Subject June 2024 Translation News

Preheader International Translation Services (ITS)

ITS NEWS
International Translation Services

International Translation Services (ITS) works in collaboration with colleagues in SIL and other agencies to creatively steward and advance the translation practices, tools, methods, and training necessary to enable a supportive environment for individuals and communities to flourish and engage with Scripture.

We value: Interconnectedness. Capacity Building. Diversity. Innovation.

June 2024

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Power through weakness?

- Greg Dekker - *International Translation Services Director*

Paul's exhortation in 2 Corinthians seems upside down, impossible, and impractical in our human way of thinking!

"7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me - to keep me from exalting myself!

8 Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. 9 And he has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

It's a well-known passage that I have often quickly read past, thinking "I get it!" But I heard an interpretation recently that got me thinking about this passage in a different way. We don't know what this "thorn in the flesh" was that Paul mentions here. And there's been a lot of suggestions about what it might have been. What I heard recently was very, very different from what I've heard before: Maybe Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was a strength, a talent, a skill.

So, how can that be a "thorn in the flesh"? What the Apostle says here is that anything that keeps me from realizing God's power working in and through me is a liability. If my own strengths, my own aptitude, my own learned skills keep me from realizing the power of God working in me and through me in His mission, then those become a liability. Paul says, "I will boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me." My strengths, skills, abilities, and aptitude become liabilities when they get in the way of God's power at work in and through me.

Along with this thought on what is Paul's "thorn in the flesh" came the suggestion that God gifts us spiritually in areas of our *weakness*. My thought was, "What?" I have always assumed that my spiritual gifts are in line with my strengths, natural abilities, and aptitudes. No, this person was saying. Rather, spiritual gifts come into play *by faith* when my natural strengths, abilities, and aptitudes are totally lacking for the situation. They are by definition "spiritual" gifts. That is, giftings by the power of God's spirit at work in and through us for the accomplishing of His purposes. Oops! I've been depending on my strengths… as defined by the Strengths Finder!

I wonder to what extent we are measuring peoples' potential for service incorrectly in terms of their human attributes, as opposed to their calling and spiritual gifts. Should we be asking potential new staff, "In what ways have you seen God use you in miraculous ways to accomplish His purposes / a difficult task?" I know that for me personally, I have often seen God do the most through me when I feel like I lack the requisite skill for the task ahead of me. It is then, when I'm fervently in prayer asking God to work that I see the greatest results. The story of Gideon, of course, is a great example of this. (Judges 6-8) Repeatedly God tells him he has too many men for the battle! And then the battle was won, by God, with trumpets and pitchers, not weapons of war. My take-away: In all things, dependence on God to work in spiritual, powerful ways, especially when I am weakest! So, you might ask, "What is the place of "human" strategy, aptitude, and learned skill?" Let me know what you think!

Translation Training & Development Updates

- ***Phil King***

Here are some training and development updates:

Consultant Development & Management seminar on 15th July. The Consultant Development and Management team is hosting a discussion about issues in consultant management on 15th July, 14.00-15.30 UTC. This will look at topics like monitoring and encouraging consultant currency, mutual accountability for management and growth, keeping track of consultant activity and managing the input of consultants from multiple domains. If you are interested in participating, please email brian_migliazza@sil.org in order to receive an invite.

Competency Based Certification (CBC) Advisory Group. In mid-June the CBC Advisory Group will be meeting to discuss and prioritise potential improvements to the Competency Manager platform for the next year. Please can you get in touch with me (phil_king@sil.org) if you have opinions about what should be top of the priority list, or CBC_info@sil.org with new ideas. Some of the improvements currently in progress include: adding comments at competency level; adding hyperlinks to activities; importing activities; exporting a mentee's whole development plan.

Familiarize, Internalize, Articulate (FIA) materials. At the Bible Translation Training and Development Community of Practice at the end of May, Stephen and Tricia Stringer shared about training translators to familiarize, internalize and articulate, and the materials they are developing to facilitate that. If you missed it, you can catch up with their presentation here. I appreciated the way Stephen framed their project as materials to support oral translation methods with robust exegetical resources, so that exegetical support does not end when the consultant leaves. Watch the video to find out more about embodied epistemology and communal hermeneutics.

As I write this, **EMDC** is taking place in Thailand, and **AFTRACT** in Kenya (offering training for CiTs across 9 countries in Anglo-Lusophone Africa). It's humbling to see the dedication of those who are pouring themselves into these events.

The **Augmented Quality Assessment (AQuA)** tool is now available for any user who would like to experiment with it. You can register by filling out this form. You can find out more about AQuA on the AI.SIL.org website, and subscribe to the newsletter through this link.

New Translation Consultants

Vonjitiana Rasoambola (Africa), Mbako Amisi (Africa), and Binaya Nayak (Asia)

New Consultant

- Vonjitiana Rasoambola *(Africa)*

Congratulations to Vonjitiana Rasoambola (SIL Southern Africa) on completing all the requirements for certification as a Translation Consultant. Drew Maust (*Translation Domain Team Leader for Francophone Africa*) announced that the SIL Africa Area accreditation committee for translation consultants has examined the dossier submitted for Vonjitiana, and they are pleased to say that the committee has formally recognized her as a Translation Consultant. Olivia Razafinjatoniary and Jonathan VanDenBroek were her primary mentors.

Vonjitiana has a BA (2003) in English Language (Literature and Linguistics) and a Maîtrise (2008) in Translation studies (Malagasy-French-English) from the University of Antananarivo. She also completed a Master in Theology (2012) at the Institut Supérieur de Théologie Evangélique of Madagascar. She speaks Malagasy, French, and English.

Vonjitiana worked as a freelance translator on sustainable development projects with several NGOs in Madagascar (2008-2015). She then joined SIL in 2017 and was assigned to the new Madagascar Project where she served as a translator with the Analamanga community, her mother tongue. She also served as an exegete with the Sihanaka people (Central Northeastern Madagascar) on the New Testament (NT) books and helped the team with informal training on using Paratext resources. As a CiT, she was able to observe the various consulting styles of several consultants in different languages in Africa.

From 2022-2024, she had the opportunity to do several supervised checks in Madagascar and in Zambia. She completed the 2022 TCDW with SIL Asia Area, learning to work under pressure while always striving for excellence. During this time, Vonjitiana trained Malagasy teams on using some aspects of Paratext and on Malagasy discourse analysis.

She felt honored and thankful knowing that she had a part in seeing her people being able to read God's Word in their languages. It has been her best reward to provide her contribution into this Madagascar project of completing the NT for four languages.

Her joy is to serve the Lord with all that she has learned and she feels so privileged to serve Him in a domain that she is so passionate about. Vonjitiana is grateful that SIL really invests in people and can say that she is one of its tangible fruit. She hopes to be a blessing to the people in Madagascar and beyond as she serves in Bible Translation.

New Consultant

- Mbako Amisi *(Africa)*

Congratulations to Mbako Amisi (Centre Interconfessionnel de Traduction de la Bible et d'alphabétisation, CITBA - DRC) on completing all the requirements for certification as a Translation Consultant. Drew Maust (*Translation Domain Team Leader for Francophone Africa*) announced that the SIL Africa Area accreditation committee for translation consultants has examined the dossier submitted for Mbako, and they are pleased to say that the committee has formally recognized him as a Translation Consultant. His primary mentor was François Anzabati. Mbako is proficient in French, English, Lingala, Swahili and his mother tongue of Komo.

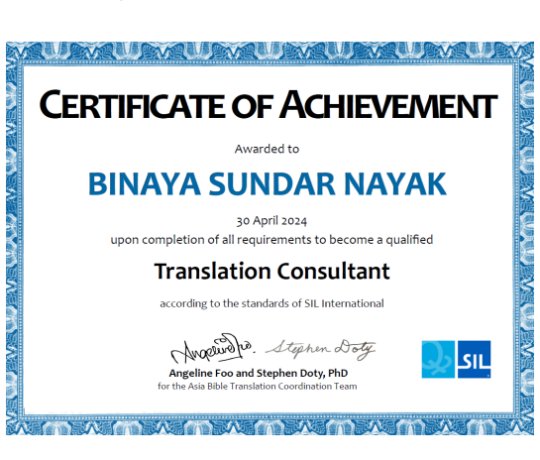
Mbako is a Protestant Christian from the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo), working at ISIRO with CITBA. Before becoming a translator, he worked in education for two years. He also continues to serve as a pastor in his local church until today.

Mbako started working in translation in 1994 with the Komo community finishing the New Testament. He completed his Licence (2010) in the Faculté de Théologie domaine de la Traduction, at Shalom University in Bunia. During his translation CiT internship, he attended several workshops in Uganda and the DRC. He successfully completed mentored checking sessions with Tim Raymond, Margaret Hill, Douglas Wright, Paul Morgan, François Anzabati, Olivia Razzfinjatoniari, and others.

New Consultant

- Binaya Nayak *(Asia)*

Congratulations to Binaya Nayak (Wycliffe India - WIN) on completing all the requirements for certification as a Translation Consultant. His primary mentors were Sunil Kurien Mathew (Head of the WIN Translation Department) and Ajay Kumar Lima. He participated in WIN's pre-TCDW in 2019, and then successfully completed the Asia TCDW in 2021. He has also been mentored by Daniel Selvaraj, John Blakely, George Edward, Siby Kuriakose, Selvi Micheal, Balaji Dhulipala, and Royson Norman D'suza.



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded to

BINAYA SUNDAR NAYAK

30 April 2024

upon completion of all requirements to become a qualified

Translation Consultant

according to the standards of SIL International

Angeline Foo and Stephen Doty, PhD

for the Asia Bible Translation Coordination Team

Binaya has been working as a cross cultural worker for seventeen years. He served with the Pangwali Bible Translation Project and completed the New Testament in 2021. Currently he continues working as a trainer and supervisor of several WIN language projects. He is proficient in English, Hindi, Pangwali and Odiya. He has a Masters in Biblical Studies (M.Div, COTR Theological Seminary) and an M.A. Linguistics (DE, Annamalai University).

Interviews with Translation Consultants

We asked two experienced Translation Consultants, Stuart Thiessen and Harry Harm, to share their thoughts concerning their work and philosophy of ministry.

Stuart Thiessen - *DOOR*

How did you get interested in Bible translation My uncle and aunt, Glen and Linda Claassen, are members of JAARS and they would regularly visit our church. My father would work with the church to give them opportunities to share about the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators. From time to time, we would visit them and my favorite place to visit was the Alphabet museum. In 5th grade, my teacher also taught Spanish for the freshman students, so that was another introduction to multilingualism. The real push to become involved in Bible translation came when I was a pastor of a Deaf church and realized that I had become the signed Bible for many of those who came to the church and that was not sustainable. I needed to be part of Bible translation.

What gets you excited when you work with others in Bible translation? My favorite part of working in Bible translation is when information is communicated and understood and the light comes on. Deaf people are often the last to know, so access to information is a primary value for Deaf people. Whether it is the translation team wrestling with a specific word or phrase or whether the community is watching a draft and explaining what they understand (or don't understand), I enjoy being a part of seeing God's word communicated effectively. Sometimes, I am an active participant in that communication and sometimes I am simply the one who starts the ball rolling but God is the one who brings the understanding as they discuss.

What is your consulting philosophy? A significant part of my role as a translation consultant is to help the team identify where the translation may be weak and ask the relevant questions so they can think through how they can make their translation stronger. Sometimes they just need more information. Sometimes a bit of spoken language influence creeps in. Sometimes we identify areas where they need more training. Sometimes they simply overlook something. Through this on-going dialogue with the team, the translation becomes progressively better. Sometimes our dialogue helps identify good questions to ask the community during the community check. By the time we reach the "final" draft, it is now something we together feel good about. It becomes less about me "approving" something and more about our collaborative assessment of the quality of the product. My desire is to support a quality process where each of our contributions leads to a "final" product they can defend well.

What translation resources do you really value? For resources, I mostly look at the UBS Handbooks, SIL Translator's Notes, Word Biblical Commentary, Keil & Delitzsch, AT Robertson's commentary, and notes from the NET Bible. If these lack information, then I will search the Translator's Workplace or my Accordance resources to see what I can find. I invested in various visual resources available through Accordance to help with explaining visual information. I probably don't use some of the newer online resources as well as I should, so I hope to improve in that area.

How do you continue to grow as a consultant? (What helps you continue to grow as a consultant?) I use Obsidian to document all of my findings about various passages that translation teams are working on. This helps me to remember all that I find. It does sometimes feel like it makes things take longer, but the act of processing the information for myself as I document it tends to help me when I am actually discussing it with the team. Sometimes there are words or concepts that I have not yet run across. So that also gives me opportunities to investigate those concepts for myself so I can better explain them to the team. When the opportunity arises, I appreciate workshops and other training opportunities, but it often depends on the availability of interpreters. This is an area that I want to continue to work on.

How do you share your translation discoveries with others? (blog, BT list, translation conferences, etc) I haven't done much to publicize things I discover. Most of the time I just document them in my notes. I don't usually feel that I have found anything that isn't already known by most consultants. If I find new resources, I have a Google Sites page that I maintain to document things I would likely want to share with fellow consultants from my internet searches or what I receive via email. This helps me to keep all of that information in one place so I don't have to comb my emails to find the information.

Can you share about a time when you realized you were wrong and what you learned from it? One of the temptations in offering feedback is relying on one's memory. Sometimes what I think I remember and what I ought to remember are not the same thing. I remember one time when I was commenting on the passage about the eye of the needle. Somehow the claim stuck in my head that this was some kind of small gate (probably from a pastoral illustration I had seen at one time). Someone confronted me on that observation and so I researched it again and realized that I was wrong. I admitted that I was wrong and explained what I had found in researching it. That and other experiences where I explained something just from my memory have taught me the value of documenting information on a passage and then referring to that documentation when explaining. I am less prone to providing bad feedback when I am more careful in the feedback I provide.

I would also add that when consultants are exalted too much, it can be harder to admit when one is wrong … especially when you may be afraid it will cause people to question the fruit of your other work. But we are human and we make mistakes and no translation is ever perfect. We just continue to do our jobs to offer the best feedback we can.

What are your top tips for someone starting on a career path in Bible translation?

(1) Technical skills like linguistics, exegesis, competency in original languages, competency in LWC, etc. are certainly necessary, but are usually easier to develop compared to interpersonal skills and a vital relationship with God and His people.

(2) Accept that you will not be perfect in all the areas of Bible translation. You should strive to learn as much as you can, but don't expect yourself to be "Super Consultant".

(3) If for whatever reason you decide being a consultant is not the best fit, there are many different ways to be involved in Bible translation that still help the teams to make progress in their translation work.

(4) Invest some time in learning skills in the area of personal knowledge management/ Second Brain/ Zettelkasten/ etc. Learning from these various approaches to knowledge management can help you avoid feeling overwhelmed by the amount of content.

(5) If you are not careful, it is far too easy to become burned out or overwhelmed as a consultant. Make sure you have healthy life practices that can protect you from this. (*The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* by John Mark Comer has been helpful.) Don't assume that it can't happen to you. Assume that it can and take proactive steps to ensure that it doesn't.

Share something that you learned from a mentor or from a mentee? It can be so easy to lose ourselves in our academics (because that can be easier to do) and forget our relationship with God and fellow believers (because that takes time and can be somewhat messy). We need to make time for that. And in the consultant space, time is a precious resource that we may struggle to give. We may be tempted to give performative time to our relationship with God and fellow believers in order to save our time for other activities we feel pressed to complete. But authentic relationships may be lacking. When we need those relationships most, they will not be there. I say this as someone who finds it easier to be in the academics, and acknowledging my need to continue to grow in this area.

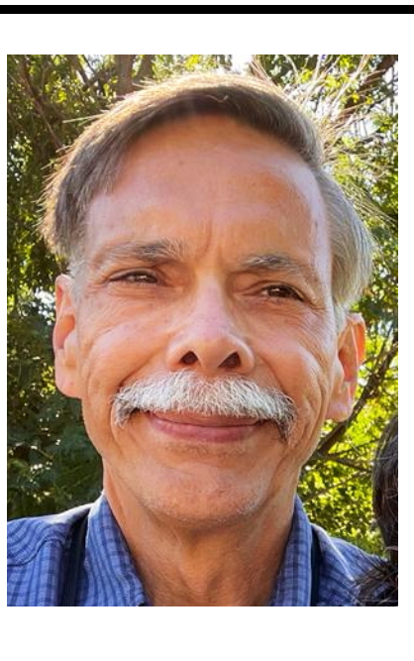
What do you see as the place of the church in Bible translation? I wonder if there is a false dichotomy between "the church" and "the Bible translation movement". We do what we do in Bible translation ***because*** we are members of the Church, the one Body of Christ. In reality, there is no separate entity that is doing Bible translation apart from the Church. Yes, there may be multiple NGOs involved in the work, but all of the people in that NGO should be people who are members of the Church. Yes, there may be multiple expressions of the Church involved in the work, but all of those expressions of the Church share the same Lord and the same Head. That said, admittedly, the Body can do better in communication and collaboration. If we did better at communication (including listening) and collaboration, we can learn how to do this work ***together*** as the Church. After all, when this is all said and done, we will be spending eternity ***together*** so why not find ways to learn to do that now?

So, yes, I believe the Church has a vital role in Bible translation. I personally believe Bible translation is a process that will not end until Jesus returns and so we are wiser to set up long-term sustainable processes that utilize all the gifts of the worldwide Body to see quality translations become available in every language.

What would you say to young/aspiring translators? When I first was interested in translation, I was told by seasoned translators that I could not be involved in Bible translation because I couldn't hear. It would just be too hard to hear the sounds of the languages. I had no argument with that, but I had to grieve that dream. (Of course, at that time, sign language translation was barely on the radar.) Later, when I became involved in Bible translation for sign languages, I was told that I could not do the signing because I am not as native as people would probably want. I had no argument with that, but I had to grieve that dream. But God didn't give up on me because I couldn't do this and couldn't do that. He had something else in mind that I knew nothing about … consulting. And I'm thankful for the opportunity that God has given me as a consultant.

So my encouragement is this: discover how God has created you and invest in the gifts He has given you. Don't be fixated on any one role in Bible translation. Be open to seeing other perspectives about how you can contribute. Don't despair if the work you do in translation doesn't look the same as someone else's contribution. Just be faithful to do the work that matches the gifts and skills that God gives you.

Harry Harm - *Global Sign Language Team, SIL International*



How did you get interested in Bible translation? After high school I worked for 3 years as a longshoreman, loading and unloading ships in Baltimore's harbour. I was unloading a banana boat when God spoke to me telling me to go to university and major in Greek. I majored in Classical Greek at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County but I had no clue what I would do with my Greek knowledge. Then a Wycliffe couple visited my InterVarsity Group to talk about Bible translation and they mentioned the translation process and translation consultants. I knew then that God wanted me to become a translation consultant. Making that come true took me 18 more years.

What is your consulting philosophy?

- 1) When I write up notes for translation teams I include 4 kinds of notes and give translators choices and encouragement.
  - $$$ - commenting on something good in their translation
  - *** - what I see in the back translation is wrong
  - ** - there may be a mistake here so let's talk about it
  - * - what you have is fine but here is another idea you can consider
- 2) People and relationships are more important than complete accuracy.
- 3) I do not know everything. I usually accept an exegetical choice made by a team even if I do not like it if they have support from major translations and/or commentaries.

Can you share about a time when you realised you were wrong and what you learned from it? I was checking a language spoken in the Middle East. The translation described an agricultural practice in a way that I thought was an error. I wrote up the "mistake" in the translation. This was a mistake on my part. The translator was from a rural Middle Eastern setting. I was from an American suburb. The translator had a PhD in agricultural economics. To this day I think that my view is correct. My error was to disagree with his view. Fortunately, I soon realised my mistake and changed my opinion before any damage was done to our working relationship.

What do you see as the place of the church in Bible translation? I have always been a bit suspicious of parachurch organisations. Our first translation project was church based, owned by the Choctaw churches: Assemblies of God, Baptist, Catholic, Mennonite, Methodist, Pentecostal Church of God and Charismatic. I have consulted for projects run by the following churches - Anglican (Egypt), Orthodox (Macedonia) and Catholic (Slovakia). SIL GSLT does not own any translation projects. Many of them are owned by local Deaf organisations, often with churches represented on their boards.

Any other comments? I like challenges. Two of my recent challenges involve DeafBlind and neurodiverse groups. How does one translate a Bible in a tactile modality? How does one record it? How would it be published? How can neurodiverse people be involved in translation? What adjustments in translation and publishing can be made to make translations more understandable and accessible?

News

Memoriam

- Margaret Hill (1941-2024)

Margaret (SIL Senior Translation Consultant & Senior Scripture Engagement Consultant) went to be with our Lord the morning of 20 May 2024. She joined Wycliffe UK in 1965, and a year later went to serve in Nigeria. In 1987, she served with the Ngbaka translation team (DRC) and the Ngbaka Bible was completed in 1995.

She was instrumental in developing Trauma Healing courses across Africa and beyond. Her countless ministry experiences touched many lives. Margaret's tireless energy and creativity leave a legacy of dedication and faith that will be remembered by all who were blessed by her service.

She committed decades to Bible translation consulting sessions in languages across Africa and assisting others in using those translations through Scripture Engagement workshops. *"A cup of tea can solve most problems."*

- SIL International Tribute
- American Bible Society Tribute
- Wycliffe UK Tribute

Changes in Global Sign Language Team (GSLT)

- Bernie vd Louw

The Global Sign Language Team is SIL's sixth administrative area. We are a small area (around 60 members) but serve sign language projects all around the globe, providing consultant help in different specialties (including linguistics, translation, multi-lingual deaf education, ethno-arts, scripture engagement, trauma-healing) as well as exegetical advisors for projects. We are also engaged in other fields, including community engagement and project management, as well as providing sign language interpreters for conferences and meetings within the BT world.

As of May 1st Yuki Yamada became Area Director for the Global Sign Language Team. This means he had to give up his role as translation coordinator. In order to fill this role, GSLT has created a translation coordinator team consisting of four people. Cassie Wallace is a sign language translation consultant and also the GSLT regional director for Asia. She will be the liaison between the translation coordinator team and the regional directors. Siew Foong is a sign language translation consultant, ethno-arts consultant and a trauma healing facilitator. She will be focusing largely on training. Alfred Bout, who is a Deaf sign language translation consultant, will be focusing on partnerships, and Bernadet van der Louw, a sign language translation and linguistics consultant, will be the primary liaison for SIL internal matters, including meeting with the other SIL translation coordinators.

The e-mail address to reach the coordination team is translation_coordinator_gslt@sil.org. Replies will come from our personal sil addresses.

Global Trauma Healing Services

- Karen Kornelsen

Karen Kornelsen (Global Trauma Healing Coordinator) is spreading the word about Trauma Healing and connecting with others who are already doing Trauma Healing. Let us know if you have any questions.

Global Trauma Healing Services is a department in SIL developing self-sustaining programs that use Bible Based Trauma Healing resources to help individuals find healing and freedom from wounds of the heart.

These materials are available in over 200 languages in a variety of versions and formats and are both psychologically and Biblically sound.

We would like to more intentionally connect with those of you already doing Trauma Healing or answer questions about adding it to your current ministry projects. Please get in touch with us at traumahealing@sil.org to share what you are already doing and how we can support you.

We have a video to share with you that will give you a taste of one place where Trauma Healing is at work. Click here for the short 4 minute version. Click here for the long 16 minute version.

Scripture Forge Translation Drafting

- Michael Martin

SIL's Language Technology department recently updated Scripture Forge with its latest offering, the *Translation Drafting* feature. *Translation Drafting* leverages recent advances in Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning to "learn" a new vernacular language using the Biblical text already prepared by a translation team.

Teams with a completed New Testament can connect their Paratext project to Scripture Forge and use the *Translation Drafting* feature to generate a draft of an Old Testament book in their vernacular language. As with any generated draft, these drafts need to be reviewed and edited by a knowledgeable translator, and then checked through the project's normal team, community, and consultant checking steps. Many teams that have started using the *Translation Drafting* feature are already reporting accelerated progress with continued high quality throughout these steps. Teams observe that the machine drafts support consistency in style and word choice with their existing work. *Translation Drafting* also offers an option to generate a back translation draft, facilitating the consultant checking process. Some teams are also incorporating Scripture Forge drafts alongside their current drafting and team checking procedures, using them as resources along the way.

Translation Drafting needs relevant examples to "learn" a new vernacular language. Usually these examples are provided by a translated New Testament. The aim of Operation Catapult is to make *Translation Drafting* available to teams in the early stages of a New Testament translation project. One key innovation is the use of mobile phone apps to collect translations of 8,000 sentences from multiple language speakers. The sentences to be translated are informed by knowledge of the team's primary source text and their planned translation order for the New Testament books. After collecting these sentence translations, Scripture Forge *Translation Drafting* will be used to generate New Testament book drafts.

Journal of Translation Rolling Publication Schedule

- Freddy Boswell and Drew Maust

Digital Resources

Journal of Translation 20.1

Editor's Foreword
Freddy Boswell

Listening to the Other: Kuang's *Babel*, Postcolonialism, and Bible Translation
Doug Liao

Going the Extra Mile: Improving Linguistic Quality in Translation
Christopher Vaz

How Long Will You Love Being "Upright"? The Danger of False Friends in Translation
Ken Adams

Why Consider Local Genres in Translation?
Katie Hoogerheide Frost

Bible Translation as Justice
Michel Kenmogne

Short Note: Translating the Additive גם *Gam* in 1 Samuel 22:7
Stephen H. Levinsohn

Academic publishing continues to evolve since the inaugural issue of SIL's *Journal of Translation* back in 2005. Twenty volumes later, JOT has now moved to a rolling publication schedule to put a more constant stream of scholarship at the fingertips of readers. From now on, accepted submissions will proceed through the publication process as singular releases rather than waiting for the completion of an entire journal issue. Authors are invited to consult the JOT submission guidelines and consider submitting an article, book review, short note, or dissertation summary. Submissions in any language (spoken or signed) will be considered subject to the availability of reviewers. Questions as well as requests for initial feedback on ideas can be directed to editor_jot@sil.org.

Coming Events

- 2024 - 10 June - 19 July. TCDW (Translation Consultant Development Workshop). Hybrid. For information email Angeline Foo.
- 2024 - 01-05 July. Literacy and Education Global Gathering , Nairobi, Kenya. Registration information. Contact Diane Dekker or Elizabeth Roettele.
- 2024 - 15-19 July. OBT Global Gathering, Bali, Indonesia
- 2024 - 24 June - 06 September. Indonesian TCDW (LPKP). For information email the Director.
- 2024 - 12-23 Aug: FLEx Parser Workshop, Dallas, Texas. The translation quality of any language is greatly improved when parsers are used, since they point out inconsistent writing, help determine word breaks, check words for grammatical consistencies, and contribute in many ways to the grammatical analysis of the language. When Paratext is integrated with FLEx, the quality of translation can dramatically increase through the rigorous application of these parsers.
- 2024 - 18-25 September. ILAC-8. Making good decisions in language programs. Penang, Malaysia.
- 2024 - 09-29 October. Narrative Discourse Analysis for Translation Workshop. Nairobi, Kenya.
- 2025 - 05-13 May. ICON-25: The SIL International Conference & Vision 2025 Celebration. Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2025 - 19-22 May. EMDC. The Netherlands
- 2025 - 21-25 October. Bible Translation Conference 2025. Chiangmai, Thailand.

Useful Links

- Bible Translation Consultant Competencies / YouTube channel for BT Competencies
- Journal of Translation
- SIL Senior Translation Consultants
- Email the SIL International Translation Office / International Translation Services ILS page
- Join/visit the SIL Translation Resources Google Group
- Visit the public SIL.org/Translation site
- Find Translation Resources (both free download and for purchase) SIL.org/Resources/Publications
- Bamboo Project website
- Mentoring Matters website - Mentor Training Courses
- Consultant Development and Management Team
- Progress.Bible Information
- Memoriam website

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This newsletter is produced by SIL International Translation Services. Tuula O'Rear and Brian Migliazza are the editors It contains items of interest for translation personnel within SIL and related organizations. It includes notices of upcoming conferences and workshops, announcements of recent dissertations and journal articles, and pointers to useful information related to translation.

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