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Foreword, Introduction and Abbreviations



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## Foreword

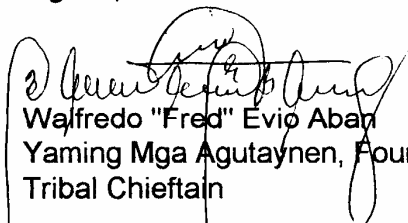
Ong aggalangen ang manigbasa:

Dorong kalilipayen amen ang mapagbolontad tang mga bitalang gasolat ong librong narin agod papaga-penen ong grupo tang mga librong agganingen Studies In Philippine Linguistics. Galipay ami ang mapasolat tang gege-ley ang mga tikstong narin para ong mga oring timpong komabot, agod ang maski sinopay magbasa ta na ong mo-yang kaneman, maita na ta masinlo ang tatang litrato tang yamen ang koltora ig bitala, ang yay ang natawan amen ong doro kasinlong islang agmalen amen ta mo-ya—Agutayan. Ong tanan ang manigbasa, maning amen "Mambeng ang Pagbasa!" Piro ong mga namagboat tang librong narin, ba-lo ra tang pasalamat. Taben isipen nira ang anda ray otang ta nem amen. Tenged ong kamatodan, indi malipatan amen sia mintras ang librong na mabasa pa.

To the reader:

It is with great pleasure that we endorse these texts for inclusion in the series Studies in Philippine Linguistics. We are happy to be able to record this small sample of texts for posterity, and hope it will provide a window through which all who read with good will may appreciate a view of our own unique language and culture, centered on our most beautiful and beloved island of Agutaya. To those who read, we say "Happy Reading!" To the publishers of this volume, we will not yet say "Thank you," for that might seem to put an end to our debt of gratitude, which in reality will continue as long as this book can be read.

Signed,



Walfredo "Fred" Evis Aban  
Yaming Mga Agutaynen, Founder  
Tribal Chieftain

March 1994  
Puerto Princesa

## Introduction

Agutaynen speakers number around 10,000, constituting about 2% of the population of their native Palawan province. Agutaya Island, together with its surrounding islets, is the homeland of the Agutaynens. The island is approximately 15 square kilometers, located 30 kilometers north of Cuyo Island. The municipality of Agutaya is 96% Agutaynen. There are also several Agutaynen communities on the main island of Palawan, most notably in San Vicente, Roxas and Brooke's Point municipalities.\*

Seven of the twelve texts in this collection were recorded on audio tape and five were written by native speakers of the language. They were narrated and written at the request of the compiler during periods of residence in Palawan from 1984 to 1989 with the exception of the last text, which was elicited by Gail Hendrickson in 1991.

The narrators or writers are listed at the beginning of each text. Cultural explanations accompany some of these credits. Cultural and other explanatory notes are also added as footnotes by the compiler. The first line of each text presents the text in the practical alphabet; the second adds morpheme boundaries and is a morphophonemic transcription; the third is a morpheme-by-morpheme gloss. A free translation accompanies each page of text.

I am grateful to JoAnne Shetler for her helpful suggestions on the cultural notes, and Hazel Wigglesworth, Mary Ruth Wise, Grace Tan and Rex Johnson for help in getting this manuscript printworthy. The friendship of the Agutaynen community and their eagerness to see the collection in print has been a great source of encouragement. I am particularly indebted to research assistant Pedrito Labrador — energetic companion and skillful instructor in all things Agutaynen. And I am forever indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Bienvenido Pacho, my first Agutaynen “parents”. I wish to dedicate this text collection to the memory of Mr. Pacho — Tay Ben.

Steve Quakenbush

August 1999

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\* For a detailed discussion of language classification, language use and aspects of the sociolinguistic situation among the Agutaynen, see John Stephen Quakenbush, *Language Use and Proficiency in a Multilingual Setting: A Sociolinguistic Survey of Agutaynen Speakers in Palawan*, Linguistic Society of the Philippines Special Monograph No. 28, 1989. Manila: Linguistic Society of the Philippines.

## Abbreviations

1	first person <sup>1</sup>
2	second person
3	third person
ABL	abilitative aspect <sup>2</sup>
ADJ	adjectivizer
AF	actor focus <sup>3</sup>
CAUS	causative
COMP	complementizer
CONCESS	concessive particle
CV	reduplication
D1, D2, D3	deictic pronouns (1 proximal, 2 medial, 3 distal)
DEF	definite genitive noun phrase marker
DELIB	deliberative ‘do you suppose’
DESID	desiderative ‘I hope that’
DIMIN	diminutive
DIR	directional
E	exclusive
EXP	‘as expected’ particle
F	full pronominal form
G	genitive pronominal form
GEN	genitive noun phrase marker
GF	goal focus
I	inclusive
IMP	imperfective
INF	infinite, irrealis
INST	instrument
INTENS	intensifier
INTJ	interjection
INV	inverse order marker
ITER	iterative
LKR	linker
LOC1, LOC2, LOC3	location words (1 proximal, 2 medial, 3 distal)
MNL	meaningless
NEG1	verbal negative
NEG2	adjectival negative

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<sup>1</sup> Pronominal forms are glossed as follows: person number (inclusive/exclusive) case. For example, 1S.T = first person singular topic form and 1Pl.G = first person plural inclusive genitive form.

<sup>2</sup> The verbal affixes are glossed in the following order: aspect, (plural), (abilitative), focus. For example, IMP, ABL, AF = imperfective, abilitative, actor focus.

<sup>3</sup> The verbal affixes glossed AF (actor focus), GF (goal focus), RF (referential focus) could alternatively be glossed as marking the following constructions: antipassive/intransitive clause, ergative, and applicative, respectively. Or they could be glossed as marking the semantic role of the absolutive noun phrase as Agent/Theme, Theme, and Location, respectively.

NEG3	nominal negative
NLR	nominalizer
O	oblique pronominal form
OBL	oblique noun phrase marker
OPT	optative
ORD	ordinal marker
PERF	perfective
PL	plural
PM	personal marker
PMP	personal marker plural
PRO	anaphoric pronoun
Q	question marker
RECIP	reciprocal
REDUP	reduplication
REL	relativizer
REQ	request
RF	referential focus
RS	reported speech
S	singular
SIM	simultaneous
SOC	social
STAT	stative
SUPER	superlative
SURP	surprise particle
T	topic pronominal form or personal marker
TAG	tag question
TOP	topic noun phrase marker <sup>4</sup>
V	vowel
=	morpheme boundaries
...	discontinuous morphemes

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<sup>4</sup> The noun phrase case marker glossed as '(TOP) Topic' could alternatively be glossed as 'Absolute' or 'Subject', depending on the perspective of the linguist.