



National Alliance for Knowledge, Empowerment & Meaning
nakem2025@gmail.com & nakemhawaii@gmail.com
20th NAKEM International Conference | NAKEM 2025

Coming Full Circle: Reevaluating Language Justice, Cultural Democracy & Emancipatory Education

Academic Hosts

Ilokano Language & Literature Program

University of Hawaii at Manoa &

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScVS38tX99fLBifycAqekNAYf_IcqmBUcTvF0t3RxxwDD3vtjg/viewform

Department of Indo-Pacific Languages & Literatures

College of Arts, Languages, and Letters

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Organizers

NAKEM Hawaii with

NAKEM Consortium (NAKEM International, Philippines, Canada, Without Borders)

Co-organizers

Institute of Language, Culture, and the Arts

University of Southeastern Philippines

Davao City, Philippines

University of Northern Philippines

Vigan City, Philippines

Partido State University

Camarines Sur, Philippines

Venues: **University of Hawaii at Manoa**
Campus Ballroom,
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Gala Night
Ala Moana Hotel
Honolulu, HI, USA

Dates: **November 19-20-21, 2025; Gala Night (Nov. 22)**



Call for Papers

RATIONALE

The **international transdisciplinary conference** revisits the *raison d'être* of the founding of NAKEM Conferences as an advocacy organization during the 100th year of the coming of the first Ilokanos to Hawaii to work in the pineapple and sugarcane plantations. These Ilokano workers who came in 1906 were later joined by non-Ilokanos, the Visayans in particular, in 1909, and since then, these indentured workers lived mediated and “remaindered” lives. Elsewhere in the world, the fate of various languages, cultures, and communities deemed not “no national” has been a matter of political and pedagogical calculus, with non-national languages rendered unimportant and, for some, not worth preserving and perpetuating. The homogenizing policy of nations, nation-states, and countries and their ideological apparatus has inaugurated the opposite of language justice, cultural democracy, and liberatory education.

The conference specifically aims to:

- Revisit the current theories and approaches in language justice.
- Revisit the current theories and methodologies of cultural democracy.
- Revisit the current theories and practices of liberatory education.
- Identify the means and tactics of exclusion by states and nation-states.
- Identify the problems of exclusion, hegemony, and homogeneity in diverse places and communities.
- Evaluate the practices of belonging, inclusion, diversity, and equity in a heterogeneous society.
- Evaluate innovative linguistic, cultural, and educational strategies that advocate for language justice, cultural democracy, and emancipatory education locally and globally.
- Explain the various approaches to freely permit the return of the indigenous people to a more sustainable way of life in this part of the world.
- Problematize indigeneity in the context of heterogeneity.

PAPER PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS & SUBMISSION DEADLINE

- A. The paper proposals submitted for blind review at the 2025 NAKEM International Conference must be closely oriented to the creative and critical orientation of the conference theme and topics.
- B. Topics that cut across disciplines are most welcome.
- C. Topics to be considered for blind review relate to education issues in freedom and democracy, whether these pertain to local communities, a specific nation or nation-state, or the global community itself.
- D. Topics about native languages, cultures, ethos, folkways, and other forms of collective experience that play a role in education in freedom and democracy among our local communities are considered part of the theme.

All proposals are ***blind-reviewed*** by the 2025 NAKEM International Conference Abstract Selection Committee.

Paper proposals submitted for consideration by the Abstract Selection Committee must zero in on the theme or the specific goals of the conferences.



Only abstracts **between 200-350** words are accepted for presentation at this conference. Five keywords must accompany the abstract.

Each abstract must zero in on the theme drawn from the aims above. Papers that do not deal with the conference's aims will not be accepted.

All abstracts and related inquiries must be sent to nakem2025@gmail.com. **The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 31 July 2025.** Those needing to apply for a travel visa to the United States must submit their abstract early for review.

NOTICE OF ROLLING ACCEPTANCE OF ABSTRACTS

Notice of acceptance of abstracts will be on a rolling, first-come-first-served basis.

The Letter of Acceptance will be emailed to conference paper proponents on a rolling basis.

The 2025 NAKEM Conference Secretariat will not mail any Letter of Acceptance; only email versions will be sent directly to the author's email or the primary author's (if there are multiple authors).

Multiple submissions will not be permitted.

Proponents of conference papers are advised to provide the 2025 NAKEM Conference Secretariat with their personal or professional email addresses—proxy email addresses (emails of friends or colleagues are not permitted).

FORMAT OF PROPOSAL

The proposal, of between 200 and 350 words, must follow this format:

Name of Proposer:

Other co-authors (if applicable):

Institutional affiliation: (complete address included)

Contact Information:

Email: **(This is a MUST)**

Cellphone:

Landline: (office, home, work)

Abstract: (Title, of no more than 10 words)

Abstract: (Content, including word count: 250-300)

For example:

Name of Proposer: Marites Marie Soliven (principal author)

Co-authors: Pablo Vhat (if applicable, if co-authored)

Susan Sontagua Smith (if applicable, if co-authored)



Institutional Affiliation:

Institute of the Arts and Sciences
Dili College
Nueva Segovia, East Timor
057-075-0770 (Tel)

Contact Information:

Heritage and Cultures Department
University of the West, Burma
hopespringseterns@yahoo.com
0928-0928-928 (cell)
075-777-7777 (home/work)

Please take note that all abstract submissions must follow the format above.

PANEL AND DEMO PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

For panel or demo proposals, each panel or demo shall consist of no less than three members working on the same theme, issue, or topic, but each speaker must present an individual paper. Two abstracts are needed: the panel abstract and the abstract for each paper, with the exact specific requirements as those in personal presentations.

The drop deadline for submission of abstracts is July 31, 2025.

REGISTRATION, ACCOMMODATION & GALA NIGHT

The registration fee for the three-day conference is \$300. The registration is payable to NAKEM Conferences Inc. The registration includes direct costs of attending the conference, including morning and afternoon snacks, conference kits, and lunch for three days. **The registration excludes lodging (or accommodation) costs and land transportation to and from the conference venues.**

The NAKEM 2025 Conference Committee will provide choices for lodging and accommodation close to the conference venue.

WHEN SENDING ABSTRACTS

When sending abstracts, please put this information in the subject heading of your email:

2025 NAKEM [your last name]-abstract, to wit:

2025 NAKEM-UNP-Alvarez-Rice-Abstract

REGISTRATION DETAILS

The conference is open to the public. All paper presenters are required to participate on-site.



The registration deadline is 31 August 2025. The registration form should be submitted, and the corresponding registration fee paid. The details of payment are found below.

- For logistical reasons, all participants must submit, **by email only**, the confirmation of their participation by filling out the downloadable registration form available at the dedicated NAKEM Hawaii, NAKEM Consortium, UH Ilokano Program, and the University of Hawaii Department of Indo-Pacific Languages and Literatures site:
<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/ilokano/Nakem-Conferences.html>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For updates and inquiries on the 2025 NAKEM, please consult the following:

List who to contact here: <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/ilokano/Nakem-Conferences.html> & IPL.