20201015 **Natlangs and Conlangs** Viktor Nonong Medrano

Amongst conlangers, people who create constructed languages, a natural language has the label natlang. Natlangs are notorious for their complexity. Latinate languages, as well as other European, have convoluted verbal conjugations, which to learn is like to learn the frenetic Kanji logograms of Sinitic and Japonic languages. Such is why there are niches for conlangs like Esperanto and Toki Pona. Interlingua has a more organic morphology, yet the verbal conjugation is still quite simple compared to a Latinate natlang.

I surmise that some Japanese prefer Interlingua the blue or at least something like Interlingua. Most Japanese do not desire to emigrate out of their own country.

I sometimes study languages of India (Bhārat). My primal encounter was with Sanskrit in the mid-1990's. I was interested in Northern Buddhism, as well as Hinduism. Sanskrit is a liturgical language for both religions. I remember the Seattle area, because returning from Japan, I purchased a Sanskrit study book in a bookstore there in 1994. Back in Canada, I encountered Pali, the liturgical language of Southern Buddhism. It was a Thai Buddhist temple, Wat Yanviriya, in East Vancouver, BC. We meditators learned chanting in Pali. Back in Lulu Island, BC, after 2006, I briefly looked at Hindi and Punjabi. I like the Tamil script, and unlike the rest that I have mentioned, Tamil is not Indo-European, but Dravidian, the family of Veddoid Australoids originally, perhaps. Outside of Bhārat, Tamil is popular in Singapore. Tamil people eat with their hands on banana leaves.

Natlangs in which I really specialize are mainly Latinate, as Spanish, French, Portuguese, Italian, and Catalan. I only have scratched the surface of Romanian and Classical Latin. I have much experience with Japanese, and I lived in Japan for some time. I have briefly perused other Asiatic languages. I bravely briefly ventured a few times into African ones. I have much interest in indigenous languages of the Americas, the Pacific, and Australia, and about these languages, I collect research documents, which I verily treasure. I can pronounce words written in Russian, Greek, and Hebrew, even if I do not know the meanings. I know crumbs of several other European languages.

Conlangs that I have experienced much include Esperanto, Lojban, Interlingua, Volapük, Elefen, Toki Pona, and Klingon. By the end of 2020, being somewhat exhausted by my linguistic expeditions, I tend more to Esperanto and Toki Pona—green and yellow—the forest and the sunshine.