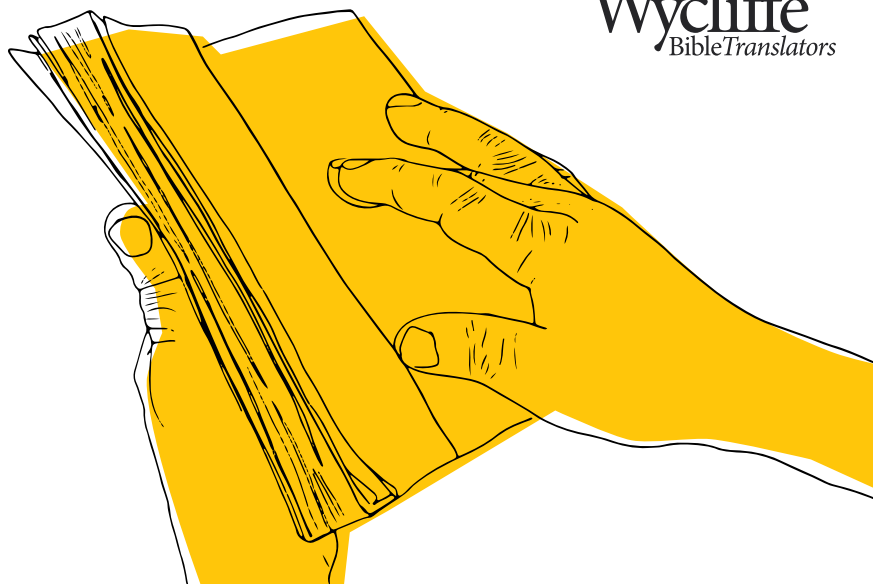


# THE FINISH LINE



EUROPE + ASIA 2019

## EUROPE

### LEZGI; Russia (670,000)

The translation team has been working hard to prepare the Lezgi New Testament for the publishing department. It is an intense time for each person involved.

- » **Pray** that the project would receive official approval which is necessary to be able to distribute the New Testament widely.
- » A second exegetical adviser has been found to work with the team. An exegete is someone who ensures faithfulness of the translation to the biblical text. **Pray** she will soon learn the Lezgi language so she can begin to check some of the Scripture books.
- » **Intercede** for the consultant who, in addition to her consulting role, has helped with exegetical checks. She needs good health and extra strength.
- » A few Scripture books are already published; **pray** for effective channels of distribution. This is a difficult task in an area dominated by another major religion.
- » **Pray** for establishing contacts with an organization that would help to print some copies in a neighboring country where Lezgi speakers also live.

INSTITUTE FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION – IBT.ORG.RU

## ASIA

### DUGARI\*; Asia

The Dugari New Testament was published in 2004 and a team has been working to translate the Old Testament. The New Testament and provisional versions of some Old Testament books are already available in various digital formats and apps.

- » **Praise God** that in 2018 the translation consultant was able to check the remaining Old Testament books. A translation consultant thoroughly reviews the

translation with the team, checking for accuracy, clarity and naturalness, and looking for omissions, extraneous thoughts or possible misconceptions.

- » **Give thanks** that God has blessed the project with protection and stability, enabling the team to reach this significant milestone.
- » **Lift up** the team as they press on to revise the existing New Testament and put it together with the Old Testament; key terms must be checked for consistency and supplemental material prepared.
- » **Pray** that when the Dugari Scriptures are published, it will be possible to distribute them openly in the language area. Recent changes within the country bring cautious optimism for greater freedom for followers of Jesus to live out their faith.

### IRATA\*; Asia

A team has been working since 2000 to translate the New Testament into Irata, a language spoken by several million people.

- » **Thank the Lord** for the growing support of the translation project among local church leaders.
- » **Pray** that all New Testament books will be consultant checked by mid-2019.
- » Preparing the New Testament for publication is detailed work. **Ask the Lord** to give the team stamina, good eyes and wisdom as they check cross-references and finalize terms for key concepts. It is often difficult to find the best way to convey the correct meaning of Scripture in another language and culture. Sabbath, baptism and judgment have been especially challenging concepts to finalize.
- » **Pray** that a special edition of Matthew will be published for the many Irata speakers working in a nearby country.

## TUGUTIL; Asia (8,000)

Checking the translation draft with speakers of the target language to see if the text is clear and sounds natural is an important step in the translation process. Last year several New Testament books were checked for comprehension with Tugutil speakers.

- » **Thank the Lord** that as a result of feedback from these checks, improvements were made to the translation! The consultant for the project was also able to make final checks for accuracy on the Gospel of Luke and 2 Corinthians.
- » **Pray** that the consultant can finish all comprehension testing of the book of Acts this year, the final book to be completed in the Tugutil New Testament. **Pray** that, as the people hear the stories in Acts and give feedback, they will be drawn into the stories and see the power of God and the Holy Spirit in people's lives.
- » **Lift up** the translation team for God's renewal and strength as they press forward. **Pray** that they will "... be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10, NLT).

ETHNOS360 — ETHNOS360.ORG

## CAMBODIA

### TAMPUAN; Cambodia (40,000)

The translation team worked hard last year to check the final books of the New Testament with speakers in the community to make sure the texts are clear and sound natural.

- » **Pray** that the team can get good feedback on Revelation — the last book needing a community check — and for successful completion of all the consultant checks.
- » The team plans to make an audio recording of the New Testament in the second half of 2019, prior to typesetting and publication of the print version. **Ask God** to provide readers with strong, clear voices and a good, quiet recording location.
- » **Pray** that the recording will be completed in time for typesetting to begin by the end of the year. "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible" (Matthew 19:26, NLT).

## INDONESIA

### AMBONESE MALAY; Indonesia (245,000)

While the Ambonese Malay Bible translators were busy revising Matthew, Mark, Hebrews and Revelation, the Ambonese Malay Scripture engagement team also had a busy year. They held two trauma healing workshops to train people to process trauma using truths found in Scripture. They also developed a course to help people overcome alcohol addiction. The team helped church leaders and congregants gain confidence by praying, preaching and preparing devotions in Ambonese Malay.

- » **Ask God** to provide consultants to check the remaining books of the New Testament and the supplementary materials included with the text.
- » **Pray** for unity among the translation team members and for God's protection over their families so the translators can focus well on their work.
- » **Intercede** for the translation team as they proofread and make final revisions in preparation for typesetting the New Testament. They need wisdom, clear minds and strength.
- » **Pray** that more church congregations will use the Ambonese Malay liturgy and Scripture in services, and that it will impact the lives of the congregants.

### PROTESTANT CHURCH OF MALUKU

### AUYE; Indonesia (500)

Give thanks that God searches for the one lost sheep and cares for every person. The Auye are hidden in a small area in the central highlands of Papua, the largest and easternmost province of Indonesia. But they are important to God and are getting closer to having God's Word in their language!

- » **Praise God** that final checks last year were made on Hebrews and Revelation.
- » **Lift up** the translation team as they finish the Gospel of Mark this year. When that is complete, they will do a final oral read-through of the entire New Testament to ensure it is clear and sounds natural. **Pray** that they will find any changes that need to be made before publication.
- » **Ask the Lord** to fill the team with wisdom, strength and joy as they anticipate the finished New Testament.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to work in Auye hearts so they will treasure God's Word and be a people "... whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 144:15, NLT).

### SIL

### DELA; Indonesia (7,000)

The translation team made great progress last year: they completed the final revision of the New Testament and Genesis and began an oral read-through of the manuscript (which includes extra explanatory materials and a Bible dictionary). They also translated some hymns into Dela.

- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to guide the team through the final read-through and help them identify any parts that need correcting or improvement.
- » **Pray** for Jehovah-jireh to provide a typesetter to prepare the manuscript for printing. **Ask God** to fill all of them with energy, good health and discernment in formatting and layout decisions they make and as they proofread the manuscript multiple times.
- » **Pray** for God's guidance regarding plans for a dedication in late 2019 or 2020.

- » **Intercede** for the Dela people, that they will hunger for God's Word and spend increasing time using it in their homes and churches.

SEED COMPANY — SEEDCOMPANY.COM

## LOLE; Indonesia (20,000)

Praise the Lord, an experienced translator for another team worked with the Lole team last year and they completed a final read-through of the whole New Testament and Genesis, along with supplementary materials and a Bible dictionary. They also typeset it and drafted 79 hymns. 2018 was an extremely productive year!

- » **Thank God** for giving the team strength, stamina and health as they pressed on.
- » **Pray** for an excellent and smooth printing job and that the books will arrive back safely and in time for a dedication on Easter Sunday.
- » **Ask the Lord** to increase Lole speakers' desire for God's Word in their language. **Ask** him to build excitement as the dedication approaches.
- » **Pray** that God will "... accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20, NLT) as the Lole receive God's Word. May their lives and communities be transformed by God's Spirit and his Word.

SEED COMPANY — SEEDCOMPANY.COM

## MOMA; Indonesia (6,000)

The Moma translation team recorded 15 books of the New Testament last year and reviewed seven of the hardest and longest books.

- » **Thank the Lord** for this excellent progress. **Pray** for the team to complete a consultant check of Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Galatians, Hebrews and Revelation. The consultant goes over the translation with the team, checking for accuracy, clarity and naturalness, and looking for omissions, extraneous thoughts or possible misconceptions. **Ask God** to fill the team with strength, wisdom and his Spirit.
- » **Lift up** the Indonesian Bible Society who, as publishers, will then make a final check of the New Testament before typesetting and publication.
- » **Pray** for the "JESUS" film, recorded last year, to be distributed widely and used by God to draw many into a living relationship with Christ.
- » **Praise God**, a church in the language area is willing to send people to Kartidaya, the national Bible translation association, to be trained as Bible translators for other language groups. **Ask God** to provide all that these trainees need to serve him.

KARTIDAYA

## RIKOU; Indonesia (10,000)

Last year was a productive year for the Rikou team. They completed a consultant check of Genesis, worked on a Bible dictionary in Rikou and began to check for consistent use of key terms and punctuation throughout the New Testament.

- » The team is finalizing the Bible dictionary and other Scripture-use aids to include in the back of the New Testament. **Pray** for God to grant them strength and careful editing skills for these tasks.
- » **Lift up** the typesetting and printing processes, that they will go smoothly and result in New Testaments that are durable and easy to use.
- » **Pray** for excitement among the Rikou community as they anticipate having God's Word in their heart language. **Ask the Holy Spirit** to prepare fertile soil in their hearts.

KUPANG TRANSLATION CENTER

## SEKO PADANG; Indonesia (5,000)

The translation team would like to turn the New Testament manuscript in for typesetting this year but needs to complete several steps to reach that stage, along with juggling other significant projects.

- » **Lift up** the team as they make edits discovered during the final revision process, finalize a glossary, decide on illustrations and maps and do a final read-through. **Ask the Lord** to keep them healthy and alert and to fill them with wisdom.
- » **Pray** that God will provide time and good readers to make an audio recording of the New Testament for a cellphone app, and to record the script for the "JESUS" film. These would be tremendous tools for reaching Seko Padang speakers.
- » **Pray** that the team might be able to project how long it will take to see the New Testament through the publication process in order to plan when a dedication might be held.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to guide the team as they consider other activities: an orthography conference, and a teacher training workshop on how to read and write Seko Padang.

INDONESIAN BIBLE SOCIETY; TORAJAN CHURCH SYNOD

## TADO; Indonesia (5,000)

Rejoice that one of the Tado mother-tongue translators is willing to be trained to become a facilitator for other translation programs.

- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to prepare him well so he can soon join a new multi-language project in Central Sulawesi.
- » **Lift up** the Tado team as they finish required steps before the Indonesian Bible Society can do a final consultant check on the whole New Testament. They

need to review John and Revelation, check them with local speakers to ensure they are clear and sound natural, and have a consultant check them. **Ask God** to fill each team member with his Spirit.

» **Give thanks** that the “JESUS” film is now available in Tado. **Pray** for wide distribution and that God will powerfully use this movie to draw Tado speakers to himself.

» **Praise God** for a Salvation Army church that is willing to send people to Kartidaya (the national Bible translation association) to be trained for Bible translation work in Indonesia. **Pray** that many young people will step forward to be involved.

## KARTIDAYA

### UNA; Indonesia (6,000)

The Una people of Papua Province in Indonesia received the New Testament in 2007. The translation team is pressing hard to complete the Old Testament in 2021.

» **Thank the Lord** that last year the translation team was able to finish portions of Deuteronomy, Isaiah and Jeremiah for a preliminary edition of 75 percent of the Old Testament.

» **Pray** for the four local translators, that God will grant them strength, health and determination to complete the final portions of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Numbers, 1-2 Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and 1-2 Chronicles. The current project manager needs to partially retire this year due to health. **Pray** for the four translators to stay focused and carry out necessary tasks in an orderly way.

» **Lift up** the project manager and her husband, who also helps other projects and lectures at a seminary, as they do consultant and pre-publishing checks. **Ask God's Spirit** to show them his priorities for each day and grant them health and joy in their tasks.

## SIL

## MALAYSIA

### KELABIT; Malaysia (6,000)

Although the Kelabit had access to the Bible in a related language, it did not speak to their hearts. For a number of years, they longed to have their own Scriptures. The Kelabit believe having God's Word in their language is the greatest inheritance they can leave to future generations.

» **Praise God**, a New Testament translation project was officially launched in April 2017. Drafts of each book have been completed by a team of about 40 volunteers, each of them with jobs elsewhere.

» **Ask the Lord** to provide one full-time person to handle the final stages of the project and work with a consultant. This is a critical need. **Ask Jehovah-jireh** for finances to cover this person's salary.

» **Pray** for team members as they check one book every two months in the community to find out if the text is clear and sounds natural. **Pray** for helpful feedback and that these checks will create interest in God's Word.

» **Ask the Holy Spirit** to keep the translation team unified. **Pray** for wisdom and leadership as the main translation facilitators organize trainings, plan workshops and handle some administrative tasks from afar.

## KELABIT BIBLE TRANSLATION PROJECT

## MEDITERRANEAN

### ARAMAIC\*; Mediterranean (1,000,000)

This project to provide the Old Testament for Aramaic speakers around the world is being carried out primarily in the U.S.

» **Thank the Lord** for providing several new people on the team to help fill the gaps left by the deaths of two key members. **Pray** for their quick assimilation to the translation process.

» **Lift up** the need for continued funding for the project so the work can continue.

» **Pray** for churches to get involved in promoting the project and helping support it.

### ARAMAIC M-NORTH\*; Mediterranean (1,000,000)

The Aramaic M-North team is working hard to finish translating the Old Testament.

» **Thank the Lord** that from his European location, the lead translator meets those traveling through who speak this dialect. Visitors help him review drafted Scripture and make suggestions and corrections.

» **Pray** for his health to improve; it has been unstable. Thankfully, by God's grace and working with Faith Comes By Hearing, he is close to finishing a recording of the New Testament so people can listen to it, as well as read it. **Pray** for a quality recording that will draw people to Christ.

» **Lift up** new people who have joined the team to help draft Old Testament books so the lead translator can assume a reviewing/coaching role. **Ask God's Spirit** to fill them with wisdom and insight and for their contribution to boost progress.

### SURYOYO\*; Mediterranean (500,000)

The Suryoyo New Testament was published in 2013 and a team is working on the Old Testament.

» **Rejoice** that Psalms — the first Old Testament book to reach people's hands — will be published soon. **Pray** that this beautiful book might minister to the Suryoyo people and increase their thirst for God's Word.

- » New team members have been found to help draft Old Testament books. **Pray** that they will become productive quickly, thus speeding up completion of the Old Testament. **Pray** for good communication as team members work remotely apart from one another.
- » **Lift up** the primary translator as he reviews drafts and coaches the new team members. **Pray** for God's Spirit to fill each person and that the "joy of the Lord" will be their strength (Nehemiah 8:10, NLT).

ARAMAIC BIBLE TRANSLATION — ARAMAICBIBLE.ORG

## PHILIPPINES

### AYTA CLUSTER PROJECT — Abellen and Mag-Indi languages; Philippines (8,000)

The Ayta Mag-Indi pastors review committee has now reviewed all but two books of the New Testament. They have also written or translated a set of 50 recorded and printed songs and a chronological story set from Genesis to Revelation to be released in multiple formats in anticipation of the New Testament dedication. The Ayta Abellen committee is working on final revisions, including concurring and submitting all parallel passages in the Gospels for a final check of the text.

- » **Praise God** — a 2019 dedication is anticipated for both languages!
- » **Pray** as the Ayta Mag-Indi team works to check the final two books with the review committee and a mentor.
- » **Lift up** the Ayta Abellen team as they work on final details of the New Testament and on preparations to engage the community in using the translated Scriptures when completed.
- » **Pray** for the revision consultant and mentors for both languages as they work with the teams to finish.

SEED COMPANY — SEEDCOMPANY.COM; SIL

### BOÏNËN; Philippines (65,000)

God answered many prayers in bringing this project to the finish line. He provided finances when they had come to a standstill because of inadequate resources, and he provided consultants to enable them to complete the checking process.

- » **Rejoice**, the New Testament was dedicated last fall! The Boïnën people can now feed on God's Word in their language.
- » **Pray** for a great hunger for God's Word among the Boïnën.
- » **Pray** that the church will grow in numbers and maturity as the people grow in their walks with the Lord.
- » **Lift up** the team as they seek to distribute the New Testaments widely and effectively across the language area.

TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES — TRANSLATORS.ORG.PH

### EASTERN BONTOK; Philippines (6,170)

When the Eastern Bontok received the New Testament in 2004, they immediately decided they wanted the Old Testament too!

- » Since the project began, three out of the four translators have left. **Thank the Lord** for the remaining translator's commitment and **lift** her up to our Father, asking him to fill her with vision, daily wisdom and excellent health.
- » **Praise God** for the consultant who meets with the translator to help in the final revision. **Pray** that a translation consultant will be available soon to approve Isaiah, which is the last book needing approval.
- » **Lift up** the translator as she then works with a typesetter to prepare the manuscript for printing. This is a detailed process with many decisions about formatting and extra helps to include. **Ask the Holy Spirit** to guide them as they work to make an attractive and easy-to-use book. They need special strength and good eyes for multiple proofreadings.
- » **Pray** for the people planning a dedication — that it will bring God glory and draw many to the Scriptures. **Pray** for revival among the Eastern Bontok.

FIALIKIA SCRIPTURE SOCIETY

### IBALOI; Philippines (186,000)

The Ibaloi New Testament was published in 1978 but needed revision before including it with the translated Old Testament in a full Bible.

- » **Lift up** the translation team as they revise the New Testament and have the revised portions checked by a consultant. They would like to complete this revision by the end of 2019.
- » **Pray** that they will find any final changes needing to be made in the Old Testament to ensure it is accurate, clear and sounds natural.
- » **Ask God's Spirit** to anoint and protect the team from attacks of the enemy as they work to make the whole Bible available to the Ibaloi people in a language they can understand and engage with as quickly as possible. **Pray** for good health for each team member and their families.
- » **Pray** that God will "accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20, NLT) in the project and in Ibaloi lives.

WYCLIFFE PHILIPPINES

### INAKEANON; Philippines (500,000)

The translation team worked hard last year to complete the final necessary checks on Romans, 1-2 Corinthians and Hebrews.

- » **Pray** for the final revision and checks of Revelation to be completed soon so the New Testament can be typeset. **Lift up** those who proofread the manuscript, that they will catch anything that needs adjustment.

» **Ask God** to keep the team safe and in good health to accomplish the multiple tasks in this final stretch of finishing the New Testament.

» **Pray** that the printing process will go smoothly and for the printed books to arrive safely in Kalibo, the provincial capital, for a dedication in 2020.

» **Ask the Holy Spirit** to bless Scripture promotion activities and for a growing excitement and eagerness among people to own the New Testament.

» **Pray** that pastors will understand that their ministries will be greatly enhanced by using the Inakeanon New Testament and fully commit themselves to using it in their churches and encouraging their congregations to use it at home.

SIL

### KARAO; Philippines (2,000)

Rejoice with the Karao translation team — all the books of the New Testament have now been translated into Karao, and the team has begun the revision process! This is the last step to be done before submitting the translation for publication. Capable Karao speakers are needed to help ensure the translation sounds natural and is easy to understand.

» **Pray** that good progress will be made in revising the completed Karao New Testament. **Ask the Lord** to provide capable, reliable Karao speakers at the right time to help with the revision process.

» **Pray** that all those involved in the revision will have good health and be free from distractions.

» **Ask God** to give the Karaos a hunger to read his Word in their language and to believe and live it.

SIL

### MANGALI; Philippines (12,000)

Using special software for translation, the team worked hard last year with a consultant to complete final checks of the New Testament and glossary.

» **Praise the Lord** that a special Mangali language forum with Department of Education personnel and teachers was held last fall to finalize the orthography, a necessary step before the New Testament could be prepared for typesetting.

» **Pray** for successful completion of the audio recording of the New Testament, with the help of Faith Comes By Hearing. This not only produces a popular audio edition of the Scriptures but sometimes reveals corrections needing to be made before the text is printed.

» **Lift up** the typesetting team as they make decisions about layout and proofread the text multiple times. **Ask the Lord** to keep the team healthy and strong and give them keen eyes for finding errors. Pray for a smooth printing process.

» As the team anticipates and plans for a dedication, **pray** for God to be honored and glorified and for many Mangali to treasure and use the Scriptures.

SEED COMPANY — SEEDCOMPANY.COM; SIL; TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

### MATIGSALUG; Philippines (50,000)

The Matigsalug Old Testament project was initiated and started by the Matigsalug community around 2010 after the completion of the New Testament. Genesis, Ruth, Esther and Jonah were published with the New Testament, but the community wanted the entire Old Testament.

» **Praise God**, the translation team has finished all Old Testament books, but some of the last books — the longest — lack the required consultant check. **Pray** for God to raise up consultants who will be available to check these remaining books. One consultant in the United Kingdom worked remotely last year with a translator in the village to complete the check of Jeremiah.

» **Pray** for typesetting, which follows the completion of the consultant checks, to go smoothly. **Lift up** the typesetting team as they make decisions about format and proofread the print-outs multiple times. They need wisdom, strength and alert eyes.

» **Ask God** to raise up funds to print the whole Matigsalug Bible. **Thank the Lord** for a U.S. church and a donor who paid for typesetting expenses.

SEED COMPANY — SEEDCOMPANY.COM; SIL; SINUDA UNITED MATIGSALUG LANGUAGE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

### ROMBLOMANON; Philippines (120,000)

Praise God, the Romblomanon New Testament was typeset last year, followed by a careful proofreading to make sure the copy was ready for printing.

» **Pray** for a successful printing of the New Testament and that the books will be published in time to hold a dedication on April 27, 2019.

» **Lift up** the local planning committee, asking the Lord to fill them with wisdom and joy in all their preparations for the dedication.

» **Pray** that many Romblomanon speakers will attend the dedication and be excited to get their own copy of the New Testament. **Pray** that they will say with the psalmist, "I rejoice in your word like one who discovers a great treasure" (Psalm 119:162, NLT).

» **Thank the Lord** for his faithfulness to the team who persevered under very difficult circumstances. One member of the team died in September 2017 after valiantly battling stage four lung cancer. **Intercede** for the main translator's wife who continues to suffer from rheumatoid arthritis.

SIL

## TAGAKAULO; Philippines (120,000)

Praise God — the entire Tagakaulo New Testament has been reviewed by an exegete, who ensures faithfulness of the translation to the biblical text, and the final two books are in rough draft form! The remaining steps in the translation and checking process will still take time, but the translation team is encouraged to see light at the end of the tunnel.

- » **Pray** for the team as they work with a consultant to check and review the drafted Scriptures, with the hopes of having all New Testament books checked by the end of 2019.
- » **Pray** that team members will enjoy good health and have time to finish the translation.
- » **Lift up** the two youngest translators as they balance university classes, raising their families and the translation work.
- » **Ask God** to work in the hearts of Tagakaulos and other Filipinos through his Word as it goes out via radio, in printed form, digitally and in local churches.

SIL

## SOUTH ASIA

### BARRAI\*; South Asia (160,000)

God's Word in Barrai is getting closer to the finish line! Last year the Gospel of John, Colossians and Hebrews were checked by a consultant, and Revelation was checked by an exegete to ensure the translation is faithful to the biblical text.

- » **Praise God**, a hymn book was published in Barrai, allowing people to sing and worship God in their language. **Pray** that the music and words will cause non-believers to be interested in spiritual things.
- » **Lift up** the translation team as they finalize the remaining New Testament books and begin to prepare them for publication. **Ask the Lord** to grant them and their families health and strength. The wife of one of the translators is being treated for lymphoma.
- » **Pray** for the team as they make plans to record the New Testament. **Ask the Lord** to provide functioning technology and readers with strong, clear voices. **Pray** that the message in the texts will draw the readers to Christ.

### DUKO\*; South Asia (100,000)

The translation team has conducted meetings with pastors and believers in villages around the area to demonstrate the value of studying God's Word in their language. The team is encouraging believers to stand strong in the face of persecution.

- » **Give praise**, local believers and churches are using available translated Scripture portions in their churches and small house gatherings, and a Catholic priest is using them in his parish and catechism classes. **Pray** that the Scriptures will encourage believers and create a great hunger for the complete New Testament.

- » The team has completed consultant checks of Matthew, Acts, Romans and 1-2 Corinthians and is working to finish checks of the few remaining books. **Ask God's Spirit** to give the team and consultant daily strength, alertness and wisdom to finish the checks and then prepare the New Testament for publication (which includes typesetting and proofreading).
- » **Intercede** for believers who face persecution. One woman gave her life to Christ and was killed by a family member as a result. **Pray** for God's protection and strength for believers.

### FODIGWA\*; South Asia (400,000)

Last year a workshop was held for a number of translation projects nearing completion. It was a great encouragement to the teams. During the workshop, the Fodigwa team was able to resolve some translation issues with the help of software and experts. They identified and fixed a number of errors — crucial as they plan for typesetting.

- » **Lift up** the team as they continue to use what they learned. They have completed a consultant check of all 27 New Testament books and are making a final review of each one. **Pray** for the reviews to reveal any final changes needing to be made.
- » **Ask God** to grant good health to each team member and their families.
- » **Thank the Lord** for providing a former translator when a current member of the team was not available for the consultant check. The wife of the translator who returned also filled a critical role in giving feedback when the text was read aloud. Her excellent feedback improved the final text.
- » **Pray** for unity among churches in the area and that they will accept the Fodigwa New Testament.

### GHALEMP\*; South Asia (800,000)

Praise the Lord, the final books of the Ghalemp New Testament have been checked by a consultant, and the manuscript is being prepared for publication.

- » **Lift up** the translation team as they use a computer software program to help check for consistent use of key terms, punctuation, spelling and other features that make the text easy to read and understand. **Ask the Lord** to keep those who read the texts for the final time alert so they can catch any areas needing correction or improvement.
- » Two of the translators have had persistent health problems that have slowed their contribution to the work. **Pray** for God to renew their strength and health.
- » **Pray** for the staff who will typeset the New Testament. The team is aiming to hold a dedication mid-2020. **Pray** that printing will go smoothly.
- » **Pray** that believers will be strong in the face of persecution and will spread the gospel without fear. **Claim** God's power on their behalf.

## GODAVARI\*; South Asia (227,000)

The translation impact committee meets periodically with Christian leaders in Godavari-speaking areas to raise their awareness, involvement and ownership of the translation project.

- » **Ask God** to draw more believers and churches to get involved in the translation effort.
- » The translation team is working to complete the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs, but they are behind schedule. **Pray** for God's strength as they press forward.
- » **Pray** for wisdom in setting priorities as team members multitask between working on the written New Testament and recording stories, revising tracts, and working on a children's Bible and literacy efforts.
- » **Lift up** the need for the team coordinator, from Europe, to have a long-term visa to work on location with the team.
- » The lead consultant for the project is 80 years old and going strong. **Ask the Lord** to continue to grant him health and endurance so he can see the project completed and the New Testament in Godavari hands and hearts.

## HIMAURI\*; South Asia (400,000)

The Himauri translation team is in the final stages of completing the New Testament; they want to grow in the Lord and stand strong in the midst of opposition.

- » **Lift up** the team, praying that they will "... be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10, NLT).
- » **Pray** for the communities to continue to provide feedback, as they have in the past, during the final review of the New Testament this year.
- » The next steps will be to make sure punctuation, grammar and spelling are correct, prepare the digital copy for printing, proofread it several times and send it to a printer. **Ask the Lord** to grant each person good health for this final stretch.
- » **Pray** for success as the team seeks to develop a website so the Himauri can access the New Testament and other Scripture-based materials on their cellphones. This tremendously multiplies the audience for God's Word.

## HIRANG\* and GAMU\*; South Asia

The Hirang translation team is working simultaneously with the Gamu team, a related language. As the Hirang team finishes New Testament books, the Gamu team adapts them to their language. A consultant checks the Gamu translation, and feedback from that check goes back into the Hirang translation. Both translations are improved by what the teams learn from the other!

- » **Rejoice** that God graces mankind with creativity that is speeding up Bible translation.

- » **Uphold** the two teams as they press to finish consultant checks of all New Testament books in both languages this year and also check parallel passages, spelling and punctuation.
- » **Pray** for the teams and their families to be united and healthy, spiritually and physically.
- » The Hirang team has published the Gospels and Acts as an Android app Bible reader and has learned that at least 14 people are regularly using it. **Pray** that the Word will touch their lives and that this app will reach many more.
- » **Pray** for God to prepare "good soil" so that as the Hirang and Gamu receive God's Word, they will "... hear God's word, cling to it, and ... produce a huge harvest" (Luke 8:15, NLT).

## KASSIN\*; South Asia (200,000)

Initial drafts of some of the New Testament books were done years ago, so the translation team has checked each book for consistent use of key terms and spelling before publishing. They have also been compiling a glossary and ensuring that passages common to more than one Gospel match correctly.

- » **Pray** for the team as they make a final review of the manuscript, typeset it and proofread it before sending it to a printer. These are tedious, necessary steps to make sure the New Testament is the highest quality possible. **Pray** for good health, perseverance and joy as they anticipate having God's Word in their language.
- » **Thank the Lord** that believers are using available Scripture portions in their churches and homes, and that the "JESUS" film has been shown in a number of villages.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to work in Kassin lives as they read the Scriptures and see the "JESUS" film and to bring many into a saving knowledge of Christ.
- » **Pray** that a website with Scripture-based materials can be developed to reach a broader audience with the gospel.

## L\*; South Asia

The finish line is close! The team hopes to print the New Testament by the end of the year, with a dedication shortly thereafter.

- » **Thank the Lord** for progress in 2018 on the final revision. The team revised John, Acts, 1-2 Corinthians and Revelation.
- » As they revise Matthew, Mark and Luke early this year, **pray** they will find anything needing to be corrected or improved. They will then complete a recording of the New Testament and also have speakers from the community read the New Testament aloud. These steps help identify sections that may not be clear so they can be changed before printing the New Testament.
- » **Ask the Lord** to fill the typesetting team with energy, alertness and wisdom. **Pray** for the printing process to move forward seamlessly.



» **Ask the Holy Spirit** to use copies of individual New Testament books already in circulation, along with several books in audio form online, to draw people to himself. **Pray** for an increased audience and great fruit when the published New Testament becomes available on the Play Store for Android and App Store for iOS.

### MUDABA\*; South Asia (70,000)

The Mudaba team is crossing the finish line this year! They hope to hold a dedication of the New Testament in March or April.

- » **Give thanks** for the persistence of the translation team last year as they finished the final review of the New Testament, typeset it and sent it for printing. **Thank** our gracious God for granting them strength.
- » **Pray** for a successful printing and safe delivery of the New Testaments to the language area. **Lift up** those planning for a dedication, that there will be unity and excitement.
- » **Praise God** that listening groups established in several villages are gathering regularly to listen to recorded Scripture.
- » **Pray** that the community will wholeheartedly receive the New Testament in their mother tongue and that it will break through the spiritual darkness, bringing God's light to individuals and to the community.

### NAKBI\*; South Asia (1,000,000)

As the Nakbi New Testament neared completion and publication, the enthusiasm of the people constantly grew. They were eager to get God's Word in their mother tongue! People often approached the translation team, asking when they could get a copy in their hands.

- » **Praise God**, the wait is over – the Nakbi New Testament will be dedicated early this year. **Pray** that many will buy copies and for wide distribution across the Nakbi language area. **Ask God's Spirit** to bring many into God's kingdom.
- » **Thank the Lord** that churches are using the Nakbi Scriptures in their services and homes. In addition, some church-planting organizations in the area are telling their believers to use these Scriptures.
- » Many local people have learned to read by participating in literacy programs offered. **Pray** that they will now read the New Testament and be transformed by God's grace.
- » **Pray** that God will "accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20, NLT) in Nakbi lives and families as they now have access to God's Word.

### RUTARA\*; South Asia (200,000)

Praise God, the final New Testament book has been checked by a consultant, and the team is pressing to complete all final revisions by mid-2019 so typesetting can begin in September.

» **Pray** for wisdom, good health and good relationships for team members as they check features like parallel passages and consistent translation of key terms. They want each book to be accurate, clear and to sound natural.

» Two members of the translation team live in a city and the others in the community area. **Lift up** the need for clear communication, functioning computers and for the software they use to work well.

- » **Ask God** to provide a consultant to work alongside the team in the final stage before publication.
- » **Pray** that pastors and church leaders will give constructive input in the review process and will use and promote Rutara Scriptures in their churches and communities.

### SAGU\*; South Asia (300,000)

The finish line is no longer a dream – it has been crossed! Praise God the Sagu New Testament is now available to people in print and in a dramatized audio recording.

- » **Thank the Lord** for his hand of mercy and grace on the translation team through their years of commitment and hard work.
- » **Pray** for details to come together for the New Testament dramatized audio and text to be available in the Sagu Android app and that people would enjoy hearing and reading God's Word.
- » **Pray** that the Sagu people will be excited to use the New Testaments in their homes, churches and small groups.
- » The translation team has continued to work on the Old Testament. About 12 percent is completed and another 15 percent is in progress. **Ask the Lord** to protect them and give them stamina for this immense task of bringing the Sagu the full Word of God.

### SIARES\*; South Asia

Concerted prayer is needed for a breakthrough in this New Testament project.

- » **Lift up** the health of the key translator's wife. She has struggled with cancer for six years and now has damaged lungs from the radiation treatment. **Pray** that her health would be restored so that the couple can live in South Asia and engage fully in the work to complete the New Testament.
- » **Ask God** to provide more Siares speakers to help revise the drafts.
- » **Pray** for others to join the effort and check the drafts of the remaining New Testament books for comprehension. The team needs Siares speakers willing to read and believers willing to facilitate the comprehension testing. This is a necessary step before the consultant check.

» **Praise God**, about 10,000 people have downloaded the Android Scripture app and almost 400 have kept it on their phones. **Pray** for the development of a new phone app. **Pray** also that audio recordings will be made and used across multiple platforms.

» **Pray** that the Siars will read the Scriptures and that the Holy Spirit would open their eyes to the source of truth and life. **Ask God** to radically transform Siars believers by biblical truths.

### SOJA\*; South Asia (120,000)

Sojas are mostly guided by the majority religion, worshipping the deities of that faith and relying on the help of its priests. However, evidence of the gospel's influence is being seen. Some people pray before meals, attend church, sing worship songs and don't practice old rituals anymore. This encourages the team!

» **Pray** for the translation team as they work with consultants and church leaders early this year to finalize Romans and Revelation, the final books needing a consultant check.

» **Lift up** the team as they review the full New Testament to make sure that spelling, key terms and punctuation are consistent throughout the manuscript. **Thank the Lord** for software that helps them with this.

» A final step before typesetting is to have people from local churches read the New Testament aloud to see if any final changes need to be made. **Ask God** to provide the right people for quality engagement and input.

» **Pray** for those who typeset the New Testament. They need good health, keen eyes and wisdom to produce a digital copy that will result in books that are attractive, without errors and easy to read.

### STREAMLANDS CLUSTER PROJECT — Ganbi\*, Jarsbi\* and Padim\* languages; South Asia (1,272,000)

The Ganbi, Jarsbi and Padim translation teams have steadily moved forward towards the goal of providing the New Testament in print and oral forms for their language groups.

» **Praise God**, the wait is over. The New Testaments are being printed and will soon be delivered to the people. **Pray** for dedications that will glorify God and attract people to the Scriptures.

» **Ask the Holy Spirit** to fuel people's interest in reading and hearing God's Word in their heart language.

» **Pray** that local churches will adopt the translated Scriptures and use them in their worship services and Sunday school classes.

» **Pray** for wide and effective distribution of the Scriptures.

» **Pray** that the ministries of evangelism and church planting will increase in villages across the area. **Ask God** to protect those who minister. Persecution for such activities makes the work challenging.

### THUDANGA\*; South Asia (500,000)

The Thudanga people no longer have to wait; they have God's Word in their language! Four New Testament dedications took place in April 2017 — one in the capital city and three in villages scattered across the districts where the Thudanga live.

» **Praise God**, in the first village dedication about 1,000 people attended the almost five-hour event. No one minded sitting on the floor and periodically scooting forward to make room for those standing outside to come in. Sales of the New Testament afterward were brisk; almost 600 sold in about an hour!

» **Thank the Lord** that an audio recording of the New Testament was completed last year. **Pray** for many listening groups to be set up, meet regularly, and for God's Spirit to impact their lives through the Word.

» A Scripture app is also being produced of the New Testament. **Pray** that non-believing Thudanga people will download the app and read or listen to the New Testament, and that believers will use it in their daily devotions.

» **Pray** that the Thudanga will say with the prophet Jeremiah, "When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart's delight ..." (Jeremiah 15:16, NLT).

### TRABHAT\*; South Asia (60,000)

The preprinting stage of the Trabhat New Testament has involved many steps, including a check of the whole New Testament by a consultant for consistency (items like translation of key terms, spellings and punctuation) and a publisher's check by the local Bible Society. The consistency check took more time than usual because of multiple consultants having checked the various books at different times.

» **Thank the Lord** for the care with which the team handles the Word of God, wanting it to be accurate and clear and to sound natural. **Pray** for all the checks to be complete soon.

» **Bring** the typesetting and printing processes to the Lord, praying they will proceed smoothly.

» **Pray** for God to prepare "good soil" so that when the Trabhat receive God's Word, they will "... hear God's word, cling to it, and ... produce a huge harvest" (Luke 8:15, NLT).

» **Lift up** the translation team as they now begin to translate the Old Testament.

### TWIG CLUSTER PROJECT, PART 1 - Acacia\*, Branchu\*, Lilac\*, Wanchi\*, Yew\* and Yucca\* languages; South Asia (720,000)

Speakers of Branchu started a gospel movement by translating Scripture, then creating Scripture-based cultural expressions and reaching out to neighboring communities. Now translators from the other five groups are working together. Branchu speakers have the New

Testament and are working on the Old Testament. The other five teams are translating the New Testament plus Old Testament portions.

- » **Pray** that non-believing Acacia people will open up their hearts to Christ; some directly oppose the translation project. And **pray** for believers to grow in their faith and multiply as they use translated Scripture portions available. **Lift up** one team member who lost her 18-year-old daughter to meningitis after lifelong paralysis.
- » **Ask the Lord** to comfort the leader of the Branchu team who lost his mother. **Pray** for the team to experience God's grace and blessing as they press forward on more Old Testament books.
- » **Lift up** the Lilac team when they travel to the communities, asking God to protect them. **Pray** they will get good feedback when they check Scriptures with Lilac speakers to see if they are clear and sound natural.

### **TWIG CLUSTER PROJECT, PART 2 - Acacia\*, Branchu\*, Lilac\*, Wanchi\*, Yew\* and Yucca\*; South Asia (720,000)**

In 2017, about 90 joyous people from the Acacia, Lilac, Yew and Yucca communities gathered to formally dedicate the five "T" books (1-2 Thessalonians, 1-2 Timothy and Titus). Pastors and village leaders could now preach from these epistles of Paul in their own language. A team member described the event: "It was historic. Each language group performed their own traditional dance. The Acacia did a drum dance. It was the first time we worshiped God through our culture together in such a large group."

- » **Pray** for God's guidance and help for the Wanchi team so they can increase their progress. **Pray** for the vision of God's Word in their language to burn strong and that the "joy of the Lord" will be their strength (Nehemiah 8:10, NLT).
- » **Thank the Lord** for good progress by the Yew and Yucca teams, but **ask God** to continue to meet their every need personally and as a team. **Pray** for God's protection and for helpful feedback when the team members travel to Yew and Yucca communities to check Scripture drafts to learn if they are clear and sound natural.

### **WARKA\*; South Asia (66,000)**

When heavy opposition forced pastors from three Warka churches to leave their area, local church leaders stepped up. They now take turns conducting worship services and prayer meetings. They hold meetings in any village where families show interest and open their homes. Despite hostility, Warka Christians are courageously taking the gospel to neighboring villages. They are eager to teach God's Word. Warka Scriptures are in high demand.

- » **Praise God**, last year the translation team was able to print on-demand copies of 10 New Testament books. **Pray** that these books will penetrate people's hearts and create greater hunger for the rest of God's Word.
- » The team would like to have the Scriptures ready for a dedication in mid-2020. **Lift** them up as they press this year to finish all final checks. This includes ensuring the texts sound natural, are accurate and clear, and have consistent punctuation, grammar and spelling. **Ask the Lord** to give them sound minds, joyful hearts and strong bodies for this final push.
- » **Pray** that, through the Scriptures, many Warka will "... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18, NLT).

## **SOUTHEAST ASIA**

### **BAHAH\*; Southeast Asia (1,200,000)**

The goal of the Bahah project is to produce the New Testament and four books of the Old Testament (Genesis, Exodus, Ruth and Jonah) in print and electronic form, along with audio recordings.

- » **Give praise**, Romans and 1 Corinthians are approved for publication, and 2 Corinthians has been submitted to a consultant to check. In addition, the four Gospels, Acts and Revelation have been revised, and audio recordings of the Gospels and Acts have been finalized.
- » **Lift up** the translation team as they press to meet these goals for this year: publish 1-2 Peter and Jude, draft Hebrews, finish revising 13 other New Testament books, and complete audio recordings of Exodus and 13 New Testament books. They need good health, clear minds, wisdom and God's Spirit to accomplish this.
- » **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to draw the Bahah into a personal relationship with the Lord through Scripture materials.
- » **Claim** Matthew 19:26 for the team: "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible" (NLT).

### **CHAWMA\*; Southeast Asia**

Thank the Lord for the translation team that is working hard toward the goal of dedicating the Chawma New Testament in 2021.

- » **Rejoice** that the Gospel of Matthew was translated last year, and the team made good progress on Romans.
- » **Lift** the team up as they work on Colossians, Jude and 1-2 Corinthians. **Ask the Holy Spirit** to give them insight, joy and strength to bring out the truths of these rich epistles. **Pray** for spiritual growth in the translators as they work closely with God's Word.
- » **Pray** that the translated Scriptures already available will be used widely in Bible study groups and Sunday worship services in villages throughout the area.

## DAAN DE PAGUH\*; Southeast Asia (50,000)

Praise God, the translation team completed the New Testament last year, and it was typeset and sent for printing.

- » **Pray** that God would guide every aspect of the printing. The team would like to hold a dedication this year.
- » **Ask God** to provide technicians as well as readers with strong, clear voices to record the New Testament.
- » **Pray** for strength and good health for the translators as they continue to translate Old Testament passages and Psalms to include in the church readings book. This is another opportunity to have the Scriptures regularly used.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to prepare “good soil” so that when the Daan de Paguh receive God’s Word they will “... hear God’s word, cling to it, and ... produce a huge harvest” (Luke 8:15, NLT).

## JAPA\*; Southeast Asia

The book of Matthew is ready for publication! The translation team has also finished revising Luke and Acts and has submitted Genesis for review by their consultant. All that is left are Mark, 1-2 Timothy, 1-2 Thessalonians, Titus, Philemon and 1-2 Peter.

- » **Pray** for the team to meet their goal of completing the remaining books in final revision by May this year.
- » As they record the New Testament and Genesis, **ask God** to provide readers with strong, clear voices and for the equipment to work well.
- » **Lift up** the translator, praying for him to have a personal relationship with Christ.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to fill the small body of believers with strength and wisdom as they share their faith.
- » **Pray** that the flock will grow in their knowledge of God and will reach out to those in their community.

## KET-LIK-KI CLUSTER PROJECT — Ketning\* and Lik\* languages; Southeast Asia (22,000)

A total of 18 members are part of the Ket-Lik-Ki cluster team. The Ketning team pressed hard last year and finished translating Isaiah and Ezekiel and recorded the Ketning New Testament with Faith Comes By Hearing.

- » **Ask God** to protect the health of the translators; two have died in the last two years.
- » **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to help the local translators accurately grasp the meaning and translate the texts in the later Old Testament books that are more difficult to understand and translate.
- » **Pray** for consultants to be available to check the translated books as they are completed.
- » **Rejoice** that both teams have been able to show the “JESUS” film in their languages multiple times to thousands of viewers. **Pray** for unbelievers, and especially young people, to be impacted by these showings and by listening to the recordings of the New Testament.

## KOSAREK; Southeast Asia (6,000)

A local university graduate, the son of an influential Kosarek church leader, has a vision for teaching young Kosarek children to read so they can understand and learn the translated Scripture. He has had a tremendous impact on motivating people to use the Scriptures.

- » **Pray** for the momentum of his leadership, vision and strategies to continue forward and grow. There is high interest among educators and community leaders in the programs he is introducing.
- » **Praise God** for heightened interest in the Kosarek Scriptures. Forty-five copies of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians were printed and they sold out quickly. **Pray** for these rich books to bring people to Christ and cause believers to mature in their faith.
- » The translation team is pressing hard to have all books of the Kosarek New Testament completely drafted by June 2020. **Lift** them up, asking the Lord to grant them strength, good health, joy and wisdom as they draft the final books this year — 1-2 Corinthians, Hebrews, James and 1-2 Peter. May “the joy of the Lord” be their strength (Nehemiah 8:10b, NLT).

## MANMAL CLUSTER PROJECT — Kokoan\*, Nune\* and Wolola\* languages; Southeast Asia (960,000)

The Kokoan and Wolola New Testaments were digitally laid out for printing by the local Bible Society last year and then sent for printing.

- » **Praise God**, the Wolola New Testament was dedicated on November 29, 2018! The Kokoan New Testament dedication is January 19, 2019!
- » **Pray** for wide distribution of these New Testaments and accompanying Bible study materials focused on engaging people with the Word.
- » **Lift up** the Kokoan and Wolola teams as they learn how to compose Scripture songs in their cultural styles and also begin to translate the books of Genesis, Joshua, Ruth and Esther for their communities.
- » **Intercede** for the Nune team as they work with consultants via the internet and Skype to complete required checks of the New Testament, and for the local Bible Society who gives final approval and then does the typesetting.
- » **Pray** for God’s Spirit to anoint the printing of the Nune New Testament, production of the “JESUS” film in Nune and producing Nune liturgy and Scripture songs. The team would like to hold a dedication before the end of the year. “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible” (Matthew 19:26, NLT).

## NAP\*; Southeast Asia (12,000)

Nap people live in a region that has had significant conflict. The political situation is becoming more stable, but challenges remain. Every book of Scripture that Nap translators complete is enthusiastically received and put to use in local churches. Believers eagerly anticipate the completion of the full New Testament.

- » **Thank the Lord** for progress the team made in 2018 on Matthew, 1-2 Corinthians and Galatians. **Pray** that a consultant can check 2 Corinthians and Galatians soon, the last books needing to be checked, so the New Testament can be typeset. **Ask God** to grant each team member and their families good health.
- » **Ask the Lord** to fill the typesetting team with energy, alertness and wisdom as they make formatting decisions about columns, pictures, maps and the font. **Pray** that any errors will be caught as they proofread the manuscript multiple times. **Pray** for a mistake-free printing process that will result in quality books.
- » **Lift up** the team planning a dedication, that the preparations and event will all be to the glory of God.
- » **Pray** for more and more Nap to hear and accept the Good News.

## RAKALI EAST\*; Southeast Asia (30,000)

The Rakali East team works simultaneously on translating Scripture into two dialects.

- » **Thank the Lord** that editing and checking of most New Testament books in the first dialect have been completed.
- » A major challenge is to find readers who can record the New Testament in this dialect since people are not normally literate in this dialect and script. **Pray** for creative solutions so that the project can be completed this year. One possibility is to use resettled refugees in the U.S.
- » **Give thanks** that the second dialect is making good progress and hired a Bible school graduate last year to help prepare the books for the required consultant check. **Ask the Lord** to provide consistent consultant help to move this project forward.

## RAMUKI\*; Southeast Asia

Give praise, the Ramuki New Testament was dedicated April 7, 2018, in the home area. Joy and tears filled Ramuki faces at having the New Testament in their language. Many had already been using draft copies, but they are delighted to have a stronger bound version that is thinner and lighter to carry. Only a few copies could be hand-carried in at that time, however. The community was still waiting to get their copies.

- » **Thank the Lord** that a second dedication was held on May 27 in the commercial capital, allowing Ramuki people in the city to attend as well as Bible Society and other related groups. One group who attended is now asking for help to get the Bible in their language!

- » **Praise the Lord** that the main shipment of Bibles finally arrived in August!
- » Literacy and Scripture promotion work is difficult because of divisions in the Ramuki community. **Pray** that the community will be drawn into unity and allow God's Spirit to apply the Scriptures to their lives.

## RESH\*; Southeast Asia (25,000)

The Resh translation team made good progress on the New Testament last year. Five books were checked by a consultant, and Ephesians, Philippians and Revelation were drafted.

- » **Thank the Lord** for completion of a video about the life of Joseph. Recordings are also being made of Bible books, and a new Resh Scripture app has been published. **Pray** for these tools to be used to draw many people into Bible stories and a relationship with Christ.
- » **Ask God** to provide an ongoing visa for the facilitator of the team to live and work in the country.
- » **Lift up** a new Resh translator. **Pray** that God will use training and his Spirit to equip her to be a gifted member of the team.
- » **Pray** for one denomination to return to the translation partnership and that they will accept the new orthography promoted by the government.
- » **Pray** that Resh churches will enthusiastically embrace the Scriptures and be transformed by them.

## SHATIKHA\*; Southeast Asia (15,000)

Thank the Lord for missionary efforts of the Shatikha church. Last year they began house churches in two new villages, studying newly-translated Shatikha Scriptures. They also visited a neighboring country to build relationships with Shatikha people there, paving the way for broader use of the Scriptures.

- » **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to water these churches and relationships. **Pray** also for many Shatikha to become interested in the gospel and start their journeys to become followers of Jesus. **Lift up** three men who serve as church leaders, that God will be glorified as they reach out to neighbors of another major religion.
- » The translation team is pressing on through typesetting and printing of the New Testament, leading up to a dedication. **Ask God** to protect the health of the Shatikha translator, the two advisors and all their families.
- » **Cover** the team in prayer this year as they near the finish line. "... The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results" (James 5:16, NLT).

## TAGASA CLUSTER PROJECT — *Abuten\**, *Matwafi\** and *Pitsuha\** languages; Southeast Asia (100,500)

Each sunrise a loudspeaker broadcasts “The Voice of the Shepherd,” a Scripture-based program in Pitsuha, loud enough for everyone in the village to hear. It is one of many ways that the Pitsuha translation is being used to share the Good News of God’s love with those who have never heard.

- » **Praise God** that the Abuten team recorded the “JESUS” film last year and it is now being shown in communities throughout the language area. **Pray** for many to come to know Christ personally.
- » **Lift up** the translation team, asking the Lord to keep them safe and healthy for the goals they have this year — to translate Proverbs and begin Psalms, check Scriptures with consultants during three workshops and participate in a workshop to produce ethnic music for each of their languages.
- » **Pray** for local church leaders to use newly translated Scriptures in their worship services and promote their use in people’s homes.
- » Some Scriptures are available now in printed editions, Bible apps for phones and audio for cellphones or MP3 players. **Pray** that many in these groups will read and/or listen to these Scriptures and come into a transforming relationship with the Lord.

## TOWUD\*; Southeast Asia (25,000)

The translation team accomplished their goals last year, completing the final consultant check of the New Testament along with portions of the Old Testament. Thank the Lord for his hand on the team, helping them persevere and giving them wisdom.

- » **Ask the Lord** to fill the typesetting team with energy, alertness and wisdom. **Pray** that any errors will be caught as they proofread the manuscript multiple times. And **pray** for the printing process to move forward seamlessly.
- » **Lift up** the team making an audio recording of the New Testament, asking God to provide readers with strong, clear voices and to keep the equipment functioning well.
- » **Give praise** that the translation is being adapted to two other related languages. **Pray** that these adaptations will make good progress and soon be completed.

## VAGAS\*; Southeast Asia (55,000)

Rejoice that this project, which was put on hold in 2010, was resumed in January 2018. Their end goal is to produce a full Bible, but for now they are working to complete the New Testament. Last year they revised earlier drafts of the four Gospels and Acts.

- » **Thank the Lord** for providing two new, very gifted Vagas translators. **Lift** them up as they have high goals for this year — to revise 19 epistles of the New

Testament. **Ask God** to give them health, skill, wisdom and joy as they work on these rich books.

- » **Pray** for the Vagas team as Paul prayed for the Ephesians, “I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he [God] will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit (Ephesians 3:16, NLT).
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to prepare fertile soil in Vagas hearts and that many will come to a transforming relationship with Christ.

## YOK\*; Southeast Asia (15,000)

The translation team hopes to dedicate the Yok New Testament in early 2020, but they are feeling the wear and tear of their years of diligent work.

- » **Ask the Lord** to fill each team member with strength. **Pray** for good team dynamics and perseverance to do the final checking and prepare introductions for each book.
- » **Praise God** that Scripture portions already available are having impact. **Pray** that more Yok will come to faith and that the churches will grow through using the Word in their language.
- » More women have come to faith than men, and there are few believers for them to marry. **Pray** for more men to come to the Lord and for God to provide life partners for those who want to marry.
- » Yok communities are steeped in spirit and ancestor worship. **Ask the Holy Spirit** to give believers clear spiritual eyes to discern evil forces and to be victorious as they live out the truth of the gospel.

## THAILAND

### BRU DONG LUANG; Thailand (20,000)

The Bru language has several varieties spoken across mainland Southeast Asia. This Bru-speaking group lives in the Dong Luang district of Mukdahan province in Thailand.

- » **Praise the Lord** that Mary, the main translator, who was severely injured in an auto accident in 2017, has had a near perfect recovery and is back on the team, pressing forward.
- » **Pray** for consistent translation helpers. The people’s lives are such that the demands on their time are almost full time, so finding people who are available to help is difficult.
- » **Ask God** to fill the translation team with wisdom and strength so they will produce an accurate and clear translation to help the people grow in their understanding and love of the Lord. The team would like to deliver the New Testament to the Bru Dong Luang people in 2021.

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## NORTHERN THAI; Thailand (6,000,000)

After 20 years of hard work, the Northern Thai New Testament was dedicated on February 2, 2018! The festive celebration took place under the shade of a tamarind tree on the grounds of a theological seminary in Chiang Mai, a city in northern Thailand.

- » **Praise God** for his faithfulness in providing people, prayer and finances through the years to see this project across the finish line.
- » A mother at the dedication shared that she discovered her 12-year-old son — who usually gets lost in video games and doesn't like to do homework — engrossed in a book. It was the Book of Acts in Northern Thai! He was having so much fun reading in the language he speaks at home that he didn't want to put it down. **Pray** that this will be the response of many when they read God's Word in Northern Thai.
- » The New Testament was published in both Thai and Lanna scripts to reach a wider audience. **Pray** for wide distribution and that people will use it in their homes and churches, declaring with the psalmist, "The very essence of your words is truth. ... " (Psalm 119:160, NLT).

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## PRAI; Thailand (20,000)

Praise the Lord for Paratext software which provides translators with automated checks to evaluate the accuracy and consistency of a translation draft. When the Prai translation team used Paratext last year to check spelling, formatting and word choices in the Prai New Testament manuscript, they made numerous improvements.

- » **Thank the Lord** that the New Testament could then be typeset and provisional copies printed in Chiang Mai, a large city in Thailand.
- » **Lift up** the translation team as they revise Old Testament portions this year. They would like to have it ready to print, together with the New Testament, by the end of the year. **Ask the Lord** to keep them alert and strong as they press forward. **Pray** they will also be blessed spiritually as they work so closely with God's Word.
- » **Give thanks** that an audio version of the New Testament is available, and **ask God** to bring much spiritual fruit as people listen to it.

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