Glossary

Legend

Bu – Burmese  My – Malay
Ce – Cebuano  PhE – Philippine English
Fr – French  Sn – Sanskrit
Jp – Japanese  Sp – Spanish
Lat – Latin  Tg – Tagalog
Mr – Maranao

aguinaldo  Christmas presents (Sp)
aide memoire  a memorandum or a note outlining items to be considered in a proposed agreement (Fr)
americana cerrada  a Philippine male dress with a close-necked coat plus a tie (Sp)
anito  idol (Tg)
aparador  cabinet (Sp)
arrabal  village (Sp)
Asociación de Universitarios Filipinos  Filipino University Students Association (Sp)
avenida  avenue (Sp)
ayuntamiento  city hall (Sp)
bahay kubo  nipa hut (Tg)
barong  a Philippine male upper garment costume known as barong tagalog characterized by transparent material made of piña threads (Tg)
Basta ya de barbaridades  Enough already of barbarities (Sp)
bibingka  native rice cake (Tg)
Bota Flores  an offering of flowers to the Ermita patroness, Virgen de Guía (Sp)
cacique  native or local elite (Sp)
calle  street (Sp)
carajo
a cuss word, which means “fuck”, “shit”, “damn it” etc. (Sp)

catálogo razonado
annotated catalogue (Sp)

caudillismo
a system of government in Latin America headed by a caudillo, usually a term to denote a strongman or a dictator; it later evolved to mean any unstable or weak government led by a personalistic leader, usually a military; it also means pejoratively as governments ruled by dictators as what happened in contemporary Latin America (Sp)

chaquetilla
small or short jacket (Sp)

colegialas
college girls (Sp)

coloquios semi-diplomáticos
semi-diplomatic conversations (or talks, dialogues) (Sp)

corrida de toro
bullfight (Sp)
daing
dried fish (Tg)
datu
chieftain (Tg)
despedida
farewell party (Sp)
dharma
in Hinduism it means fulfilment of one’s duty according to law or custom; in Buddhism it is the law and order in the universe; in Sikhism, it is the path leading to righteousness (Sn)
día de la Hispanidad
“day of the Hispanic World”, same as día de la raza (Sp)
día de la raza
“day of the race”; refers to the celebration of Hispanic heritage in Latin America held every 12 October annually (Sp)
dinuguan
viand cooked from pig’s innards and blood (Tg)
disgustos
troubles, annoyances (Sp)
Dolor de mis dolores
Sorrow of my sorrows (Sp)

Don, Doña
honorific titles for upper class gentlemen or ladies used during the Spanish colonial period in the Philippines (Sp)

El Caudillo
literally, “the chief”, referring to Francisco Franco as the paramount leader of the Spanish state (Sp)

empanaditas
turnovers (Sp)

Esclavos de María
Literally, “slaves of Maria”, an annual Dominican pilgrimage (Sp)
fiscalize  a term in Philippine politics, which means to check, examine and scrutinize, particularly policies and programmes of the administration, usually performed by the opposition (PhE)

Gawad Mabini  Mabini Award, the highest decoration in Philippine foreign service, named after Apolinario Mabini, the first Filipino secretary of foreign affairs (Tg)

generalissimo  the supreme commander of the armed forces (Sp)

kris  a dagger with a wavy blade (My)

la filipina rubia  the blonde Filipina (My)

lavandera  washerwoman (Sp)

lechon  roasted pig (Sp)

Lok Sabha  House of the People, the lower house of India’s bicameral parliament (Sn)

Lolo, Lola  a corruption of the Spanish abuelo and abuela, which means grandfather, grandmother respectively (Tg)

longyi  traditional Burmese clothing resembling the sarong (Bu)

malong  tube skirt usually woven and worn in southern Philippines (Mr)

Mang  term of respect for gentleman similar to mister in English or monsieur in French (Tg)

medianoche  the evening before Christmas (Sp)

merdeka  independence (My)

merienda  snacks (Sp)

mestizo  a racial type in Philippine society, which is the result of marriage between two different races (Sp)

mille feuilles  vanilla slice, custard slice, also known as Napoleon; a French pastry (Fr)

mision civilisatrice  civilizing mission (Fr)

okasan  mother, mum, mummy (Jp)

pagtitiis  passive resignation (Tg)

pancit  Philippine noodle dish (Tg)

panciteria  a market stall selling panceit and other street food (Sp)

pasta de mil hojas  Spanish equivalent of mille feuilles (Sp)

patis  fish sauce (Tg)

pensionados  student and professionals sent abroad to study
supported by the Philippine government; in short, scholarship grantees (Sp)

procesos  trial records (Sp)
puñeta  a cuss word for “damn it” (Sp)
purdah  religious and social custom of female seclusion among Hindus of India (Sn)
puyo-puyo  common law husband and wife arrangement or cohabitation between partners without the blessing of the Church or sanction of the state (Ce)

Rajya Sabha  Council of States, the upper house of the same Indian parliament (Sn)
Sajonista  saxonist, pro-American (Sp)
sala  living room (Sp)
sala de armas  armoury (Sp)
salón de actos  assembly hall, events room or auditorium (Sp)
Santo Niño  venerated image of Jesus Christ as a child (Sp)
semana filipina  Filipino week (Sp)
semana santa  holy week (Sp)
sobresaliente  outstanding or excellent scholastic standing (Sp)
sotanghon  cellophane or vermicelli noodles (Tg)
summa cum laude  “with the highest honours”, the highest scholastic standing accorded to a graduating university student (Lat)
tao  common people (Tg)
terno  Philippine female garment whose striking feature is the butterfly sleeves (Sp)
tertulias  afternoon meetings (Sp)
tinikling  Philippine national dance involving two sticks of bamboo, which the two dancers had to cross during their dance performance (Tg)
tio  uncle (Sp)
tornaviaje  the return route that Fr. Andres de Urdaneta had discovered from Manila to Acapulco (Sp)
toyo  soy sauce (Tg)
tuyo  dried fish (Tg)
ukoy  shrimp fritters (Tg)
un abrazo  a hug or embrace (Sp)
Valientes Filipinos!  Brave Filipinos! (Sp)
Vanitas vanitatum  Vanity of vanities (Lat)
Virgen de Guía  Virgin of Guidance (Sp)