

# IDIOMA: INGLÊS

Área 4

**\*Obrigatório**

1. **ÁREA \***

*Marcar apenas uma oval.*

4-LINGUÍSTICA, LETRAS E ARTES

2. **NOME DO CANDIDATO \***

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3. **NÚMERO DA INSCRIÇÃO \***

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4. **NÚMERO DO CPF \***

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## How preserving a country's languages can lead to decolonization

By Ivan Natividad|

As a child in the Philippines during the 1970s, Joi Barrios-Leblanc remembers singing songs that glorified the country's president Ferdinand Marcos, and his U.S-backed regime of martial law that turned the government into a one-man dictatorship that killed, tortured and incarcerated thousands of its citizens.

The songs sung in Tagalog — the Philippine national language — were slogans of propaganda that stressed the need for the populace to be submissive, disciplined and loyal for the country to prosper, said Barrios-LeBlanc, a UC Berkeley senior lecturer in South and Southeast Asian Studies.

Barrios-Leblanc grew up to become an activist, writer and academic who opposed Marcos's rule. A few weeks ago, she witnessed Philippine voters, once again, sing similar songs for Marcos's son, Bongbong Marcos, who won the 2022 presidential election in a landslide nearly 60 years after his father first assumed office.

"Same tune, same name," she said.

Looking back, Barrios-Leblanc said, those songs are powerful representations of how the use of language can sustain colonial thought processes and suppress the truth. But the power of language can also be used to decolonize our histories — by placing the experiences of the colonized at the center of those narratives — and as "part of a larger movement towards political change," she said.

"We need to look at the languages we use as being part of the whole conversation around the efforts of decolonization," said Barrios-Leblanc, who has taught courses at Berkeley that delve into Indigenous beliefs in Philippine literature and art, cultural politics and examining film through a decolonized lens. "Language is the doorway to understanding culture and heritage."

For more than 15 years Barrios-Leblanc's research has focused on promoting Philippine language and literature. She has published several Philippine language textbooks and award-winning collections of poetry. Her new book *Sa Aking Pagkadestiyero, or In My Exile*, will be released this July and reflects on Barrios-Leblanc's life through poetry.

Most recently, she received a lifetime achievement award in literature from the National Language Commission of the Philippines (Komisyon ng Wika).

In an interview, she was asked how a country's literature impacts its politics. Her answer was "We need to look at language as being part of the whole conversation around the efforts of decolonization because language is the doorway to understanding culture and heritage. We also have to think critically about the reasons a language is, or isn't, being used. For example, during the American occupation in the Philippines, English was imposed on the country by people like (former UC president) David Barrows, and it created a situation where English automatically became the language of the privileged. And so, people tended to look down on others who spoke Tagalog or any of the other 120 or so Philippine languages. English writers also looked down on writers who wrote in their native Filipino languages. Language impacts literature and how it is perceived. We still see that impact now with first-generation Filipinx Americans, whom many are not being taught Philippine languages because their parents wanted to shield them from having an accent or being discriminated against in America, from being seen as less American."

Adaptado de: <https://news.berkeley.edu/2022/05/25/how-preserving-a-countrys-languages-can-lead-to-decolonization/>

Published on May 25, 2022

### 5. QUESTÃO 1: Quais são as lembranças de infância de Joi Barrios-Leblanc?

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6. **QUESTÃO 2: Que fato testemunhado por Joi Barrios-Leblanc ocorreu nas Filipinas em 2022?** \*

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7. **QUESTÃO 3: Qual é a relação que Barrios-Leblanc estabelece entre as canções filipinas e o poder da linguagem?** \*

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8. **QUESTÃO 4: Qual é o foco da pesquisa de Barrios-Leblanc e quais são suas publicações?** \*

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9. **QUESTÃO 5: De acordo com Barrios-Leblanc, qual a importância da língua para o processo de decolonização?** \*

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