



Isles of the Sea Cluster

IG-NT-OT*

Kingdom of God

“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need” (Matthew 6:34, NLT).

Daily needs and demands of life can become overwhelming, regardless of residence or heart language. Yet from God’s perspective He has at His disposal an international army of believers standing ready for deployment. They willingly jump at His single command. Unprejudiced, their heart cry is to obey Him.

God’s kingdom is equipped, ready for battle and capable of ministering His heart to the lost world, especially once they’re fully armed with a Bible in their heart language. Meeting the overwhelming demands of life is simply status quo in the kingdom of God.

- **Pray for the kingdom of God in the Isles of the Sea nations, that they are keenly aware of God’s leading, direction and provision.**
- **Thank you, Lord, for this opportunity to serve by ministering Your heart to the lost!**

Faithfully Working

The team has been steadily working to complete the final books of the **Carolinian** New Testament. Publication of this New Testament should happen later this year.

The local **Satawal** team has been diligently translating the Gospels, while the **Woleai** team was checking Mark’s Gospel. The team is expected to expand this quarter to include more participants from the Roman Catholic Church.

Old Testament **Kapingamarangi** has been making its way through the detailed consultant checking⁵ process. **Kapinga** translators are inputting the consultant’s comments and revising the New Testament draft.¹

The **Nukuria** translation team has grown to five members. They completed the Translation Training Course 1 (TTC1) this past fall. Current goals include revising a New Testament translation while they continue checking² the Old Testament.

Typesetting has been completed on the **Paicî** New Testament. While there is no date yet on the dedication, people as far away as Cameroon are planning to attend. The dedication will provide publicity for Bible translation in New Caledonia, including the **Cemuhî** team. They are continuing to translate and check the Lion Children’s Bible.

Tonga’s **Niuafu’ou** translation team has been reviewing the Gospels. The team will receive training in the first quarter that will include a new software package to assist with the translation process.

The **Pa’umotu** team from French Polynesia is continuing at a steady pace as they translate the Book of Psalms.



- Location: Pacific Islands
- Number of Speakers: 40,302 in 16 languages
- Year Project Began: 2010
- Expected Completion Date: 2014

Note: The Isles of the Sea has a wonderful website with more details about the translation projects, the teams, and many great maps. (www.isles-of-the-sea.org) On their home page you can also sign up to be informed when the website has new news to report about the projects. Please have a look at this superb resource.

- **Please pray for the printing and dedication of the Paicî New Testament, that the process would be without problems.**



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Communication complications are not slowing down the **Tikopia** team in the Solomon Islands. A connection was made with a local bishop who just happened to be at the airport at the same time the call failed to the translation team. He was able to provide good news that most of the New Testament has been through a first draft. The local team is preparing to review the drafts with six parishes. Graciously, the bishop offered to help get communication with the team back online and even suggested a new candidate to help as a local advisor.

There's a growing interest in Bible translation in the Polynesian atolls of Papua New Guinea. All three of the main churches — United Methodist, Seventh Day Adventist and Assembly of God — are represented by the five **Nukuria** team members. Currently, a translation draft is patiently written out and entered into a computer. They have arrived at Luke 19 and are just beginning on Matthew.

Some computer problems this past December threatened to slow down progress. A few upgrades and tweaks have allowed the teams to continue hitting their goals. The **Takuu** team reached Genesis, Chapter 30, and is adding Joshua's first eight chapters this quarter; the **Nukumanu** team members are targeting Genesis and Joshua 1-8. If there is time, they will start on Esther, Ruth and Jonah. Both teams are preparing for TTC2.

A deadly outbreak of cholera touched Edmond Teppuri's family, taking the lives two of his wife's siblings. Edmond is a Nukumanu translator who had access to a satellite phone. Otherwise, medical assistance would never have reached the rural island in time. His quick actions and implementation of detailed medical instruction saved the lives of several others in his village.

Micronesia's newest translation project, **Mwoakilloa**, is working through the organizational processes. Last month project team coordinators, Nico and Pam Daams, met with the team and selected translators. This is a vital step in completing the overall project.

- **Please continue to pray for the Islanders joining this project. Pray that a sustainable support base can be worked out for these men and their families: Tevita and Luse in Tonga, David and Ribeka in the Solomon Islands and Tom and Sharon in Papua New Guinea.**

- **Thank you, Lord, for creating a way to communicate with the Tikopia team. We ask that You would find a permanent fix for the communication difficulties and the right personnel for this project.**
- **Praise God New Testament translation began in Takuu and Nukumanu languages.**
- **Please pray for the Teppuri family. The loss of life has hit them hard, especially the three children who have survived their parents' untimely passing.**
- **Pray for the main contact person of the Mwoakilloa group. He is waiting for other members of the team to arrive before he goes for medical treatment.**

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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