



Hawu New Testament

Sabu Island Visit

A group from Kupang recently flew to Sabu Island to interview people and film a report for the U.S. church that invests in the project. Reverend Jerry Hawu, who led the main Protestant denomination on the island for 20 years, accompanied them. The group met with pastors, teachers and local people in many contexts. One pastor said, "I use the Gospel of Mark to teach confirmation classes in my church." Another reported, "When I travel to hold services in rural villages, the people love it when I read from the Hawu text and pray in the language." A teacher stated, "I personally appreciate the work the team does to translate the Bible into Hawu. I think this translation is really needed because this is a good step to maintain our language. I hope the team can also create songs or translate hymns from Indonesian into Hawu."



Top left: The group who traveled to Sabu Island on the Wycliffe plane. Top right: Sabu Island from the air.

Government Encouragement

The speaker of the Hawu legislative assembly requested the translation of Indonesian hymns and church liturgy into Hawu. He said: "It will be wonderful when pastors can read from the Hawu Bible and preach in the language, and people can follow the liturgy and sing in our language."

Reading in Their Language



Young Hawu girls excitedly read the booklet.

The translation representatives distributed Hawu booklets to many people without charge. The booklet, entitled Jesus has Power to Save Us, uses Scripture from the Gospel of Mark to illustrate the power of Jesus.



- Location: W. Timor, Indonesia
- Number of Speakers: 110,000
- Year Project Began: 2004
- Expected Completion Date: 2012

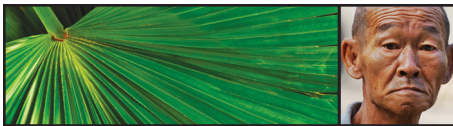
- Praise the Lord for this use of and appreciation for translated Scripture.



Reverend Jerry (left) talks about translation with the Speaker of the legislative assembly.

- Pray that God will bring to fruition this vision of being able to worship Him in their language.





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Everyone, from students to teachers and government employees to construction workers, smiled with pleasure and enjoyed their first encounter with Hawu text.

- **Pray that the Holy Spirit will use these booklets to draw many people to Jesus.**

What's Happening?

Reverend Bobby hasn't had much time to devote to translation lately. So he hasn't yet completed the draft of 1 Corinthians.

- **Pray that God will free some of Bobby's time for translation.**

Churches in West Sabu and on Raijua Island are conducting Sunday services in the Hawu language on the last weekend of every month.

Important Denominational Meetings

The largest Protestant denomination in Timor recently held their annual meetings over twelve days. Attendees included denominational leaders, pastors and representatives from every congregation in the region. The meetings were accompanied by booths selling various items of interest. The local translation organization hosted a booth and drew crowds by playing audio versions of local language Scripture. People giggled as they heard their language, and many folks were excited about buying Scripture publications. One mute woman listened intently to an audio version of Hawu Mark. She nodded her head, as she listened intently. Then by blinking her eyes to communicate, she indicated that Hawu is her language.

Help On the Way?

After the trip to Sabu Island, Reverend Jerry indicated he'd like to be involved in the translation project. And following the denominational meetings, Reverend Paoina, a woman pastor who heads a church in Kupang, contacted project administrators and said she'd like to join the team. This interest is a direct answer to prayer for additional team members.



Even teenagers are interested in learning from Scripture.

- **Give the Lord thanks for church leaders who see the value of holding services in their own language.**
- **Pray the Holy Spirit will use God's Word to bring growth in faith and understanding.**
- **Pray also that people will tell others what they learned from the Good News.**
- **Praise God for answering prayers for additional team members.**
- **Pray that these two volunteers remain interested and will be available to receive training in translation principles.**
- **Pray also that the Lord will bond Rev. Bobby and the two new pastors into a strong translation team.**

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.

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