLs influence morphophonological, morphosyntactic and semantic features of Sinurigao.

Thus, this paper is conducted to look into the morphology, phonology, syntax, semantics of the language and its contact with other languages.

## FRAMEWORK

**Sinurigao Yare Ameliorator Grammar Establisher Theory (SYAGET)** is established or drawn from the data of Sinurigao Morphology, Syntax, Phonology, and Semantics. Below are explanations of the assertions of the aforementioned theory.

**Linguistic Unity despite Orthographic Diversity.** This asserts that there is linguistic unity in Philippine languages despite its orthographic diversity. There is no difference in word meaning but evident in word formation due to morphophonological diversity which depicts language and culture identity.

**Situation-Based Language.** This claims that Surigaonon speakers like other Philippine language speakers anchor their statement(s) and its language structure on situation(s). Speakers can clearly separate the intentional, unintentional and usual statement(s) with the use of affixes.

**Modals in Sinurigao is gender influenced.** This avows that there is gender in Sinurigao modals and apparent when speakers express doubt, dismay and shocked. There are modals used mostly by masculine and feminine and there are common and neutral.

**Glottal visarga in Sinurigao has written and unwritten forms.** This posits that a Sanskrit postvocalic sound or group of sounds produced by keeping the vocal organs above the glottis in the same position as for the preceding vowel and continuing to expel air from the lungs but not vibrating the vocal cords named glottal visarga has written and unwritten forms in Sinurigao.

**Colonization and neocolonialism affect language.** The Philippines suffered from Spanish, American, and Japanese colonizations which directly affected the languages of the country, including the original Sinurigao. Technological

advancements, the use of social networks like Facebook, and economic crisis are part of neo-colonization which affect Sinurigao.

**Social belonging forced speaker to shift own language to social language.**

This establishes the typical situation that when L1 speaker migrates to new habitat, he/she tends to adapt the language of the society. However, the huge number of migration affects the language of the new habitat.

**Frequent contact with different languages affects the minority.** This establishes the linguistic situation when Sinurigao and other Philippine languages have contact. When major and minor languages contact frequently, the minor language will be affected, in this study Binisaya is the major language and Sinurigao is the minor language.

Below is the theoretical framework of the study which illustrates that the linguistic parts of this study are carried out with;

**Universal Grammar (UG)** is concerned with the core grammar which entails principles, parameters, and the knowledge of the lexicon and syntax of the language. UG is conceptualized as part of the human genetic constitution that makes a child acquire language when he is exposed to the said language. In the term of a layman, it means that the child is already hard-wired or predisposed to learn a language as part of his natural make-up, in this study is Sinurigao. The next thing he needs after birth is the primary language data available to him in his environment (Jubilado, & Manuelli, 2010).

**Grammaticality judgment (GJ)** of Chomsky (1957) is used in this study to consider the intuition of a native Surigaonon speaker as enough to define the grammaticalness of sentence. Tremblay (2014) said that GJ tasks are one of the most widespread data-collection methods that linguists use to test their theoretical claims. In these tasks, speakers of a language are presented with a set of linguistic stimuli to which they must react. The elicited responses are usually in the form of assessments, wherein speakers determine whether and/or the extent to which a particular stimulus is correct in a given language. The use of GJ tasks in linguistic theory is necessary because it provides a means to: (a) assess the speakers' reactions to sentence types that only occur rarely in spontaneous speech; (b) obtain negative evidence on strings of words that are not part of the

language; (c) distinguish production problems (e.g., slips, unfinished utterances, etc.) from grammatical production; and (d) isolate the structural properties of the language that are of interest by minimizing the influence of the communicative and representational functions of the language (Schütze, 1996).

**Analogy linguistics** is used in this study to intellectualize the linguistic form of a Sinurigao lexeme. It reduces word forms perceived as irregular by remaking them in the shape of more common forms that are governed by rules. an alternative mechanism to generative rules for explaining productive formation of structures such as words.

**Contact linguistics** in sociolinguistics is used in this study to thoroughly discriminate the loanwords even bound morphemes like the prefix *gi-*. It was hypothesized that closely related languages are highly vulnerable to contact effects while more indistinctly related languages are assumed to be less likely influence one another (Thomason 2001).

The following, as the core of theoretical linguistics, are used in this study to carefully look into the rules of Sinurigao and establish its grammar;

**Morphology**, this study employs Sapin-sapin hypothesis or a stem-based analysis in dissever word formations. The stem-based analysis claims that a word with multiple affixes will have a layered structure (Nolasco, 2003). Hirschberg (2007) expounded that morphology parsing takes a word or string of words as input and identifying the stems and affixes: prefix, infix, suffix and circumfix.

**Syntax**, This study employs Phrase Structure Rules which incorporate claims specified to the right of the arrow about the constituents structures of phrases specified to the left of the arrow and Transformational Rules of Generative Grammar which explicates the movement of arguments from object to subject position and the other way around, these two rules are used in this study to show the subject-verb agreement. This study also employs Transitivity Hypothesis (Nolasco, 2006). Saclot (2005) said Nolasco explicated two important concepts. First, that Hopper and Thompson (1980)'s transitivity parameters as revised to fit the Philippine setting provided the necessary semantic and pragmatic criteria for identifying high and low transitivity in PLs. The revised list of Nolasco include: distinctness of the A and P vs. S; action vs. state; telic vs.

atelic; punctual vs. non-punctual; deliberate vs. volitional; particular vs. general; external vs. internal; effortful vs. effortless; total affectedness of the P vs. partial affectedness of the P; and high individuation of the P vs. non-individuation of the P. The first member of the pair correlates with high transitivity and the second with low transitivity or in other words, intransitivity. Second, that high and low transitivity are grammatically expressed in the voice and case system of PLs. Using Tagalog, Cebuano and Ilokano data, Nolasco made the following characterization of Philippine transitive and intransitive constructions: (a) In an intransitive construction, the verb is marked by the intransitive voice affix -um- or its allomorph m-. The only grammatical argument is assigned the absolutive case (case 1 or the ang case). It is possible for an intransitive construction to have a semantic agent and a semantic patient. Here, the semantic agent is assigned the absolutive case (case 1) while the patient takes the oblique case (case 3 or 4). This construction is semantically transitive but grammatically intransitive; (b) In a transitive construction, the verb is marked by any of the transitive affixes, -in-, -an and i-. These affixes coindex the most affected entity (P) in the clause, on top of identifying the particular semantic role or thematic relation of that entity. The P bears the absolutive case (case 1), while the source of the action (A) assumes the ergative case (case 2). In sum, Nolasco's analysis supported the view that there were three (3) kinds of transitive constructions in PLs and only one kind of intransitive construction.

**Phonology**, Praat is a computer software used to analyze speech sounds. In this study, Praat is employed to document and interpret glottal visarga and stop.

**Semantics**, Discourse Analysis is used to identify and describe the meanings and expressions in Sinurigao.

They provide linguistic representations of the language being studied (Sinurigao). Furthermore, the said theories are precise reflections of social interactions or phenomena in which the linguistic and sociolinguistic analyses of the study are determined. Above all, this framework strengthens the assertions and implications of the linguistic and sociolinguistic theories employed in this study, which serve as intellectual bases for the analysis and interpretation of data. Thus, this model or framework reinforces in establishing interconnectivity among the elements and aspects of this present study.



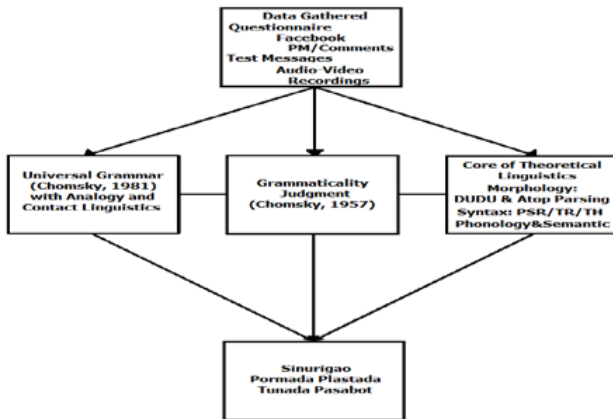


Figure 2. Theoretical-Conceptual Framework of the Study

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Using descriptive research methodology and adapting the linguistic and sociolinguistic theories: Universal Grammar, Grammaticality Judgment, Analogy Linguistics, Stem-based Affixation Analysis (Nolasco, 2005; 2007), and Transitivity Hypothesis (Nolasco, 2005, 2006), the study examined the morphological, phonological, syntactical and semantic features in Sinurigao; the language used by Suriganons in translating English to Sinurigao; Understanding Modality in Sinurigao and the Sinurigao Yare Ameliorator Grammar Establisher Theory (SYAGET) that was generated based on the findings of the study.

## METHODOLOGY

### Design

Mixed-method research was used in this study. For Qualitative Method: Discourse Analysis and Contact linguistics analysis were used in some text messages received by the researcher, open-ended items in questionnaire, Facebook wall posts and private messages sent to the researcher by few of the target informants. For Quantitative Method: Questionnaire with closed and open-ended questions transferred to quantitative was used to gather needed perceptions of the informants which were statistically analyzed. Purposive sampling for better and easy administration of the test was used.

## **Ethics and Gathering Procedure**

The following steps were done to ethically gather the data needed:

- Step 1. The researcher oriented the survey team on the significance of research ethics in gathering the data with the use of Research Ethics by P.V. Kamat (2015).
- Step 2. The researcher then requested the LGU officials of the identified areas to approve the conduct of the study in documenting the Surigaonon language (Sinurigao);
- Step 3. Upon the approval of the request, the questionnaires were circulated to the target informants and after they had answered the FTAP-SVP Survey Team immediately collected the instruments for data analyses.

## **Informants**

One hundred eighty-two informants from Surigao City composed of Taft 48, Lipata 35, San Juan 69 and Washington 30, Mainit 101, Dapa 60, Del Carmen Town Proper 75, Sayak Del Carmen 47, Pilar 61 except Other (Siargao) 36 were chosen in this study.

## **Area**

Four Main communities of Surigao City namely: Taft, Lipata, San Juan, and Washington. Municipality of Mainit, Dapa, Del Carmen, Pilar. The said places were chosen for traces of similar morphosyntax were observed in the said areas.

## **Instruments**

Sinurigao was used in writing the questionnaire. Part I of the questionnaire asked for the profile of the informants: Name (Optional), Age, Address, Origin of Informants, Origin of Parents, Language of Parents, Educational Attainment, Years of Stay in Current Address, and Reason for Residency. This study also recorded the knowledge of the informants in their language. Part II contained questions on the Sinurigao Grammar: Morphology, Syntax, Phonology, Semantics, and their language use in translating Sinurigao to English.

## **Data Analysis**

The tools used were frequency count and percentage computation for the quantitative data which was drawn from the knowledge-based questions,

discourse analysis and sociolinguistic analyses were used for the qualitative data from the answers of the informants on open-ended items, text messages, FB wall posts and private messages.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### On Profile of Informants

Most of the informants' age 10 – 20 with 287 counts followed by 21 – 30 with 83, 31 – 40 with 56, 41 – 50 with 48 counts each, 51 – 60 with 24, 61 – 70 with 12 and 71 – 80 with 4. This shows that most of the informants are from the new generation of Surigaonons who are perhaps more influenced by bilingualism or multilingualism.

Most of the informants are from Surigao City with 182 counts which are composed of Lipata with 35, Taft with 48, Washington with 30 and San Juan with 69. Next to the most numbered informants is Municipality of Del Carmen with 122 composed of Town Proper with 75 and Sayak with 47, Municipality of Mainit with 101 or, Municipality Del Pilar with 61, and Municipality of Dapa with 60. This shows that all target research locations are represented for proper documentation of its existing used language. Mainit and Del Carmen are believed to be the places of preserved prehistoric Sinurigao language.

Most of the informants assert that they are Suriganons with 436 counts followed by Mainitnon with 66 then Others with 39, Boholano with 9, Cebuano with 8 and Gigaquitnon with 4.

For the factor on Origin of Mother, Most of the informants show No Response (NR) with 270 followed by Sinurigao with 124, Del Carmen 46, Sayak with 40, Siargaonon with 17, Bisaya with 13, Mainitnon and Tagalog with 9 counts each, Others with 8, Leyteño with 6, Other Siargaonon with 5, Dapanon and Caridadnon with 4 counts each, Cebuano with 3, and Cantilanon and Carrascal with 2 counts each. This shows that most of the informants don't know the origin of their mother which implies that not only the close family tie of Surigaonons is long affected but the language of Surigao (Sinurigao) has been eroding as well.

The factor on Origin of the Father shows that No Response (NR) dominates with 264 followed by Sinurigao with 117, Del Carmen with 48, Sayak with 40, Bisaya with 20, Siargaonon with 18, Tagalog with 12, Others with 10, Mainitnon with 8, Dapanon and Leyteño with 6 counts each, Other Siargaonon with 5, Caridadnon and Cebuano with 4 counts each. The same result with the origin of mother is hereby recorded. Others, Bisaya, Leyteño and Cebuano origins who

have stayed or are temporarily or permanently residing in Surigao City or Surigao del Norte for years are contributing factors of extensive bilingualism. Knowing the history of colonization in the Philippines, these NRs might be migrants.

For the Used Languages of Fathers, Sinurigao as commonly used language has 384 counts followed by Binisaya with 188, English with 39, Tagalog with 34, Other languages with 10, Binutuanon with 8, and Waray with 5. This result shows that code-mixing or code-switching of Sinurigao – Binisaya, Sinurigao – English, Sinurigao – Tagalog, Sinurigao – Other languages, Sinurigao – Binutuanon, and Sinurigao – Waray do exist which contribute a lot to subtractive bilingualism as explicated by Fillmore (1991). This result also supports the claims of Dumanig and Jubilado (2006) that extensive bilingualism has affected the development of the Surigaonon language and its speakers in the province of Surigao del Norte, Philippines are slowly decreasing due to the intrusion of major languages: English, Cebuano, and Tagalog.

For the Used Languages of Mother of the Informants, the results vary only with the languages of father in Sinurigao with 392, Binisaya with 189, English with 38, Tagalog with 33, Waray with 7 and same for Other languages with 10 and Binutuanon with 8.

The educational attainment of the informants is counted most from Secondary with 237 followed by College with 142, Elementary with 119, None with 60, Masters with 3, zero for doctorate, and others with 1. This result shows that most of the informants have undergone education. Thus, they are influenced by language subjects such as Filipino (Tagalog) where they learned to use gitling (-) and English where they learned hyphen (-) as symbol for impit or glottal stop.

The informants resided in their residences for years. 16 years – Above is the highest factor with 350 counts followed by 11 – 15 years with 105, 06 – 10 years with 36, Mobile with 21, 04 – 05 with 15, 00 – 01 with 13, 05 – 06 with 7, 01 – 02 with 6, and 02 – 03 with 4. A long period of stay in a place contributes a lot in learning the language of the area but too many migrants contribute to extensive bilingualism (Dumanig, 2006) which might lead to subtractive bilingualism (Fillmore, 1991). Mobile informants are presupposed to be students, workers, travelers. This result supports the assumptions in SYAGET that Social belonging forced speaker to shift own language to social language and Frequent contact of different languages affects the minority.

The reasons of the stay of informants in their respective residences are counted most for Birth with 352 followed by School with 86, Marriage with 58, No Particular Reason (NPR) with 33, Work with 31, Conflict at previous residence

with 1 and other reason with 1. This result shows that most of the informants are Surigaonon by birth, and others stayed in Surigao del Norte only for marriage, school, work, conflict and no particular reason at all.

## On Morphological Feature of Sinurigao

Table 1. Morphology of Sinurigao

Form	Prefix	Form	Infix	Form	Suffix
Tag	164	Tagpan-	133	Tag-/han/-an	129
Gi	7	Gipan-	11	Gi-/han/-an	12
Other	0	Other	0	Other	0
Same	377	Same	357	Same	370
TOTAL	548	TOTAL	501	TOTAL	511

As reflected in Table 1, prefix *tag-*, infix *pan-* with prefix *tag-*, and suffix *-han/-an* with prefix *tag-* are commonly used by Surigaonons than prefix *gi-*, infix *pan-* with prefix *gi-*, suffix *-han/-an* with prefix *gi-*. And both affixes *tag-* and *gi-* are alternatively used by Surigaonons.

*Gi-* and *tag-* function equivalently which signifies intentional and realis action. In the corpora collected, all are observed. *Gi-* is common at Del Carmen and Salvacion, Pilar, Surigao del Norte and *Tag-* in Surigao City especially in San Juan, at Mainit, and Dapa. With the inevitable contact of Surigaonons with Cebuano or Bisaya, most unconsciously use *gi-* as an alternative prefix for *tag-*. This result supports the assumption in SYAGET that Frequent contact of different languages affects the language of minority.

However, the tense analysis lacks the syntactic and semantic sense of intentionality, unintentional, and usual statement(s) which is established by the situation-based language assumption in SYAGET. This is also delineated in the Transitivity Hypothesis modified by Nolasco (2003).

- (1) Taglaung < tag+laung < t<ag> + laung 'said'  
"Intentionally said"
- (2) Nalaung < na+laung < n<a> + laung 'said'  
"Accidentally said"
- (3) Nulaung < nu+laung < n<u> + laung 'said'  
"said"

The *t-* in (1) could be changed to *n-/m-/p-*, these are affixes which show tense/aspect while *<ag>* is an affix which depicts intentionality. The *<a>* in (2) is an affix which show accidental/unintentional or chance while affix *<u>* or the Binisaya *<i>* in (3) shows acquiescence/usualness. Thus, “Taglaung” is “Intentionally said,” “Nalaung” is “Accidentally said,” and “Nulaung” is “said.”

Nominalized:

Singular: Tagsulti

- (4) An tagsulti ni Loloy.  
“The opinion of Loloy”
- (5) Uno may gilaong kuman?  
“What is the topic now?”

Plural: Tagpansulti

- (6) An (mga) tagpansulti ni Loloy an angay sundon.  
“The opinions of Loloy are the right ones to follow.”

Perfective Verb Form:

Plural: Tagpansultihan in English is have told.

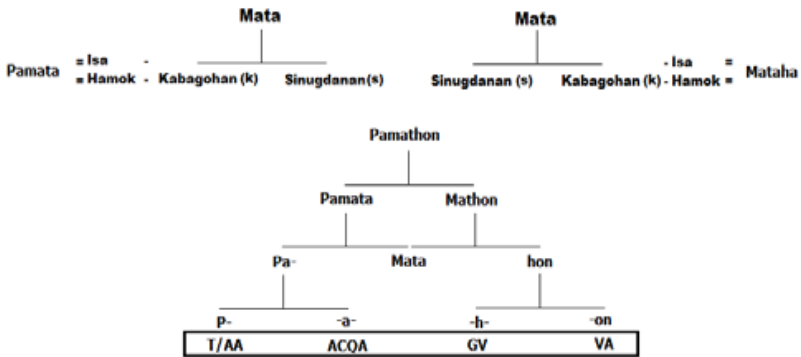
- (7) Tagpansultihan na kamo ni Loloy.  
PT1: “Loloy intentionally told you already.”  
PT2: “You were intentionally told already by Loloy.”

In (4-5) *tagsulti* or *gilaung* are nominalized singular form which means opinion for the former and topic for the latter. Nominal marker ‘*an*’ is observed in (4) which signals that ‘*tagsulti*’ is not a verb. In (5) Nominal marker ‘*uno may*’ signals the nominality of ‘*gilaung*’. (6) affix *<pan>* signals the plurality and nominal marker ‘*an*’ signals the nominality of the word ‘*tagpansulti*’. In (7) the circumfix *tag--<pan>--han* signals the perfective verb form of the word ‘*tagpansultihan*’ which has two preferred translations (PTs), PT1 shows the transitive – active sentential structure while PT2 shows the intransitive – passive – plural form sentential structure.

We can perceive in the cartography of Figure 4 DUDU Morphology Parsing that *mata* (wake/awake/awaken) is conjugated. *Tagpamata* (woke/awoken/awakened) has affix *tag-* which signals preterit and in some sentences present/pluperfect or realis; they normally function in transitive while intransitive for *napamata* (woke/awoken/awakened), *Pamatha* (wake) and *Pamathon* (wake) are

both irrealis. They function in imperative mood and contemplative aspect, and both have theta roles of agent, theme, and goal or in agentive case.

## Sinurigao:



SYAGET: DUDU MP inspired by Nolasco (2003) and Koskeniemi

Figure 3. DUDU Morphology Parsing  
Source No.: SG 327

Tig/Man-matahay (waker/awakener) is a noun named to person who wakes/awakes other. For sentential samples of Figure 4, hereafter are the given sample sentences:

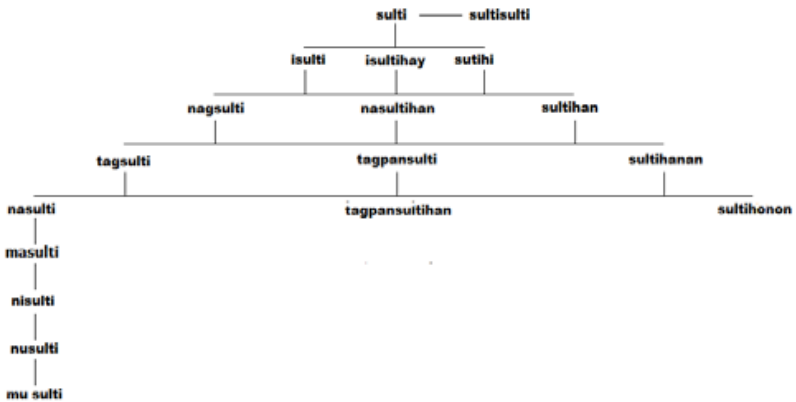
- (8) Tagpamata ni Sheila si Ranzi.  
PT: Sheila **woke** Ranzi.
- (9) Tagpamata ako ni Sheila.  
PT: Sheila **awakened** me.
- (10) Napamata ni Sheila si Ranzi.  
PT: Ranzi was **awakened** by Sheila.
- (11) Pamatha si Sheila sanan Ranzi.  
PT: **Wake** Sheila and Ranzi.
- (12) Ako pamathon si Sheila.  
PT: I will **wake** Sheila.
- (13) Sija an tig/manmatahay namo.  
PT: He/She is our **waker**.

The morphosyntactic analysis in (8-9) is t- is tense/aspect affix, <ag> is volitional/deliberative affix which makes this sentence transitive, <pa> is

causative affix, ‘mata’ is the stem, ‘ni’ is the agent marker, ‘Sheila’ is the agent, ‘si’ is the patient marker, ‘Ranzi’ is the patient. (10) *n-* is the tense/aspect affix, <a> is the accidental/chance affix which makes this sentence intransitive or passive (Tanangkingsing, 2007). (11-12) has *-a* and *-on*, the voice affixes which show intentionality but not yet done thus making this sentence intransitive. (13) The circumfix *tig/man--<>--hay* with the nominal marker ‘an’ signal that ‘*tig/manmatahay*’ is a nominalized form.

You can see in Figure 5 that an Atop Morphology Parsing of *sulti* (word/opinion/idea) was created. This is a proof of how rich the Sinurigao language is. *Sultisulti* (gossip/murmur) is a derived language of *sulti* (word/opinion/idea). *Isultihay*, *sultihan*, *sultihonon*, *tagpansulti*, *tagpansultihan* and *nasultihan* are in the circumfix form. *Isulti* and *Isultihay* are imperfective and imperative. *I-* according to Bantawig is an inflectional bound morpheme indicating present active or future passive voices (Bantawig, 2014). *Sulti-han* and *sulti-hi* are imperfective and imperative as well.

## Sinurigao



SYAGET: ATOP MP

Figure 4. Atop Morphology Parsing  
Source No.: SG 351

*Nag-* functions intentional-realis-intransitive. *Ni-* or *nu-* functions usual-realis-intransitive and *mu-* functions *to* in infinitive phrase/nominalized and *will* for contemplative and usual-irrealis-intransitive. The Tense-Aspect-Mood



(TAM) in Sinurigao will follow the signals from affixes. Sentence examples of various conjugations are given below.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (14) Isulti an tinuod bay.                             | PT: <b>Tell</b> the truth my friend.                             |
| (15) Isultihay pa nija an tinuod.                      | PT: He <b>will</b> <u>be</u> <u>telling</u> the truth.           |
| (16) Sultihan nako sija nan tinuod.                    | PT: I <b>will</b> <u>tell</u> him the truth.                     |
| (17) Sultihi sija nan tinuod.                          | PT: <b>Tell</b> him the truth.                                   |
| (18) Nagsulti sija nan tinuod.                         | PT: He <b>tells</b> the truth.                                   |
| (19) Nisulti sija nan tinuod.                          | PT: He <b>told</b> the truth.                                    |
| (20) Nusulti sija nan tinuod.                          | PT: He <b>had</b> <u>told</u> the truth.                         |
| (21) Mu sulti nan tinuod<br>an angay himuon na butang. | PT: <b>To</b> <u>tell</u> the truth is<br>the right thing to do. |
| (22) Mu sulti sija nan tinuod.                         | PT: He <b>will</b> <u>tell</u> the truth.                        |

(14) shows jussive mood by commanding his friend to tell the truth. While (15) shows surmise mood done by the speaker. In (16), affix -an after glottal visarga -h- coindex the most affected entity (P) in the clause which is sija. The P bears the absolutive case, while the source of the action (A) assumes the ergative case which is nako and the oblique case is the nan tinuod. (17) shows causative mood by commanding the unmentioned second person to tell the third person the truth. (18-20) shows subject, action, atelic, non-punctual, volitional, general, external, effortless, partial affectedness of the P, non-exclusive P which qualifies for semantically transitive but grammatically intransitive. (21) is a stative form while (22) is an irrealis structure.

Table 2. Affixes in Sinurigao

Prefix	Meaning	Example
Tig-	Nominalizer affix	Tigmatahay (Waker) Tiglutoay (Cook)
Ting-	Adjectivizer affix	Tinguyan (rainy season)

Man-	Nominalizer affix Neutral/Pluralizer, Irrealis affix	Manmatahay (Waker) Manjagan (will run)
Nan-	Neutral/Pluralizer, Realis affix	Nanlaba
Pan-	Neutral/Intentional/Voice Affix	Panlaba
Tag-	Intentional/Realis Affix	Tagpamata (Awakened)
I- (+ay/hay)	Jussive/Irrealis/Voice Affix Dynamic/Irrealis/Voice Affix	Isulti Isulti+hay Isuyat+ay
Na-	Realis/Accidental Affix	Nasulti
Ma-	Irrealis/Accidental Affix	Masulti
Ka-	Pluralizer affix, follows noun +an Abilitative verb forming affix Intensifier affix	Katanlakan Kajagan Kalami
Ha-	Stative verb affix	Halami
Pa-	Jussive/Causative/Irrealis Affix	Pakauna
Ni- / Nu-	Common/Usual Affix	Nisulti
Ki-	Stative verb affix	Kilaya/Kibali
Hi-	Verbalizer affix	Hilabut/Hilabi
Nag-	Intentional/Realis/Intransitive affix	Nagsulti
Mag-	Intentional/Irrealis/Intransitive affix	Magsulti
Pag-	Intentional/Irrealis/Intransitive affix	Pagsulti
<b>Infix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Example</b>
-a-	Semanteme source of accident, usually functions with prefixes n, m, k, h, and p.	Na- Ma- Ka- Ha- Pa-

-ag-	Semanteme source of intentionality, usually functions with prefixes t, n, m, and p.	Tag- Nag- Mag- Pag-
-an-	Pluralizer/neutral affix, usually written with prefixes t, n, m, and p.	Tan- Nan- Man- Pan-
-in-	Nominalizer affix	K(-in-)abuhi (K(-in-)a)-ija Sinultihan (utterance)
-pan-	Pluralizer usually inserted between tag- or pag- and root word.	Tagpansulti (Opinions) Tagpanlabak (Thrown)
-pa-	Causative affix	Tagpakaun
-i-	Habitual affix Follows N, K, H and adjective/adverb/verb	N-i-laya K-i-laya H-i-labi
-si-	Stative verb affix	Ka-si-laung
-sig-	Simultaneous affix	Nag-sig-laba
-sin-	Continuative affix	Nag-sin-laba
-sinka-	Repetitive affix	Nagsin(ka)sulti
-akig-	Comitative affix -ki- source of relation usually inserted in -ag-	Nakigamigu Makigamigu Pakigamigu
-h-	Glottal visarga Connects the suffixes to stem, usually with a loan Spanish stem or that ends with vowels	Siradu-h-i Sulti-h-an Saka-h-on
<b>Suffix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Example</b>
-a	Voice/ jussive affix	Kauna
-i	Voice/ jussive affix Locative-near affix	Kauni Dir- <i>i</i>
-ha	Glottal visarga -h- with Voice/ jussive affix	Abriha

-hi	Glottal visarga -h- with Voice/ jussive affix Locative-proximal affix	Abrihi Dinh-i
-han	Glottal visarga -h- with Voice/ jussive affix	Abrihan
-hon	Glottal visarga -h- with Voice/ jussive affix	Abrihon
-hanan	Glottal visarga -h- with nominalizer affix	Abrihanan
-honor	Glottal visarga -h- with nominalizer affix	Abrihonor
-an	Voice/ jussive affix	Bantajan
-nan	Nominalizer affix	Patjanan
-anan	Nominalizer affix	Patajanan
-on	Voice/ jussive affix Locative-middle affix	Kaunon Did-on
-non	Nominalizer-classifier affix	Patj(a>u)-non Surigaonon
-onon	Nominalizer-classifier affix	Kaunonon Suyatonon
-to	Voice/ jussive affix Locative-distant affix	Kadtu Did-to

Table 2 shows few affixes of March 2015 Sinurigao Orthography Report recorded by the researcher of this study. In previous studies *Tag-*, *Nag-*, and *Mag-* are analyzed as prefixes, after thorough analysis using the Stem-based Affix Analysis of Nolasco (2005, 2007) infix -ag- is delineated as the source of intentionality when attached to verb stem. Thus, t, n, m denote present, preterit, and future respectively and function most of the time with the infix -ag- and -an-

T-A-M	Perfective	Begun	Not Yet Begun	Neutral
Continuative	Nasin-	Nagsin-	Magsin-	sin-
Abilitative	Ni-/Nu	Naka	Maka	ka-
Simultaneous	Nasig-	Nagsig-	Magsig-	Isig-
Intensive/Causative	Tag-	Nag-	Mag-	Pag-
	Nan-		Man-	Nan-/Man-/Pan-
Accidental	Na-		Ma-	
Repetitive	Nasinka-	Nagsinka-	Magsinka-	sinka-
Reciprocal	Tagka-	Nagka-	Magka-	Pagka-
Augmentative/ Diminutive	Napa-	Nagpa-	Magpa-	pa-

Figure 5. Sinurigao Tense-Aspect-Mood (STAM)

Figure 5 presents the summary of Sinurigao Verbal Tense-Aspect-Mood. In Minainit, they use <san> than <sin> e.g. nasan(ka), nagsan(ka), magsan(ka), and <mag> than <sig> e.g. tamag, namag and mamag.

**Orthography Project: Recognizing (:) Visarga**

1. Change-Delete-Add –an or –on:  
Ex.: Ha:lud (cvc.cvc) ~ r+an = Halaran (cvc.cvc.c+vc)
2. Deletion/Syncope:  
Ex.: Pa:ta:ja: (cvc.cvc.cvc) ~ tja: = Pa(:)tja: (cvc.cvc)
3. Change: j~y and o~u then add –i or –a  
Ex.: Ha:boy (cvc.cvc) ~ j+i = Ha:bu:ji: (cvc.cvc.cvc)
4. Metathesis: au~ua and ku~du  
Ex.: Ka:-?un (cvc.cvc) ~ua = Ku:-?an (cvc.cvc)  
Ex.: Kudkod (cvc.cvc) ~du/do = Dukdok (cvc.cvc)

Figure 6. Sinurigao Orthography Project and Visarga (:) Recognition

Figure 6 shows the morphophonemic analysis with the use of Change, Syncope, Metathesis. Visarga as well was noted making Sinurigao as closed syllabic language of Philippines. This phenomenon is explained further in Tunada (Phonology) section.

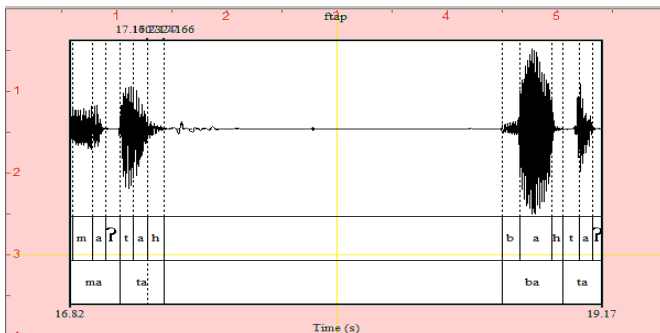


Figure 7. Mata v. Bata

Roach, P. (2000) explained the occurrences of glottal stop just before p, t, k or ts, e.g.: Nature [neɪʔtʃə]. Figure 7 shows the frame length of spectrogram using Praat phonetic analyzer computer program. It is observed that in word mata, there is a glottal before the letter t and glottal visarga after the last letter a. While in word bata, there is glottal visarga before the letter t and glottal stop

after the last letter a. This result shows the claim of SYAGET that glottal visarga in Sinurigao has written and unwritten forms.

**Hypothetical Relationship of Binutuan, Kinamayo and Sinurigao Greetings: Establishing Local Identity and Regional Unity through Linguistics**

Yodhi Coalescence: y ~ j/ dj [dʒ]

**Minainit** = **Sinurigao**

Da:ya:gan (k**b**kk**b**kk**b**) Dya:gan (k**b**kk**b**kk**b**) (d)y~j = Ja:gan (k**b**k**b**kk**b**)

Binutuan/Kinamayo = Sinurigao

Ma:da:yaw (k**b**kk**b**kk**b**) ~ r and j = Ma:ra:jaw (k**b**kk**b**kk**b**)

Ma:dyaw (k**b**kk**b**kk**b**) (d)y~j = Ma:jaw (k**b**kk**b**kk**b**)

**Tagalog**=‘Laro’ ~ **Binisaya**=‘Dola’ ~ **Sinurigao**=‘Duwa’=‘Play’

< la~ro < rola < (r~d)ola

< dola < do(l)a < dea < do<w>a

<dowa < d(o~u)wa < duwa

Figure 8. Hypothetical Relationship Binutuan, Kinamayo and Sinurigao Greetings

Figure 8 shows the hypothetical relationship of Binutuan, Kinamayo and Sinurigao Greetings, and the morphophonemic relationship of Laro, Dola and Duwa or play in English with the use of Conant’s (1911) theory on phonetic changes of letters R, L, D, G, H, Y and J. This analysis supports the assumption of SYAGET that there is linguistic unity despite orthographic diversity.

### On Syntactical Features of Sinurigao

Table 3. Syntax of Sinurigao

Plastada	F	%
VSO	48	8.5
SVO	55	9.8
BOTH	459	81.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>100.0</b>

As shown in Table 3, the informants confirmed that they could understand both samples of VSO (*V*)*Nagduwa* (*S*)*si Intoy sanan Langga* (*O*)*nan bola* and SVO (*S*)*Si Intoy sanan Langga* (*V*)*nagduwa* (*O*)*nan bola*. Using the transitivity hypothesis of Nolasco (2006), the given sentences have IV, S, Obl.

VSO and VOS patterns are normally used by Surigaonons in conversation. SVO is observed in some corpora and some uttered statements, like in Figure 9:



Figure 9. Facebook Wall Posts

Source No.: SG 1

- (23) Negosyante n<ag>reklamo kay...  
PT: Businessman complains because...
- (24) Ini na sitwasyon koman nakatawag na...  
PT: This situation now has called already...
- (25) Amo jaon taglaong...  
PT: Truly that is called...

Though <ag> is apparent in (23), n- from m- which is analyzed by Nolasco (2006) signals that there is no certain accomplishment in this sentence, and conjunction 'kay' supports the argument which makes this sentence intransitive. (24) naka is an abilitative/modal auxiliary with 'na' as realis particle. (25) t<ag> signals that this is a transitive sentence, the sentence starts with adverbial situation marker 'amo'.

**Sinurigao:**

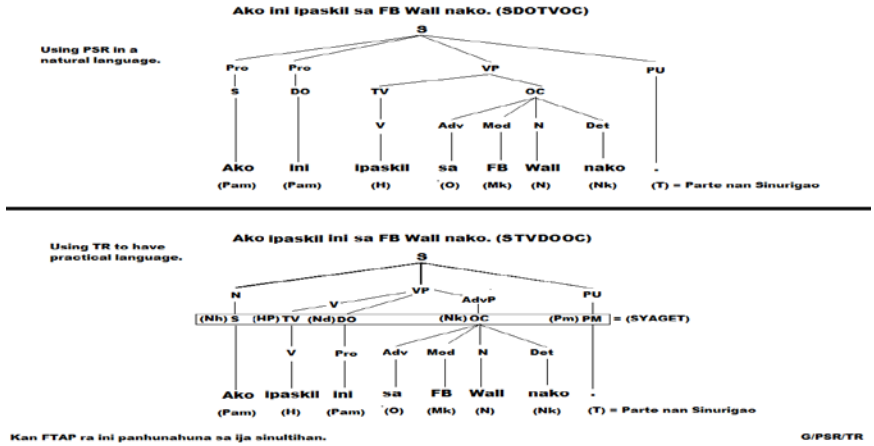


Figure 10. Syntactic Parsing of Sinurigao SDOTVAdvP/STVDOAdvP Patterns  
 Source No.: SG 189

Phrase Structure Rule (PSR) is used to break down Sinurigao sentence into its constituent parts (also known as syntactic categories) namely phrasal categories and lexical categories (aka parts of speech). In Figure 11 upper portion, the sentence (S)*Ako (DO)ini (TV)ipaskil (Obl)sa FB Wall nako* has SOV or SDOTVobl pattern using PSR.

To transform the Sinurigao sentence pattern from SOV to SVO or from SDOTVobl to STVDOobl pattern in Figure 11 lower portion, Transformational Rule (TR) is used. The sentence is now (S)*Ako (TV)ipaskil (DO)ini (Obl)sa FB Wall nako*. The Uniformity Theta Assignment Hypothesis (UTAH) is necessary for using PSR and TR to solve the Linking Problem. The UTAH would rule out cases where the Theme is variously a specifier or a complement, or the Agent can be either the specifier of vP or the specifier of VP. You can see that the function of the UTAH is to rule out classes of analyses (Adger, 2002).

- (26) Taghagkan ni Azi an uyab.  
 “Azi intentionally kissed the girlfriend.”
- (27) Taghagkan an uyab ni Azi.  
 “The girlfriend of Azi was intentionally kissed.”



PSR and TR also show the subject-verb agreement (SVA) but in this study, SVA is not the same with English interpretation. As observed in (26), the agent Azi did the intentional kissing (verb) to the unidentified girlfriend (the patient), maybe his girlfriend but most probably not. While in (27), the patient is certainly the girlfriend of Azi but the intentional kissing (verb) is not done by him.

### On Phonological Features of Sinurigao

Table 4. Phonology and semantic of Sinurigao

Sulti	Tunada	Pasabot	F	%
Sakto	[saak-toh]	igo ra sa kinanghanlanon	497	88.43
Sakto	[saak-toh]	binuhatan na tarong	500	88.97
Igo	[ee1-goh]	sakto ra sa kinanghanlanon	488	86.83
Igu	[ii1/2-guu]	naigu nan butang o tawo	462	82.21
Tugnaw	[tuug-naw]	tugnaw na panahon	407	72.42
Tignaw	[tiig-naw]	tignaw na panahon	494	87.90
Tunog	[tuun-ohg]	tunog na panahon	405	72.06
Init	[ii1-niit]	Paso na panahon	483	85.94
Init	[ii1-niit]	libog na sitwasyon	345	61.39

As reflected in Table 4, the informants showed comprehension of the above nine morphemes with its corresponding phonology and semantic.

The common error of Surigaonons in writing Sinurigao is the inclusion of hyphen in most of words to signify stress or syllabification (Hyphen according to dictionaries is used *at the end of a line when a word must be divided or to link the parts of a compound word or phrase*) such as **Kan-on** which is rice and **Kan-un** or eat in English without hyphen because these are words only and not compound words, same with **Kada-adlaw** which is everyday or every day. In Sinurigao *-o-un* in words Kanon (n) and Kanun (v) are affixes. Kadaadlaw can be understood as everyday and kada adlaw for every day.


Pasahero: Ka-gwapo ba ng bataa oi.  
Me: \*smiles\*  
Pasahero: Pareho mo'g mata.  
Me: \*smiles again. About to answer her, pero may next s  
Pasahero: Foreigner amahan anang bata, langga?  
Me: \*gusto ko mu-smile nga dili mu-smile. Tarunga, 'nan  
lang unta nagkugos sa bata. Bug-at raba.\*  
Janay pa, umay pasabot nan pasahero? lol

Figure 11. Facebook Wall Post  
Source No.: SG 120

Check [tʃek] – @HyperCollins Publishers 2009

Chart [tʃart] – @HyperCollins Publishers 2009

Ch [ts] – (Almario, Binagong Ortograpiya sa Wikang Filipino, KWF 2013 Edition)

  
Tsek, Tsart, Man**wal** for **Manual** is now used in the Intellectualized Filipino Language. The researcher does not question this intellectualization of the Filipino language.

"Sa mga bantas, isang maraming gamit ang gitling (-). Dahil dito, marami din ang nalilito at nagagamit ang gitling sa mga pagkakataóng hindi ito kailangan," (KWF 2013 Edition). Ex. Pa-cute, Ipa-cremate, and maki-computer (KWF, 2013, P32).

It is apparent that the Intellectualized Filipino Language is influenced by English sounds. Sinurigao, as mentioned earlier in Dumanig, Jubilado and other renowned researchers, is influenced as well by Filipino (Tagalog) and English languages. Such influence contributed great impact on the Surigaonons' use of hyphen or gitling in Filipino and kalit in Sinurigao.

The two sakto and init words are homographs; tugnaw and tignaw are synonyms, and igo and igu are different verb words.

(28) **Tagpaigo** ra namo an sudan kuman.  
"We just *budgeted* our dish now."

(29) Sa imo ra **tagpaigu** an isturya, bai. Kay kontra man kamo.  
"The grumbles *are addressed* only to you, bai. Because you are enemies."

The use of the hyphen in the English compound nouns and verbs has, in general, been steadily declining. Compounds that might once have been hyphenated are increasingly left with spaces or are combined into one word. In 2007, the sixth edition of the **Shorter Oxford English Dictionary removed the hyphens from 16 000 entries**, such as fig-leaf (now fig leaf), pot-belly (now pot belly) and pigeon-hole (now pigeonhole). The advent of the Internet and the increasing prevalence of computer technology have given rise to a subset of common nouns that might have been hyphenated in the past e.g. “toolbar,” “hyperlink,” “pastebin.”

The said news on the vital change in the use of hyphen in the English language was an appropriate foundation of nous in writing the appropriate dictionary of an Intellectualized Sinurigao.

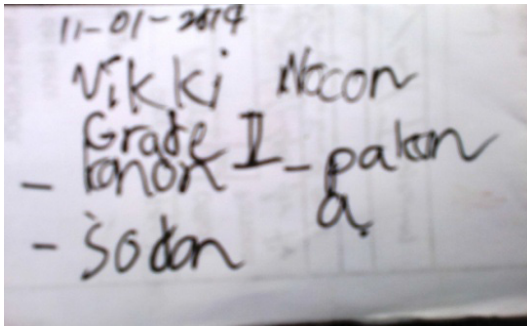


Figure 12. Handwriting of Grade 2 Pupil  
Source No.: SG 364

Figure 12 is a corpus of Sinurigao words Kanon, Pakana, and Sodan written by Nikki Nocon, a grade 2 pupil at Mariano Memorial Central Elementary School (MEMCES), Surigao City, who happens to be my niece. Highschool, College and Elder Surigaonons will write these words as Kan-on, Pakan-a, and Sod-an for better understanding. When I asked Nikki why letter “a” in pakana is written below, she answered *there’s no more space for it*. It means that giting or hyphen (hyphenation) is not innate to a grade 2 pupil, a hypothesis.

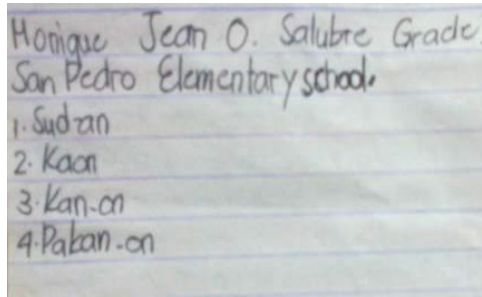


Figure 13. Handwriting of Grade IV Pupil  
Source No.: SG 365

Figure 13 is a corpus of Sinurigao of Alegrianon, Jean O. Salubre, Grade IV pupil section Sapphire at San Pedro Elementary School (SPES), Alegria, Surigao del Norte. Words Sud-an, Kaon, Kan-on, and Pakan-a are recorded. Jean is 7<sup>th</sup> honors during this year’s first grading recognition. Thus, he belongs to fast learner pupils. His writing system can be interpreted he has learned already the syllabification of words with the use of giting or hyphen.

Tunadanan Konsonan	SPA	Panaglitan
<i>Pugong-Buto</i> (Stop-Plosive)	b = <b>bá</b> - <b>qan</b>	Bagan
	p = <b>pr</b> - <b>dʒá</b> - <b>ŋa</b> :	Pijanga
	t = <b>tu</b> - <b>ga</b> - <b>sob</b>	Tugasob
	d = <b>du</b> - <b>lom</b>	Duyom
	k = <b>ká</b> - <b>ban</b>	Kaban
<i>Hinagashas</i> (Fricative)	g = <b>gá</b> - <b>ŋɔɪ</b>	Ganoy
	s = <b>sɪ</b> - <b>Kɪ</b>	Siki
	r = <b>ra</b>	Ra
<i>Inilong</i> (Nasal)	h = <b>há</b> - <b>mək</b>	Hamok
	m = <b>ma</b> - <b>ra</b> - <b>dsau</b> :	Marajaw
	n = <b>ná</b> - <b>naɪ</b>	Nanay
<i>Kinarat</i> (Affricate)	ng = <b>ŋa</b> - <b>ri</b> / <b>ŋadʒ</b> - <b>ʔan</b>	Ngari / Ngajan
	j = <b>dʒá</b> - <b>ʔən</b>	Jaun
<i>Kiniid</i> (Lateral)	ts = <b>lan</b> - <b>tʃa</b> :	Lantsa
<i>Dalkyat</i> (Glide)	l = <b>lu</b> - <b>kən</b>	Lukon
	ʎ = <b>la</b> - <b>ʎʎʔ</b>	Laya
<i>Pugong-Agugongon</i> (Glottal)	w = <b>wa</b> - <b>ʎʎʔ</b>	Waya
	ʔ = <b>ʔan</b> - <b>ʔan</b> / <b>Bad</b> - <b>ʔas</b> : = <b>ma</b> - <b>ta</b> / <b>bun</b> - <b>ʔa</b> :	ʔangʔ / <b>Badas</b> Mata / Buna

Figure 14. Sinurigao Phonetic Alphabet (SPA) for Consonants

Figure 14 is the proposed Sinurigao Phonetic Alphabet for Consonants. I introduce the glottal visarga with the symbol: which is normally perceived in the initial, medial and final positions: **ma**:**-ta** / **maɫ**-**h**-on / **ma**:**-ta**:. When in initial or medial sometimes written as **h**.

Tunada nan Bokal	SPA	Panaglitan
<i>Atubangan na Bokal</i> (Front Vowel)	i = ʔi:-gɔ:	Igo
	ɪ = ʔɪ:-gəʔ	Igu
	ɛ = bɛ:-ná:-ba:-jɪ:	Binabaji
<i>Tunga na Bokal</i> (Mid-vowel)	ə = ʔɪ-gəʔ	Igu
	ʌ = nʌn, pʌg, nʌk, lʌk, lʌn	Nan
<i>Lujohan na Bokal</i> (Back Vowel)	ʊ = ʔʊn-dan	Undang
	ɒ = Ba:-ʌɒ:-dʒet	Bayujot
	ɔ = ʔɔ:-paʊ:	Opaw
	ä = dää:-dʒaʊ:	Dajaw
<i>Duha ka Bokal</i> (Diphthong)	aʊ = ʔʌm-baʊ:	Ambaw
	aɪ = ʔaɪ-nä:	Ayna
	ɪw = ʔɪ:-ɪw:	Ngiliw
	ɔɪ = la:-ɪɔɪ:	Langoy
	ʊa = Ba:-kʊag	Bacuag

Figure 15. Sinurigao Phonetic Alphabet (SPA) for Vowel

Figure 15 is the proposed Sinurigao Phonetic Alphabet for Vowel. There are three vowels with five sounds in Philippine languages as to internationally renowned researchers, and the UPDLing125 students with Nolasco (2015) discovered the fourth vowel with the use of PRAAT and Jplot which is [ɥ] as in bʉgas in Hinigakit. I believe this fourth vowel is also apparent in Minamanwa lʉgtoʔ='sit' and Minaranaw ibʉt = 'honest'. However, for different sound representations specially when using auditory-perception method the above SPA is proposed.

## On Basic Parts of Sinurigao

Table 5. Eight basic parts of Sinurigao

Parts of Speech	Meaning	f	%
<b>Ngayan</b> (Noun)	an tawag sa tawo, tahod sa tawo, butang, lugar, tagbati, sitwasyon, pamaagi sanan numero.	513	91.28
<b>Pamuli</b> (Pronoun)	an ipuli sa ngayan kon nagkabalikbalik na sa hanay nan sinultihan.	459	81.67
<b>Dajig</b> (Adjective)	an paghatag nan balor sa pamatasan, hitsura o dagway, sanan estado nan ngayan o pamuli.	438	77.94
<b>Hingas</b> (Verb)	an gihimu nan ngayan o pamuli sa hanay nan sinultihan, Kompleto an hanay kon jauy hingas nan naghisgut o taghisgutan.	484	86.12

<b>Orason</b> (Adverb)	an pagtibu nan Oras sanan Rason para mahatag an sakto na kagrabeghon nan sitwasyon o pasabot, panahon sanan lokasyon nan sulti sa hanay nan sinultihan.	394	70.11
<b>Adiser</b> (Preposition)	gamit adiser sa ngayan o pamuli. Parte nan grupo nan mga sulti na gigamit na may suod na koneksyon sa, sanan naandan na gamit adiser an, ngayan o pamuli para ipakita an ila relasyon sa lain na parte sa hanay.	488	86.83
<b>Pansumpay</b> (Conjunction)	gamit para masumpay an mga hanay, masabtan sanan libog na hinanay, mga sinulti sanan mga sulti.	500	88.97
<b>Syagit</b> (Interjection)	gamit para mahatag an pwera nan sulti o sinulti sa sinultihan pareho nan sakit o kurat pero kon lahi wayay pasabot. Pananglit: <b>Aray!</b>	516	91.81

Analogy linguistics is the standardization of linguistic forms or the development or production of linguistic forms and patterns that resemble those already predominating in a language. The researcher has created equivalent terms for adverb and preposition, orason and adiser respectively with the use of neologism: a recently coined word or phrase, or a recently extended meaning of an existing word or phrase, (Microsoft Encarta, 2009). Orason is the coinage of oras (time) and rason (reason), and for adiser is the extended meaning as preposition in 8 basic parts of Sinurigao. With the data collected from 562 informants, table 5 reveals that orason and dajig are the only new words to them as part of Sinurigao eight basic parts of speech (POS). This result means that the informants recognize the existence of Sinurigao POS.

## Understanding Sinurigao Modality

Table 6. Modal auxiliary verbs of Sinurigao: a translation of English to Sinurigao

English	Sinurigao	F	%
1. You <b>will</b> really learn.	Maka	154	27.40
2. Just any kind of toys so that I <b>can</b> just only forget the trembling of fears from my beloved father...	maka/ mahika	236	41.99
3. He <b>has</b> repeatedly uttered that he will slap Sheila.	Tag/Gi	209	37.19
4. <b>Do</b> you know your mistake?	Na/Naka	218	38.79
5. <b>Have</b> you finished the chores?	Na/Tag/Gi	255	45.37
6. <b>Did</b> you finish the work?	Na/Tag/Gi	299	53.20
7. <b>Did</b> you deliver the book?	Na/Tag/Gi	341	60.68

Table 6 displays that modal auxiliary verbs exist in Sinurigao with the use of English to Sinurigao translation. *Maka* for will with 154 or 27.40%, *maka/mahika* for can with 236 or 41.99%, *tag/gi* for have with 209 or 37.19%, *na/naka* for do with 218 or 38.79%, *na/tag/gi* for have with 255 or 45.37%, *na/tag/gi* for did with 299 or 53.20% for item no. 6 and 341 or 60.68% for item no 7.

E. Panabang na Hingag: Isuyat sa SINURIGAO Inin mya English na hanay.

English	Sinurigao
1. You will really learn.	Makasabot gajud kaw.
2. Just any kind of toys so that I can just only forget the trembling of fears from my beloved father...	Bisan kau na anawan gajud na naka mahibayon na ako kabad-let na ako panan.
3. He have repeatedly uttered that he will slap Sheila.	laang nga nga gajud dapagpa Sheila
4. Do you know your mistake?	Makabayo kau ka mau gaga?
5. Have you finished the chores?	Makapas ka sikau ma hihayon?
6. Did you finish the work?	Makapas ka sikau ma hihayon?
7. Did you deliver the book?	Yau makapay ka sikau ma hihayon?

Figure 16. Translation from English to Own Language

Source No. : SG 363

The informants usually translate item no. 1 *You will really learn* to *Mahibayo gajud kaw* and *Maka hibayu gajud kaw*. The similarities between the two, *Ma-* and *Maka* normally signal possibility. The difference is *Ma-* is a stative-irrealis verb prefix which shows indicative/declarative mood while *Maka* is a abilitative modal auxiliary. *Mahibayo gajud kaw*, therefore, can be *You really know* and *You will really know* while *Makat`un*, *Maka kat`un*, and *Maka hibayu* are *will learn*; thus, the translations for item no. 1 should be *Makat`un gajud kaw*, *Maka kat`un gajud kaw* or *Maka hibayu gajud kaw*.

In Figure 16, *Makasabot* in English is *will understand*; thus, *Maka sabut gajud kaw* is *You will really understand*. In item no. 2 *can* is *maka*. *Have* in item no. 3 is *tag* or *gi*. *Do* in item no. 4 is *na* or *naka*. *Have* and *did* in items no. 5, 6 and 7 could function as *na*, *tag* or *gi*. All responses are documented with the use of English-Sinurigao translation. For clarification on item no. 1, below are the sentential uses of the word *mahibayo* and *maka hibayu*.

(30) *Mahibayu*

- a. Mahibayu gajud kaw unhon pagluto nan adobo. (stative-irrealis; indicative/declarative)  
“You really know how to cook adobo.”
- b. Mahibayu gajud kaw na an imo uyab may lain. (stative-irrealis; possibility)  
“You will really know that your lover has another.”
- c. Mahibayu gajud kaw magmahal nan tinudanay. (stative-irrealis; indicative)  
“You really know how to love truly.”

(31) *Maka hibayu, Makatun and Maka katun (expressing possibility/ability)*

- a. Maka hibayu gajud kaw unhon pagluto nan adobo.  
“You will really learn how to cook adobo.”
- b. Makatun gajud kaw mu langoy.  
“You will really learn to swim.”
- c. Maka katun gajud kaw nan sakto na Sinurigao.  
“You will really learn the grammatical Sinurigao.”

Almost all of the linguists who conducted research in Philippine languages claimed that *na* is just a particle or linker. In this study, the researcher explicates that *na* in (32) could function as modality of doubt, dismay and shock.

(32) *Na ajaw pagkadtu.*

“Na don’t go.”

(33) *Nay ajaw pagkadtu.*

“Nay don’t go.”

(34) *Ay ajaw pagkadtu.*

“Ay don’t go.”

(35) *Ayna ajaw pagkadtu.*

“Ayna don’t go.”

(36) *Ajaw na pagkadtu.*

“Don’t go.”

*Ay* in (34) is the counterpart of (32) but more intense. Both (32) and (34) shows common and neutral genders. While (33) has another function which



is disgust. Its gender shows feminine. Ayna in (35) is more intense than its counterpart (33). When na is transferred after negator ajaw, its function changed to firm modality. This result supports the assumption in SYAGET that Modals in Sinurigao is gender influenced.

### On Contact of Sinurigao with Other Languages

Table 7. Language used in translating English to Sinurigao

LUT	F	%
Pure Sinurigao	198	35.2
Sinurigao – Binisaya	27	4.8
Sinurigao – Binisaya – Filipino	203	36.1
Sinurigao – Binisaya – Filipino – English	48	8.5
Sinurigao – Binisaya – English	7	1.2
Sinurigao – Filipino	66	11.7
Sinurigao – Filipino – English	10	1.8
Sinurigao – English	3	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The translation of the informants of the seven various English sentences to Sinurigao resulted to the code-mixing of Sinurigao – Binisaya – Filipino with 203 counts as the highest factor, Sinurigao – Binisaya with 27, Sinurigao – Binisaya – Filipino – English with 48, Sinurigao – Binisaya – English with 7, Sinurigao – Filipino with 66, Sinurigao – Filipino – English with 10, Sinurigao – English with 3. This result supports the study of Dumanig and David (2013) that extensive bilingualism occurs in Sinurigao. This result also supports the assumption of SYAGET that colonization and neo-colonialism affect language. The Pure Sinurigao translation has 198 or 35.2% but this result might be a misleading one for I am a product of bilingual/multilingual education as well. The common Bisaya words noted are JUD, UNSA, ANG, NGA and HATOD, for Filipino TRABAHO and TAPOS, for English DELIVER and CHORES. This result further supports the hypothesis that closely related languages are highly vulnerable to contact effects while more indistinctly related languages are assumed to be less likely influence one another (Thomason 2001).

The Economic crisis caused by colonization and neocolonialism also affect language. Managupyak [ma:/na:/gup/yak], a word used by farmers in 1960s to 1970s at San Francisco, Anao-aon, Surigao del Norte to trade for labor or farm in exchange of rice produced from the farmed land (Betita, 2014). The said word is already unknown, alien or weird to new generation. The 1990s to 2000s generations of farmers know Manuki [ma:/nu:/ki`], a word used to farm the land of their usual employer in exchange of money. Money instead of the rice produced from their labor for they can have it before or after their work, and makes it easy for them to buy their needs.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results, it is concluded that the Sinurigao Yare Ameliorator Grammar Establisher Theory (SYAGET) significantly supports the analysis of the grammar and the contact of Sinurigao with other languages. The study discloses that Sinurigao morphology has <ag> affix for intentional, <a> for unintentional, <u> for usual statement(s), tig-/man- with -hay for noun forming word, <an> for plurality, pa- for causivity, ka- for reciprocity, and the rest of affixes described in Table 2. On Sinurigao phonology, glottal visarga has written form like the -h- in tigmatahay to join the -ay to the stem. It also has unwritten form as observed in mata[h] and ba[h]ta`. With the use of Nolasco's (2005) Transitivity Hypothesis in analyzing Sinurigao, intentional, unintentional and usual structures were documented. Modified subject-verb agreement was drawn from the data in Sinurigao with the use of Phrase Structure and Transformational Rules. On semantics, meaning and function of word or stem in Sinurigao changes when affix(es) is attached or when stress is transferred from one syllable to another. On understanding Sinurigao modality, aside from possibility, ability and necessity, there are doubt, dismay and shock modality too. Additionally, this study concludes that economic crisis caused by colonization and neocolonization affect Sinurigao. It also mirrors significant phenomenon of the contact of Sinurigao with other languages that social belonging forced speaker to shift own language to social language and frequent contact of different languages affects the minor language like Sinurigao.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the findings and conclusions, the following recommendations are presented: 1) Sinurigao can be intellectualized and it must start in establishing its

Discourse Grammar (DG); 2) IPA must be used as well in Sinurigao [si:/nu:/ri:/gau:] to intellectualize the language and establish its intellectualized morphology and phonology relationship; 3) An in-depth study on morphophonology, morphosyntactics and semantics to unify the orthographic features of PLs must be conducted; 4) Utilization of Sinurigao Yare Ameliorator Grammar Establisher Theory by Francis Tom A. Paredes to researches that establish grounded theories be taken into account by researchers and experts and, 5) Researches on local languages contact be considered as one of the priority research agenda of international research enthusiasts.

### **TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH**

The outcome of this study entitled “Sinurigao: Pormada, Tunada, Plastada, Pasabot (Sinurigao: Morphology, Phonology, Syntax, Semantic” had been translated into original Sinurigao language and linguistics manual and was used by college and graduate school students. The manual improved the knowledge of college and graduate students from Surigao City, Manila, and Mindanao on Sinurigao language rules. The translation of the study results was made possible by the support of the Department of Education Division of Surigao del Norte under SDS Evelyn R. Fetalvero, CESO VI and Alegria National High School under Principal II Segundino A. Madjos, Jr.

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

Inflected/conjugated word < prefix < infix > + root word ‘English Gloss’ – suffix, **ABS**olutive, **Re**alis, **IRRe**alis, **Volition/DeliberativeAffix**, **TR**ansitive, **IN**transitive, **ERG**ative, **Agent**, **punctuation mark**, **Wh**-questions, **Adv**erVSituation, **LinKeR**, **Acquiescence/NaturalAffix**, **AdverbTime**, **Singular**, **Plural**, **InfinitiveVerb**, **ADJ**ective, **PERF**ectiveVerb, **EMPh**asis, **ActiveVoiceFutureFormat**, **OBL**ique, **VerbPresentForm**, **Nominalizer**, **1** person, **2** person, **3** person, **PROX**imal, **MED**ial, **DIST**al.

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