Theories of Origins of Filipino Language and People

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A. Language

- Ancient Filipinos were basically Malayan in culture, thus their written language can be traced in the Astronesian origin.
- More than 100 languages and dialects in the Philippines
- Major dialects: Tagalog, Iloko, Pangasinan, Pampangan, Sugbuhanon, Hiligaynon, Samarnon, Magindanao
- Fr. Pedro Chirino – Spanish Jesuit missionary, worked closely with our ancestors and he said that Filipinos are generally literate.
- Baybayin / Alibata – their system of writing; 3 vowels and 14 consonants
• Wrote on leaves and barks of trees using colored saps of trees as ink and pointed sticks as pencils
• Literature:
  • Ifugao epic - Hudhud (glorifies Ifugao history and its hero Aliguyon) and the Alim (resembles the Indian gods in the epic Ramayana)
  • Ilocano epic - Biag ni Lam-ang
  • Bicolano epic – Handiong
  • Muslim epics - Bantugan, Indarapatra & Sulayman, Bidasari, Parang sabil
  • Salawikain, bugtong, kasabihan
Filipino Language

- Derived from Tagalog dialect
- It became official in 1987
- Christian Doctrine was the first book written in Tagalog which was in Baybayin script.

**Development of the Language:**

1. Alibata / Baybayin – 3 vowels & 14 consonants (17 letters)
2. Lumang Alpabeto (Abakada) – 5 vowels & 15 consonants
   - 20 letters
3. Alpabetong Filipino (Makabagong Alpabeto)
   - 5 vowels & 23 consonants (28 letters)
JEJEMON

- Is either a noun or adjective.
- A person used to replace vowels with consonants in typing a word or constructing a sentence.
- An individual that is believed with a very low Intelligence Quotient (IQ).
- Somebody who devastates language ethics by posting a comment through social networking sites like Facebook or replying a message using cell phone.
JEJEMON

- Somebody who was not educated with language secrecy and pretends to know or used it with their own idea or decree.

- A term used by an individual who enjoys typing – “jejejeje” when laughing or expressing happy emotions or thoughts. Like scorning enemy in internet games such as Dota and Ragnarok.
How to identify jejemon fellows?

- They do not have the ability to express their self in English language properly. Basically, they have low knowledge in grammar, punctuation marks, and vocabulary. They are just illiterate pretending to be literate in terms of language structure.
- Their names usually start with El followed by Spanish or Portuguese word. They tend to incorporate too much letters or symbols in typing or constructing a word or a statement even in their very own names or aliases.
Jejemon sentence example:

- **Sentence 1**: e0wSsZz pOwhhZzmUsZtAhH nUah pOwhHzz kEowHsz.

- **Sentence 2**: miSzMaldiTahh111 here EoW pFuOh! PuNtah TyO0 ZtArBuckKzz! Jejejejeje!”

- **Sentence 3**: pFroUwd 2 b @ jEJ3mOn!
What is Leet?

- derived from elite.
- a figurative representation that used abbreviations, numbers and misspellings to avoid words be detected by searches and filters. The idea of abbreviated words was first used in networked computers during 1960s when transmitting data rates were so slow, the reason why they attempt to shorten words such as “@” for “at” and “be” for “b”.
- Leet is is similar to encrypting a word.
• Leet is also often called as internet slangs. It may take time to acquire this knowledge however; you may start this by knowing the 1337 alphabet.

• A / - \ or / \ or 4 or @
  B | 3 or 8 or | o
  C ( or < or K or S D | ) or o | or | > or < |
  E 3
  F | = or ph
  G ( or 9 or 6
  H | - | or ]-[ or }-{ or ( - ) or )-( or #
  I | or 1 or | or ! or ][
  J _ | ...............
• Common words used in 1337 speak:
  Like = leik
• Own = pwn
• Pwned = pwnt
• You = j00
B. People

- Ice Age theory – water surrounding the Philippines sank thus forming land bridges to mainland Asia. Hence hominid came to the Philippines.

- Cagayan man or Homo Erectus Philippinensis – artifacts found in Cagayan that proved the existence of hominid group from mainland Asia. They have similarities with Java man of Indonesia and Peking man of China.

- Tabon man – Palawan
- Early Filipinos were basically hunters and it was found out elephant or gadya inhabited our country during the early times.

- Negritos (Aeta, Ati, Dumagat) used the land bridges; practiced dry agriculture or kaingin system

- Astronesians – came by boats; kayumanggi, stone age culture
Early Customs and Practices

- Agriculture - main source of living

- Kaingin (land cleared by burning) tillage (land was plowed and harrowed)- two ways of cultivation

- Irrigation was employed ex. Ditches were built in Banawe rice terraces

- Industries – fishing, mining, ship building(boats were called banca, lapis, caracoa, virey, prau, vinta) poultry, livestock raising, logging, pottery, and weaving

- Barter system/baligya
Social Classes

A. nobles (chiefs and families)

B. freemen (middle class)

C. dependents (alipin – namamahay & sagigilid);
   - Visayan alipins – tumataban (worked for his master when told to do so), tumarampuk (worked one day a week for his master) and ayuey (worked 3 days a week)

- Women were equal with man, they were respected by men, they could be chieftain in a tribe

- Marriages in the same class was the usual practice but intermarriages in other classes were not really discouraged
• Courtship was long and difficult; dowry (gold or land) or bigay-kaya is required; panghimayat (gift to the parents); bigay-suso (gift to the yaya or wet nurse)

• Barangay – basic unit of gov’t.; was derived for the name of the boat balangay of the Astronesians

• Independent and was ruled by a chieftain, people pay buwis or taxes

• Chieftain exercised the powers of the executive, legislative and judiciary but aided by council of elders in lawmaking
• Relations between barangays existed; sanduguan (blood compact) – ritual that an alliance has been sealed

• Umalokohan- town cryer who announced and explained a new formed law

• Deciding cases – conflicts were resolved peacefully, court of justice is composed of chieftain as judge and the elders of barangay; the one with many witnesses were usually declared the winner
• Trial by ordeal – dipping the hands into a boiling water; holding a lighted candle, plunging into the deep water, chew uncooked rice – thickest saliva was the culprit

• Music and dance – timbale (cymbal), kudyapi (stringed instrument), kullibaw (harp made of bamboo), bansic (bamboo flute)

• potato dance, torture dance, duel dance, lovers dance
• Arts were drawn in their weapons and tools, beads, amulets, bracelets, used metal and glass, designs in handles of knives or daggers, beautiful designs in pottery, images of wood, ivory and horn were carved

• Religious beliefs – believed that soul was immortal and the life after death, manunggul jar (container for bones of the dead), Bathalang Maykapal or Bathala (sumpreme being), anito – (soul spirit) venerated or worshipped which is called “ Cult of the Dead”
Carved images of dead loved ones and they are called larawan or likha (Tagalog), diwata (Visayans) and bulol (Ifugao). Baylan/babaylan/katalona - do the rituals or offerings

Burial – placed in a coffin and buried in their house; morotal (mourning for a woman), maglahi (mourning for a man), laraw (mourning for the chieftain) - all war conflicts must stop, all daggers must be carried with the tips pointing downwards, singing and wearing loud clothes were prohibited