

THREE-LETTER ABBREVIATIONS OF MALAYO-POLYNESIAN (AUSTRONESIAN) LANGUAGE NAMES

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Uniformity in the use of abbreviations is a gain to any science. It is the aim of this paper to suggest one method by which linguists may have available a set of unique abbreviations for the language names of the Malayo-Polynesian group of languages.

To achieve this goal it appears necessary, at least in the majority of cases, to use three-letter abbreviations. Two-letter abbreviations employing the 23 commonly used letters of the alphabet could only provide about 500 unique combinations, whereas the total number of Malayo-Polynesian languages appears to be in excess of that number.

The following principles of abbreviation are suggested:

- (a) Four letter names remain unabbreviated, unless auxiliary designations be added as described in section (f).
- (b) Two-letter and three-letter abbreviations used extensively in previous literature be retained wherever possible.<sup>1</sup>
- (c) All abbreviations begin with a capital letter and terminate with a period.
- (d) Wherever convenient, consonants rather than vowels be chosen as the second and third letters of the abbreviation.
- (e) Affixes which occur frequently in language names should make a minimum contribution to the abbreviation (e.g. *Mang-*, *-in-*, *-an* in the Philippines).
- (f) Auxiliary information in abbreviated form and beginning with a capital letter may follow the language abbreviation and precede the period. This is especially used to specify the dialect by name or place, or the author or manuscript source of the data, e.g.

KlaL. the Kalinga dialect spoken around Lubuagan,

BShl. the Visayan dialect called Hiligaynon or Ilonggo,

Tgl. Tagalog as recorded by Laktaw in his dictionary.

In the appended lists, these principles have been applied to all the known languages and major dialects of the Philippines.<sup>2</sup>

The task remains of preparing abbreviations for Malayo-Polynesian languages in all other parts of the Pacific. It is hoped that this may be accomplished co-operatively by those working in the areas concerned.

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1. The following works were consulted for abbreviations employed previously:  
 C.E. Conant, 1912. "The Pepet Law in Philippine Languages", *Anthropos*, 7:920-947.  
 O. Dempwolff, 1934-38. *Vergleichende Lautlehre des austronesischen Wortschatzes* (3 volumes). Berlin.  
 I. Dyen, 1953. *The Proto-Malayo-Polynesian Laryngeals*. Baltimore, Linguistic Society of America (William Dwight Whitney Linguistic Series).

2. The list of Philippine languages is based on *Outline Gazetteer of Native Philippine Ethnic and Linguistic Groups* by Harold C. Conklin, mimeo, Manila 1952, supplemented by information from members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. Dialect versus language status and the groupings of languages are still only tentative.

This paper is not intended to be definitive. The comments of Malayo-Polynesian linguists are invited. This first list of abbreviations cannot hope to be in its final form; some abbreviations may have to be changed to avoid ambiguities, some alternate language names may be preferable, and additions may be necessary as new languages are discovered. It is hoped that major inaccuracies will soon be removed with the help of all who are working in the Philippines.

A.	Ivatan	Ivt.	Northern Ivatan Southern Ivatan Itbayat	IvtN. IvtS. IvtI.
B.	Iloko, Ilocano	Ilk.	Northern Iloko Southern Iloko	IlkN. IlkS.
	Tinggian	Tng.		
	Apayao, Isneg	Apy.	Tawit Bayag, Mandaya Kabugao Talifugu-Ripang	ApyT. ApyB. ApyK. ApyR.
C.	Ibanag	Ibg.	Ibanag proper Atta	IbgA.
	Itawes	Itw.		
	Gaddang	Gad.	Gaddang proper Maddukayang Katalangan Iraya	GadM. GadK. GadI.
	Yogad	Ygd.		
	Putol Atta	AttP.		
	Southern Atta	AttS.		
D.	Agta	Agta	Southern Agta Northern Agta	AgtS. AgtN.
	Eastern Agta	AgtE.		
E.	Isinai	Isn.		
F.	Kalinga	Kla.	Ablig-Saligsig Kalagua Nabayugan Mangali-Lubo Lubuagan Sumadel Guinaang-Balbalasang	KlaA. KlaK. KlaN. KlaM. KlaL. KlaS. KlaG.
	Bontoc	Bon.	Central Bontoc Eastern Bontoc Bayo Tinglayan Dananao-Bangaad Western Bontoc, Sagada	BonC. BonE. BonB. BonT. BonD. BonW.
	Ifugao	Ifg.	Mayaoyao Upper Bournay Cababuyan Banaue Hapao Kiangnan Kalanguya Ayangan Hugduan	IfgM. IfgUB. IfgC. IfgBn. IfgHa. IfgKn. IfgKy. IfgAy. IfgHu.

			Kinakin Kambulu Batad Amduntug Antipolo Kankanaí proper Baukok Malaya-Bakun	IfgKk. IfgKb. IfgBt. IfgAm. IfgAp. KnkB. KnkM.
	Kankanaí, Lepanto	Knk.		
G.	Ibaloi	Ibl.	Ibaloi proper Iwaak	IblI.
	Pangasinan	Png.		
H.	Ilongot	Ilt.	Egongot Italon Ibalao Abaka	IltE. IltIt. IltIb. IltA.
I.	Northern Dumagat Palanan Dumagat Dicamay Dumagat Casiguran Dumagat	DgtN. DgtPa. DgtD. DgtC.		
J.	Southern Dumagat	DgtS.	Baler Polillo Alabat Kalawat	DgtB. DgtPo. DgtA. DgtK.
K.	Sambali	Sbl.	Bolinao Tina Iba Botolan Aeta	SblBl. SblT. SblI. SblBt. SblA.
L.	Pampangan	Pamp.		
M.	Ermitaño Caviteño	Erm. Cav.		
N.	Tagalog	Tg.	Baluga Aeta Bataan Bulakan Tanay-Paete Manila Batangas Tayabas Palanan Naga Buhi Baao Bato Catanduanes Albay-Sorsogon Agta	TgBA. TgBn. TgBu. TgTP. TgM. TgBs. TgTb. TgP. BkN. BkBu. BkBa. BkBt. BkC. BkAS. BkAg.
	Bikol	Bk.		
	Hiligaynon, Ilonggo Hiniraya Banton Sebuano, Sugbuhanon	BsHl. BSHn. BSBa. BSSe.		

	Bohol	BsBo.		
	Agtaa (Negros)	BsAN.		
	Samar-Leyte,			
	Waray-waray	BsSL.		
O.	Iraya	Ira.	Alag-Bako Dulangan Pagbahan	IraA. IraD. IraP.
	Alangan	Aln.		
	Batangan	Bng.		
	Tagaydan	Tyd.		
	Nauhan	Nhn.		
	Pula	Pula		
	Bangon	Bngo.		
	Baribi	Brb.		
	Buid	Buid		
	Hanunoo	Han.	Waigan Kagankan Wawan Binli Gubatnon	HanWg. HanK. HanWw. HanB. HanG.
P.	Kalamian	Klm.		
	Kuyonon	Kuy.		
	Ratagnon	Rtg.		
	Agutaynon	Aty.		
	Batak	Btk.	Babuyanen	BtkB.
	Tagbanwa	Tbw.	Central Tagbanwa Tangdulanen Silanganen	TbwC. TbwT. TbwS.
	Palawano	Plw.		
Q.	Ke-ney	Key.		
	Melebuganon	Mlb.		
	Jama Mapun	JMp.		
R.	Hantik	Htk.		
	Aklan	Akl.		
	Ati	Ati		
S.	Chabakano	Chk.		
	Davaweño	Dvn.		
	Cateelano	Cln.		
T.	Subanun	Sub.	Dapitan Sindangan Buluan-Kipit Tukuran	SubD. SubS. SubB. SubT.
	Tau Sug	TSg.	Inland Sulu Coastal Sulu	TSgI. TSgC.
	Yakan	Ykn.		
	Samal	Sml.	Land Samal Sea Samal	SmlL. SmlS.
	Lanao	Lan.	Maranao Ilanun	LanM. LanI.
	Magindanao	Mdo.	Upland Magindanao Lowland Magindanao	MdoU. MdoL.
U.	Bukidnon, Binokid	Bkd.	Bukidnon proper	

Agusan Manobo	MbA.	Banuaon Kunteen Banwaon Dibabaon Mandaya	BkdB. MBAK. MbAB. MbAD.
Manguangan Central Mindanao Manobo	Mgn. MbC.	Matig-Salug	MbCM.
Northern Cotabato Manobo	MbNC.	Kulamanen	MbCK.
Sarangani Manobo	MbS.	Pulangien	MbCP.
Southern Cotabato Manobo	MbSC.	Western Bukidnon	MbCW.
Tigwa Manobo	MbT.		
Bagobo	Bgb.	Bagobo proper Gianga Obo Eto	BgbG. BgbO. BgbE.
V. Tiruray	Tir.		
Tagabili	Tbl.	Tagabili proper Maitum	TblM.
Bilaan	Bil.	Bilaan proper Baluan Balud	BilBu. BilBa.
V. Kalagan, Tagakaolo	KLgT.	Kalagan proper Loac	KLgL.
Mandaya	Mdy.		
Mansaka	Msk.		
Mangaragan	Mrg.		
Mamanua	Mmn.		
Ata	Ata	Dugbatang Tugauanum	AtaD. AtaT.
Kulaman	Kul.		
Isamal	Isl.		
Sangil	Snl.		
Bajau	Baj.		

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