



# PERSPECTIVES ON PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES: FIVE CENTURIES OF EUROPEAN SCHOLARSHIP



A BOOK PRESENTATION BY  
DR. MARLIES SALAZAR

2013 PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BOOK  
AWARDEE

JAN. 31, 2014 16:00-18:00

Room 117, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institute of Asian and African Studies  
Invalidenstraße 118, D-10115

## Five Centuries of Colonial Linguistics in the Philippines

In this upcoming event Dr. Marlies Salazar will present her book *Perspectives on Philippine Languages: Five Centuries of European Scholarship*, which recently received the National Book Award of the Philippines for best book in the social sciences. It is the first comprehensive history of European studies on Philippine languages by Dutch, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish linguists, placing them in their historical context. It opens up a new field of research in Philippine studies, drawing on previously unknown materials in European libraries and archives. The discovery of the 7107 islands of the Philippines and their 120 languages is an interesting chapter in the history of a country which was a Spanish colony for 450 years and dominated by the Americans for 48 years. What was it that fascinated European linguists in this exotic, far away and relatively unknown country?



Marlies S. Salazar studied history, literature, and linguistics at the Freie Universität Berlin, obtained a degree in Russian from the Ecole Nationale des Langues Orientales Vivantes in Paris, and an M.A. in Linguistics from the Sorbonne. She continued her studies of Southeast Asian languages and literature at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. After having taught languages and literature at the University of the Philippines and the Ateneo de Manila for fourteen years, she concentrated on research and obtained a Ph.D. in Philippine Linguistics from the University of the Philippines.