

**NARRATIVE STRUCTURE, SEMANTIC RELATIONS, AND SYNTACTIC  
INDICATORS IN SELECTED BIKOL ORAL NARRATIVES  
(FOLKTALES)**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study described the phrase and morphological structures of the Bikol Partido language. Specifically, this study determined: (1) the phrase structures present in the Bikol Partido language; (2) the functions of phrase structures in Bikol Partido language; and (3) the types of affixations in Bikol Partido language as part of morphological structures that indicate tense and number.

This study used the descriptive-qualitative method of research. This study conducted a series of recordings, fieldworks, interviews and documentation with the help of a friend based on the ‘friend of friend’ techniques (Tagliamonte, 2006).

Key findings revealed that in Bikol Partido Language the sentence nucleus are obligatory composed of a verb phrase, noun phrase, an adjective, and a prepositional phrase; the beginning of syntactical order is dominated by verbal, adjectival and adverbial phrases respectively; some phrase structures expands the noun phrase to include an obligatory head noun (N), an optional determiner and plural inflection may be expanded as a pronoun. In general, there is no specific pattern in the phrases uttered by speakers but there is universality in the thought of the sentence content.

Meanwhile, an additional element of *baga* and some polite markers like the use *tabi*, *po* and affixations *maki-*, *paki-* and name calling such as *Papay*, *Mamay*, *Manay*, *Manoy*, *Nay*, *La*, *Lo*, *Kuya*, *Ate*, *Ne*, *Nov* are also evident in speakers’ utterances. While some expressions such as *aw ho*, *aw nem*, *nem*, *num*, *aw ano na ni ho*, also portray uniqueness of the Bikol language.

It was also revealed that Bikol Partido Language's different phrases have functions in the language. For example, the sentence, "Dai nag ontok an ayam sa pagbatok sa mahabon", is the object of the verb, dai nag ontok, among others.

It was also found out that the type of affixations applied that indicate the tenses and number of the word and that the inflection formula of Bikol Partido language is similar to English utterances but not in all aspects: The infix --Rv-- is infixed in the first syllable of root modifier (e.g. madaralagan, matararok, maralangoy) and ha- forms, except that is prefixed before the roots starting with /l/ and words can change the syllable of the rootword, with plural marker mga to indicate a number (mga tawo, mga kandidata etc.). It is therefore concluded that Bikol language has variations in its phrase and morphological structures.

This study recommends for a deeper and vast studies of the Bikol language phrase and morphological structures. Considering that this language has been distinctly recognized as a unique language, more research on the other dimensions of this language may be revisited for future research studies.