

## Revitalising Older Linguistic Documentation (ROLD)

Coordinator : Otto Zwartjes

The members of the group investigate older texts (colonial, postcolonial, missionary and nonmissionary, word lists of travelers and historians) with the following objectives: historical linguistics, the history of linguistics, linguistic documentation, translation studies and sociocultural analysis. The aim of historical linguistics is to describe older stages of languages as well as (processes of) language change, while the history of linguistics studies early thinking on languages, linguistics typologies and structures and linguistics. Linguistic documentation is a crucial part of both branches. These studies are often interrelated with those of the cultural context in which colonial societies developed. Non-Western languages are our main focus.

### Missionary Linguistics

Coordinator: Otto Zwartjes

The members who work on missionary linguistics focus on the European expansion, colonisation and Christianisation after the discovery of the New World, which was accompanied by the study and recording of the native languages of the Americas. In the same period, Christian missionary activities culminated in Asia. Almost without exception, grammars, dictionaries and doctrinal texts in the indigenous languages were composed by missionaries for missionaries. The results of recent research demonstrate that many missionaries, if not most, had an excellent command of these 'exotic' languages and often focused on the idiosyncratic features of the native languages; they also approached the challenge of comprehending indigenous cultures through their languages. The work of these missionaries was hardly known in the Old World and, until today, many works have never been studied nor analysed in a satisfactory way. Other members work on non-missionary texts with the same objective, such as the pre-modern description of colloquial Arabic as it was spoken in Egypt and the disclosure of linguistic and ethnographic documentation in the Americas and the Philippines and networks of transcontinental information in the 18th century. Areas of interest:

- ♣ Historiography of Linguistics
- ♣ Historiography of Missionary Linguistics (Phonology, Morphosyntax, Lexicography, Pragmatics)
- ♣ Sociohistorical and Historical Anthropological Linguistics
- ♣ Linguistics of Ethnohistory
- ♣ Colonial, Postcolonial and Pre-modern Linguistics
- ♣ Linguistic Documentation
- ♣ Descriptive Linguistics
- ♣ Sociolinguistics
- ♣ Typology
- ♣ Translation Studies 2
- ♣ Lexicology, Lexicography and Semantics
- ♣ Early-modern documentation of linguistic variation and change.

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### ROLD Workshops and conferences

The ROLD group organised six annual meetings on older linguistic documentation at the UvA since 2006. Workshops in the future will be organised at the the Université de Paris.

Some news and events:

<http://htl.linguist.univ-paris-diderot.fr/actualites>

<http://htl.linguist.univ-paris-diderot.fr/laboratoire/calendrier>

### Published books, derived from the ROLD activities/ workshops:

#### ROLD publications: (derived from the ROLD meetings):

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ALEXANDER-BAKKERUS, Astrid/ ZWARTJES, Otto (eds.). 2013. *Historical Documentation and Reconstruction of American languages*. Special issue: *Language Typology and Universals/ Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung* (Berlin: Akademie Verlag). 66:3.

ALEXANDER-BAKKERUS, Astrid/ ZWARTJES, Otto (eds.). 2014. *A Colonized World Revisited: Linguistic perspectives from unpublished colonial and postcolonial documents*. Special issue: *Language Typology and Universals/ Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung* (Berlin: De Gruyter / Mouton). 67:2.

ALEXANDER-BAKKERUS, Astrid/ ZACK, Liesbeth (eds.). 2014. *Revitalizing Older Linguistic Documentation: Proceedings of the Vth International Meeting*. Special issue: *Linguistics in Amsterdam 7* (nr. 2, 1). <https://www.linguisticsinamsterdam.nl/home?issue=72>

ALEXANDER-BAKKERUS, Astrid/ FERNÁNDEZ RODRÍGUEZ, Rebeca/ ZWARTJES, Otto (eds.). 2020. *Missionary Linguistic Studies from Mesoamerica to Patagonia*. Leiden & Boston: Brill. [=Brill's Studies in Language, Cognition and Culture, v. 22.].

### Missionary Linguistics:

#### Published volumes derived from these conferences:

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CERRÓN-PALOMINO, Rodolfo/EZCURRA RIVERO, Álvaro/ZWARTJES, Otto (eds.) (2019): *Lingüística misionera. Aspectos lingüísticos discursivos, filológicos y pedagógicos*. Lima: Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú/Fondo Editorial.

REGÚNAGA, María Alejandra/ ZWARTJES, Otto (eds.). 2020. *Continuidades y rupturas en la lingüística misionera del siglo XIX*. Número temático: *Revista Argentina de Historiografía Lingüística* Vol. 12 (no. 1). <http://rahl.ar/index.php/rahl/issue/view/24>

ZIMMERMANN, Klaus/KELLERMEIER-REHBEIN, Birte (eds.) (2015): *Colonialism and Missionary Linguistics*. (Koloniale und Postkoloniale Linguistik, vol. 5). Berlin: De Gruyter.

- ZIMMERMANN, Klaus/ZWARTJES, Otto (ed.) (2009): *Historiografía de la ciencias del lenguaje (ámbito hispánico y portugués)*. *Revista Internacional de Lingüística Iberoamericana*, VII, 1(13).
- ZWARTJES, Otto. 2020. *Nuevos enfoques y desafíos metodológicos para el estudio de la lingüística misionera latinoamericana (siglos XVI-XVIII)*. Número temático: *Revista Internacional de Lingüística Iberoamericana (RILI)* Vol. XVIII (no. 36).
- ZWARTJES, Otto/ALTMAN, Cristina (eds.) (2005): *Missionary Linguistics II/Lingüística misionera II: Orthography and Phonology. Selected Papers from the Second International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, São Paulo, 10-13 March, 2004*. (Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, vol. 109). Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
- ZWARTJES, Otto/ARZÁPALO MARÍN, Ramón/SMITH-STARK, Thomas C. (eds.) (2009): *Missionary Linguistics IV/Lingüística misionera IV. Lexicography. Selected papers from the Fifth International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, Mérida, Yucatán, 14-17 March 2007*. (Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, vol. 114). Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
- ZWARTJES, Otto/HOVDHAUGEN, Even (eds.) (2004): *Missionary Linguistics/Lingüística misionera [I]. Selected Papers from the First International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, Oslo, March, 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2003*. (Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, vol. 106). Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
- ZWARTJES, Otto/JAMES, Gregory/RIDRUEJO, Emilio (eds.) (2007): *Missionary Linguistics III/Lingüística Misionera III. Morphology and Syntax. Selected papers from the Third and Fourth International Conferences on Missionary Linguistics, Hong Kong/Macau, 12-15 March 2005, Valladolid, 8-11 March 2006*. (Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, vol. 111). Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
- ZWARTJES, Otto/KOERNER, Konrad (eds.) (2009): *Quot homines tot artes. New Studies on Missionary Linguistics*. Número temático de la revista *Historiographia Linguistica*, 36(2-3).
- ZWARTJES, Otto/ZIMMERMANN, Klaus/SCHRADER-KNIFFKI, Martina (eds.) (2014): *Missionary Linguistics V/Lingüística V. Translation Theories and Practices. Selected papers from the Seventh International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, Bremen, 28 February-2 March 2012*. (Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, vol. 122). Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

For an overview of the Missionary Linguistics publications in Spanish, see:

<http://rahl.ar/index.php/rahl/article/view/177>