One of the things I recently “discovered” is that several Philippine languages have a “10 step” descent pattern along the following lines. Each step or stage involves approximately 500 years of independent development.

01 PAN = Proto-Austronesian Must include Formosan language(s)

02 PMP = Proto-Malayo-Polynesian Must include Oceanic languages

03 PWMP = Proto-Western-Malayo-Polynesian Must include Indonesia

04 PPH = Must include any language(s) found in the Philippines

05 PNP vs PSP = Distinguishes broadly between languages of Luzon vs. the Bisayas and Mindanao

06 Macrogroup = first branch off of either Northern or Southern Philippine

07 Microgroup = second branch off of either Northern or Southern Philippine

08 Group = any of some 50 major Philippine language groups

09 Subgroup = These are branches off of the 21 major Philippine language groups.

10 Language = The specific extent of any given named language

For example, the “route” of two different Bisayan languages would be:

PAN PMP PWMP PPH PNP~PSP GCP PCP Bisayan West Aklanon

PAN PMP PWMP PPH PNP~PSP GCP PCP Bisayan Central Bantayanon  
 01 02 03 04 05a~05b 06 07 08 09 10

Beneath this may be the following:

11 Dialect or regional "variant" - Aklanon itself has a Kalibo variety (Kalibonhon), Ibajay (Ibahaynon), Madalag (Madalagnon), etc.

50 MAJOR RECOGNIZED "GROUPS" AMONG PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES

PROTO-NORTHERN-PHILIPPINE DESCENDANTS

01 Bashiic = Yami, Itbayaten, Ivatan, and Ibatan ~ Babuyan

02 Northern Luzon (“Cordilleran”) = 6 branches

03 Ilokan = Ilokano (isolate with northern & southern dialects)

04 Cagayan Valley = Adasen, Atta Faire - Pamplona - Pudtol, Cagayan Agta, Gaddang, Ga'dang, Ibanag, Itawit/Itawis, Isnag/Isneg, Malaweg, and Yogad

05 Northeaster Luzon = Dupaningan Agta, Pahanan Agta, Dinapigue Agta, Casiguran Agta, Nagtipunan Agta, Paranan Agta

06 Central Cordilleran = Balangao, Isinay, Luba, Manabo, Northern & Southern Kankanaey, "Itneg” (Binongan, Inlaod, Maeng, Masadiit, Moyadan, and Banao), “Kalinga” (Butbut, Limos, Lubuagan, Mabaka Valley, Majukayang, Southern, and Tanudan); “Bontok” (Northern, Southern, Central, Eastern, and Southwestern) and “Ifugao” (Amganad, Batad, Mayoyao, and Tuwali

07 Southern Cordilleran = Pangasinan, Ilongot/Bugkalot, I-wak, Ibaloi, Kalanguya, Keley-i Kallahan, and Karao

08 Altan = Northern Alta and Southern Alta

09 Artan = Arta (isolate)

10 Central Luzon = Sambalic (Botolan, Bolinao, Tina)~ Ayta (Mag-antsi, Mag-indi, Abellen, Ambala, and Bataan/Magbukun), Kapampangan, and Remontado/Hatang-Kayi (a.k.a. "Sinauna")

11 Umiray Dumaget (isolate)

12 Manide-Alabat (isolate)

13 North Mangyan = Iraya, Alangan, Tadyawan

PROTO-SOUTHERN PHILIPPINE DESCENDANTS

14 GREATER CENTRAL PHILIPPINE DESCENDANTS

15 South Mangyan (Hanunoo, Buhid, Tawbuwid (Eastern &   
 Western), Bangon

16 Palawanic (Batak, Aborlan Tagbanwa, Molbog, Palawano ~ Pala-wan,  
 Brooke’s Point, Central Tagbanwa, Southwest Palawan, Panimusan)

17 Subanen

18 Nuclear: Dapitan, Dipolog, Godod, Lapuyan, Midsalip,  
 Salug, Sindangan, Tawlet Kalibugan

19 Western: Ipil, Kolibugan, Labason, Malayal, Siocon

20 Danaw (Maranao, Maguindanaon, Iranun)

21 Manobo

22 Northern (Talaandig-Higaonon (a.k.a. Binukid),  
 Kinamigin, Banwaon, and Kagayanen

23 Southern (Tagabawa, Sarangani, Cotabato-Kalamansig,  
 Tasaday)

24 Core-Western (Obo, Ilianen, Western Bukidnon, Pulangiyen

25 Core-Central (Ata, Matig Salug, Tigwa)

26 Core-Eastern: Agusan, Rajah Kabungsuwan, Umajamnon,  
 Dibabawon

27 Mongondow-Gorontalo (Mongondow, Lolak, Bintauna, Bolangitang-  
 Kaidipang, Bolango, Suwawa, Buol, Gorontalo, Ponosakan)

28 CENTRAL PHILIPPINES DESCENDANTS

29 a Tagalog (Manila, Lubang, Marinduque, Southern (Batanggas),  
 Quezon

30 b Bisayan

31 b South | Surigaonon, Butanon, Tausug (etc.)

32 b Central | Samar-Leyte, Waray, Ilonggo, Capiznon,   
 Bantayanon, Romblomanon, Masbatenyo, Sorsogon,  
 Southern Sorsoganon ~ Gubat

33 b West | Aklanon, Kinaray-a, Kuyonen, Bulalakawnon (etc.)

34 b Asi' | Banton, Odionganon, Sibalenhon

35 b Cebuano | Cebuano, Boholano, Leteynyo

36 c Bikol

37 c Northern ~ Coastal (Naga, Legaspi, Virac)

38 c Southern ~ Inland (Rinconada ~ Iriga, Buhi-non,   
 Libon, West Albay ~ Oas, Miraya ~ Daraga)

39 c Northern Catanduanes (Pandan)

40 d Mansakan

41 d North = Kamayo (northern & southern dialects)

42 d Central = Mansaka, Davawenyo, Samā IGaCOS, Mandaya

43 d South = Kāgan, Kalagan, Tagakaulo

44 e Mamanwa (isolate)

45 Kalamianic (Agutaynen, Calamian Tagbanwa, Karamianen)

46 Inati (a.ka. Ete, "Inete"

47 Southwestern Mindanao ~ Bilic = Blaan (Koronadal & Sarangani, Tboli ~ Tagabili; Tiruray ~ Teduray

48 Southeastern Mindanao ~ Klatan (Bagobo Klata, an isolate)

49 Sangiric (Sangir/Sangihe, Talaud, Sangil, Ratahan/Pasan, Bantik)

50 Minahasan (Tontemboan, Tonsawang, Tonsea, Tondano, Tombulu)