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THE VALUE OF PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES IN RECONSTRUCTING PROTO-AUSTRONESIAN LARYNGEALS (*h and *?).

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1. THE VALUE OF DIFFERENT PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES.
 - 1.1. TEST LANGUAGE (where one sound corresponds to only one reconstructed phoneme, e.g., Kalamian [k] < Proto Philippine *q).
 - 1.2. CRITERION LANGUAGE (where one sound corresponds to two or more reconstructed phonemes, but with the evidence of another criterion language a particular proto phoneme can be reconstructed, e.g., Ilokano [g] and Tagalog [d] < Proto Philippine *j), cf: Tag pu:sod, Ilk pu:səg < PPH *pu:səj 'navel').
 - 1.3. WITNESS LANGUAGE (where the evidence for particular reconstructed sounds is possibly confusing or ambiguous, but the evidence points mainly to greater time depth for the reconstruction).
 - 1.4. DONOR LANGUAGE (where it can be proven that a given language is the source of a borrowing, e.g., Malay tənəh-hari → Tag tənə:li? 'noon, midday').
 - 1.5. BORROWING LANGUAGE (where it can be proven that a form is a borrowing from another language, and is not directly inherited, e.g., Tag sa:la 'error' must be from Malay sālāh, since both the accent and the lack of glottal stop should be present in an inherited Tag form (*salā?)).
2. ESTABLISHING THE VALUE OF VARIOUS LANGUAGES ON THE BASIS OF CORRESPONDENCES.
 - 2.1. IDENTITY CORRESPONDENCES (sounds compared are identical from one language to another and indicate clearly the reconstructed form, e.g., most Ph languages [mata] 'eye' < PPH *mata).
 - 2.2. REGULAR CORRESPONDENCES (sounds compared differ among some languages, but occur regularly enough to establish a given reconstructed sound, e.g., Tag, Bis, Bik, Ilk, Png [s] :: Ifugao, Botolan [h] :: Agta, Isneg, Itawis, Ilongot [t], as in:

Tag, Bis sakit	Tag basā?
Ifg, Bot hakit	Bot bahā?
Ilt, Isg takit	Ilt bi:ta
< PPH *sakit	*basā[?]
'sick'	'wet'
 - 2.3. IRREGULAR CORRESPONDENCES (a language sometimes shows a different reflex (sound) for a given correspondence, but the forms do not appear to be borrowings, e.g., Pangasinan generally has [ə] < *ə, but sometimes has [a] instead, as in:

Png taló 'three' < *təlu	Png pusəg 'navel' < *pu:səj
Png salí 'foot' < *səli	Png nípən 'tooth' < *ni:pən
Png panó 'full' < *pənuq	Png ?utək 'brain' < *hu:tək
Png ?atút 'fart' < *qətút	Png b wək 'hair' < *buhək

(only a few more like this) (over a hundred more like this)
 - 2.4. FALSE CORRESPONDENCES (forms are widespread borrowings from another language, e.g., ^xsarual 'trousers' < Ml saluar (from Persian), ^xmaní? 'peanuts' (through Mexican Spanish from an American Indian language), etc.
 - 2.5. MORPHOPHONEMIC CHANGES (unexplained shifts in sound or position which happen in most observed languages of the world, e.g., metathesis [Ilk sa:nit 'cry' < *ta:nis, Tag (slang) ?ermat < madre 'mother'], assimilation [Ak1 baktas 'walk' < *bagtas], syncope [Tag ?itlóg < *qi+təluR 'egg'], etc.

3. Dyen (1953) reconstructed PMP *q, *h, and *Ø. By 1971 he had changed the symbols to *q, *S, and *Ø, but also introduced both *H and *?. Of these, only *H and *? are true "laryngeals", but Philippine evidence helps out immensely in distinguishing between *q [with Kalamian k, Tboli k-h-k] and *? [with Kal Ø and Tbl ?].

(E1 - 'head')	(E2 - 'rain')	(E3 - 'straight')	(E4 - 'year')	(E5 - 'dry')	'chew-
Kal kulu	Kal kuran	Kal tuklid	Kal takun	Kpm tuyu?	(E6 - 'betel')
Tbl kuluh	Tbl kulon	Sar tu?lid	Sml tahun	Sml toho?	Kal mamak
Akl ?u:luh	Akl ?u?an	Ceb tu?lid	Tag ta?on	Abr tu?ug	(Tbl namak)
Ilk ?u:lo	Bon ?odan	Tag tuwid	Ilt ta?un	Ml tohor	Akl mama?
PPH*qu:luh	PPH*qudan	PSP*tuqlid	PPH*taqun	PHN*tuquR	Bon mama
					PPH*mamaq
(E7 - 'root')	(E8 - 'four')	(E9 - 'heavy')	(E10 - 'nose')	(E11 - 'there')	(E12 - 'child')
Akl ?ugat	Akl ?ap?at	Kal labat	Kal karun	Kal du'un	Tbl na?
Kal ulat	Tag ?a:pat	Tbl belat	Kpm ?a:run	Tag do?on	Akl ?una?
Tbl ?ulat	Itb ?a?pat	Ibl bel?at	Sin ?a?dun	Tig du?an	Bon ?ona
Ilk ?urat	Kal apat	Akl bug?at	Sbl ?a?lun	Ata du?on	Ifg ?una
PPH*?uRat	PPH*?apat	PPH*baR?at	Ilk ?agon	PSP*du?an	PPH*?una?
			PPH*qa?jun		
	'tight'				
(E13 - 'narrow')	(E14 - 'bitter')	(E15 - 'hot')	(E16 - 'tear')	(E17 - 'black')	
Kal pi'at	Kal pakit	Kal kinit	Kal lu'uk	Tbl hitam	
Akl pi:?ut	Tag pa?it	Akl ?i:nit	Tbl lawok	Tag ?itim	
Cas pi?at	(Tbl he?et)	(Tbl kini?)	Tag lu:ha?	Akl ?itum	
Kyp ?ipat	Itg pa?it	Ilk ?i:nit 'sun'	Itb guhu?	Ml hitam	
PPH*pi?at	PPH*paqit	PPH*qi:nit	PPH*lu:hag	PHN*qitam	
(E18 - 'return')	(E19 - 'charcoal')	(E20 - 'slave')	(E21 - 'sour')	(E22 - 'thatch-roof')	
Kal ulik	Kal kurin	Kal kiripan	Kal kaklam	Kal katap	
Tbl m-ulek	Tag ?u:lin	WBM ?uzipan	Ilk ?alsam	Tbl katap	
Akl ?ulif?	Bik ?u:rin	(Tag ?ali:pin)	Tag ?a:sim	Tag ?atip	
Isg mag-ulli	Ilk ?u:gin	(Ilk ?adi:pən)	Akl ?aslum	Ilk ?atap	
PPH *[*?]ulifq	PPH*qu:jin	PPH*qudi:pən	PPH*qalsam	PPH*qatap	

4. Evidence from certain Philippine languages (Bisayan, Bikol, Tagalog, Hanunoo, Western Bukidnon Manobo, and Itbayatan) leads to the reconstruction of PPH *h. When this is compared with Formosan languages, a difference between *S (with either [s] or [ʃ] in Formosan languages such as Paiwan, Bunun, Saisiyat, Atayal, etc.) or *H (with either [h] or [Ø = nothing] in Formosan languages) can be established.

(E23 - 'fire')	(E24 - 'two')	(E25 - 'tree')	(E26 - 'kiss')	(E27 - 'sugarcane')
Itb hapuy	Itb duha	Itb kayuh	Bik hadok	Akl tubuh
WBM hapuy	Ceb duha	Ceb ka:huy	Tag halik	Ceb tubuh-
Ilk ?apuy	Ifg duwa	Ilk ka:yo	Ilk ?agak	Mar tabo
Pai sapuy	Pai Dusa	Pai kasiw	Sai sazək	Pai tavus
Bun sapud	Aty rusa?	Ami kasuy	Bun sa:k	Sai ka-tbuš
PAN*Sapuy	PAN*DuSa	PAN*kaSuy	PAN*Sajək	PAN*tabuS
		*kaSiw		
(E28 - 'whet')	(E29 - 'unripe')	(E30 - 'woman')	(E31 - 'farm')	(E32 - 'ember')
Tag ha:sa?	Itb ma-hata	WBM bahi	Akl ?umah	Akl ba:gah
Kal asak	Tbl m - atak	Akl ba:yih	Ceb ?umh-an	Itb vayah 'red-hot'
Ilk ?a:sa	Ml m - atah	Tbl bo?ih	Kal kuma	Kal bala
BnT ma-hacaq	Pai m ataq	Ami vavahiyan	Ami qumah	Ami valah
Pai tataq	Sai m anta?	Pai vavaian	Aty qumah	Sai ba'ah
PAN*Hasaq	PAN*ma-Hataq	PAN *ba:Hi	PAN*qumaH	PAN*ba:RaH

5. Evidence from Iban (a language spoken in Sarawak on Borneo) along with Philippine evidence helps substantiate a difference between final *-? and *-Ø.

(E33-'I')	(E34-'acknowledge')	(E35-'eye')	(E36-'open')	(E37-'see')
Akl ?aku	Akl ?a:ku?	Akl mata·	Akl bukā?	Akl ki:ta?
Ib aku	Ib aku?	Ceb mat?-an	Sbl bukā?	Kal ita·
Sm a?u	Lmp aku? 'take'	Ib mata·	Ib bukā?	Ilk ki:ta
Ami k-aku	Ml aku·an	Pai maca·	Md bukka?	Jv -kiTo
PAN *akú	PHN* a:ku?	PAN*maCa·	PHN*bukā?	Sai kita?
				PAN*ki:Ta?

(E38-'jackfruit')	(E39-'nail')	(E40-'hit the mark')	(E41-'stone')
Tag nanjá?	Tag pa:ko?	Akl ta:ma?	Akl batu·
Ceb nanjá?	Ib paku?	Kal tama·	Akl ka-ba-bátw-an
Ib nanjá?	Ml paku	Ib tama? 'enter'	Ib batu·
Ml nanjá	Fj i-vako	Jv tomo	Paz batu?
PHN*nanjá?	PMP*pa:ku?	PHN *tama?	Fj vatu·
			PAN*batu·

The above examples represent only a few of hundreds of reconstructions that can now be made with confidence concerning the reconstruction of a glottal stop *[?] and *[h] based on the widespread and reasonably consistent evidence of Philippine languages.

While the subject-matter of this paper may appear tedious or even esoteric to scholars engaged in the field of "bread and butter linguistics", the ultimate goal is to gather a significant body of knowledge about the ancestor language of all Philippine (and other Austronesian) languages, and to reconstruct a considerable and impressive pre-history of the Filipino people. In time, linguists may be able to supply a history book of supportable facts about the pre-Hispanic life of Filipinos and the exciting and culturally-complex lives they lived.