



The Rutara People

The Conundrum Continues

The Rutara team continues to brainstorm on ways to communicate culture-specific key biblical terms. Translators George and Beera Nashar describe the conundrum they face:

“We discussed terms in the Bible related to Jewish rituals and beliefs and couldn’t find appropriate Rutara words to convey those ideas. Though many concepts in Rutara tradition are religiously related, the vernacular words have associations that aren’t in line with the true meaning of the Bible.”

- **Pray that the Rutara team will discover suitable ways to communicate the Jewish culture of Jesus’ day in the people’s mother tongue.**

Setting Their Sights on the Goal

The translators have set their sights on drafting¹ John’s Gospel. They’re still scheduled to attend a workshop focusing on the book, which will assist them in their study of its history and theology. Meanwhile, they continue drafting the Gospel of Luke and are drafting 1 Peter as well. They’re pleased to report that they’ve translated 1 Corinthians.

- **Pray for the team as they work on the deeply theological book of John. Ask that they’ll stay unified and focused in the absence of George and Beera, who are on their yearly leave.**

Getting Up to Speed

One of the team’s most pressing goals has been to bring new translator K up to speed. They’ve been working to familiarize him with Bible translation principles and to introduce him to each of the six translation steps. Though he hasn’t completed formal training yet, he’s now working comfortably and competently with the rest of the team.

Sharing in the Great Commission

George recently set aside a week to attend a “Biblical Basis for Missions” seminar. This program is designed for those who are contemplating their part in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Stay tuned in the next update for the particulars of the course.



- **Location: Restricted access area, South Asia**
- **Number of Speakers: 200,000**
- **Project Goal: New Testament with Old Testament portions**
- **Year Project Began: 1995 with Seed Company sponsorship in 2005**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2016**
- **Thank God for providing this much-needed new translator. Pray that the team will continue to work together in harmony and that each translator will learn to take initiative in sharing the workload.**
- **Praise the Lord for this unique opportunity for George. Pray that his presence at the seminar will have an enduring influence on the young adults who attended.**

Six Steps of Translation

- 1. First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
- 2. Team Check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
- 3. Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
- 4. Back Translation:** translators translate the draft “back” into a major language for a non-native consultant.
- 5. Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
- 6. Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

RUTARA PROJECT UPDATE—1

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