## 20201120 Somewhere over the Rainbow

Viktor Nonong Medrano

My linguistic life is like a rainbow, like coloured linguine. Although some of my African Esperantist friends remind me that my most important language is Esperanto, these days I find Spanish, Italian, Japanese, and Tagalog have niches in my free hours. Yes, Esperanto is very important and visionary. *Vivu Afriko!* Long live Africa! I encourage Africans, as learning English, French, and Portuguese for them takes too much time and energy, beside their native languages. All Esperanto needs now is more books and literature. On my Social Media, I have lots of Esperanto.

There are other conlangs to note: Interlingua, Lojban, Toki Pona, Volapük, Elefen, and Klingon. I was learning a bit of Klingon back in the 1990's. I am a *Star Trek* fan. These days, I have glimpsed Klingon again for a bit.

I often contribute sentences to the Europe-based Tatoeba language repository website. Mainly, I write Esperanto and Tagalog, but other languages, too. Communication with participants in the Tatoeba forum is difficult, as there seem to be much melancholy and propaganda. Trolls and Hunchbacks of Notre-Dame abound.

Lately, I have a scientific interest in the Block Universe Theory. It allows for non-paradoxical time travel, as the past, present, and future coexist as a "block." I can "telepathically" communicate with the past, so with the Block Universe Theory, there would be no paradox.

In anthropology, there in recent years have been discoveries of other hominins, like *Homo floresiensis*, Denisovans, and *Homo* 

luzonensis, this latter having been discovered very recently in the Philippines. A video that I have seen says that Neanderthals and Homo sapiens, who were brother species, were at war for a hundred thousand years. Some modern humans today have a bit of Neanderthal or Denisovan genes. I have read that Neanderthals had a larger cranium than Homo sapiens. Scientists are still making sense of all the fossils and evolutionary trees. Humans are still evolving.

I am often at the Lulu Island Japanese restaurant Gami Sushi run by Koreans, as I eat my tonkatsu (pork cutlets) or barbecue salmon or assorted tempura, and I often talk with the staff. The pandemic situation seems to be stressing them out. I often think that they are becoming Canadianized, as are the Chinese here. I sometimes remark to them the sentiment of others who opine that Mongoloids are not dominant over Caucasoids. The fate of the Native Indians may foretell the fate of other Mongoloids. They just become like white people through modernization. Anciently, the Caucasoids subdued the Native Indians with the Old World diseases that they brought and with their more advanced technology. Nowadays, some Mongoloids have advanced technology. Philosophically as in Dào, Mongoloids may control subtly from below. Different is the Mongoloid Way. I often can tell if Mongoloids are marionettes of the marionettist Caucasoids. Exceptional maybe was Genghis Khan of the ancient Mongol Empire.

About Tagalog, this whole world speaks it through inexplicable xenoglossia, the *Tagalog Global Xenoglossia*, I call it. I know that most can speak it at least at a basic level, but I have not found proof that xenoglossia people can *write* it. My own Tagalog is *idealistic*, in speech and writing, and is not sloppily mixed with so much English as other Filipinos'. Japanese is also full of words from Western languages, but their use of *Katakana* glyphs diligently preserves the sound structure of Japanese, for

example, スパゲティ *supageti* (spaghetti) and ラザニア *razania* 

(lasagna). Tagalog no longer uses its ancient *Baybayin* syllabary, but uses Roman letters, as Spanish and English, so Filipinos can borrow directly from these languages. There are stages in borrowing, firstly directly, and secondly by respelling. For example, from Spanish, *caballo* becomes *kabayo* (horse). English *jeepney* becomes *dyipni*. Respelling preserves the "look and feel" of Tagalog text. Maybe, the Tagalog Global Xenoglossia is some kind of *redemption* for the native peoples around this world. The source of this phenomenon is still unknown.