

**INVENTORY OF EXTANT AND EXTINCT
TRADITIONAL LITERATURE IN WESTERN VISAYAS
AREA I (ILOILO, ANTIQUE, AND GUIMARAS)**

A Research Report

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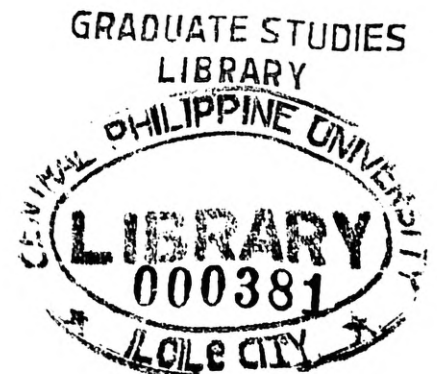
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ABSTRACT

This study surveyed the body of existing traditional literature for Iloilo, Antique and Guimaras. The basic objectives of the study are to collect a body of traditional manuscripts for the area and to determine which genres are extinct or extant. The methodology of this research is likened to a treasure hunt, operating on a hit and miss procedure. The search for manuscripts began with known entities like libraries, indigenous centers, the internet, and local printing presses. It also pursued word-of-mouth leads about people known to be writers of traditional literature. This study collected a variety of traditional manuscripts in Hiligaynon, Kinaray-a, Tagalog and English translations, and Inati representing the following literary periods: Early Bisayan, Spanish Colonial, American Colonial, Japanese Colonial, Philippine Republic, Philippines After EDSA, and Philippines in the 21st Century. The study shows the following: literature follows a language instead of a political map; traditional literature in Hiligaynon, Kinaray, Tagalog and English translation and Inati documented in the Early Bisayan Period are extant; and traditional literature did not become extinct rather evolved into modified forms with the coming of the Spanish and American colonizers. It further posits that *Hinilawod*, the epic of the Sulod people in Central Panay is the crown jewel of traditional literature in Area I.