



Priau New Testament

Saying “I Do” – Willingly or Reluctantly

Marriages in Priau culture can happen in one of four ways. The first kind is arranged by the two sets of parents and the wedding is held in a grand manner with dancing and feasting. The second is elopement where a couple-in-love runs away and lives together. After a few days they may return to the boy’s village to formalize the marriage. The wedding isn’t so grand with a limited number of people invited to the feast and other ceremonies. In the third kind, only a small wedding is held with the parents’ approval. The boy will come with a few people to get the girl and they’ll have no dancing.

The fourth kind of marriage happens rarely these days. The girl is brought to the boy’s house against her will. The boy and a few people will go to meet her in the market or even at her house. At first, the boy will take her hand and ask if she agrees to marry him. Even if she doesn’t, the people who go with the boy catch her and bring her to the boy’s house. They may have swords, axes and other weapons. Upon seeing this, the parents won’t say anything, but will keep quiet.

- **Pray that the Priau will learn the biblical standards for marriage through the translated Scriptures.**

Biblical Counseling and Prayer Restore a Marriage

Main translators Liamu and Naj Lamin recently helped team member Shako deal with problems in his marriage through prayer and counsel from the mother-tongue Scriptures. When Shako, his wife and little son visited his wife’s parents they had some misunderstanding. Shako got angry so his father-in-law told him he should go marry some other girl. He refused to let his daughter go home with Shako. So Shako got upset and took his son back to his house.

When Liamu and Naj heard of this, they wanted to counsel both Shako and his wife. So first they went to speak with the wife but couldn’t find her at her father’s home or her aunt’s house. With much pain in their hearts, they kept praying for Shako and his family.

One day Shako came and told the Lamins that he no longer wanted to be married to his wife, which is very common in the Priau culture. The Lamins prayed for him and counseled him from the Scriptures. They continued to pray for his wife, whose father was trying to convince her to leave her husband. But he couldn’t persuade her. One day when her parents went out to their field, she left her village and came back to Shako. Now by God’s grace, they’re both living happily together.

PRIAU NT PROJECT UPDATE—1



For security reasons, pseudonyms have been used for the language name and names of individuals.

- Location: South Asia
- Number of Speakers: 301,000
- Year Project Began: 2002
- Expected Completion Date: 2013

- **Pray that Shako and his wife will become an example of a Christian marriage built on the foundation of the Scriptures.**



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It's All Greek to Me

The Lamins attended a Biblical Greek level-two course together. Now they can read the New Testament more fluently in its original language. They learned about textual variants and how to decide which texts to include in the Priau translation.

Steady Movement Forward

Liamu and Naj are using their knowledge of Biblical Greek to draft¹ and revise more Priau Scriptures. They recently drafted the Gospel of John at a workshop and have also drafted Hebrews. Working with the mother-tongue translators, they're now team checking² Romans and Hebrews and taking Acts through community testing.³ They did a back translation⁴ of Luke and Acts, which have both been consultant checked.⁵ Mark's Gospel is close to readiness for publication.

Becoming a Language Expert

Liamu attended a linguistic consultant development workshop. As part of this program, he'll help other teams who are involved in Bible translation for six weeks per year. He learned about what things to examine in languages and how to describe their grammar, phonology and sound system. He may publish a description of the Priau language.

Focus on the Family

The Lamins enjoyed spending time with their kids during summer vacation. By God's grace the children finished their academic year successfully. Their eldest Evie is currently in ninth grade. Like last year, they hope she'll get many certificates and prizes in competitions. Their second daughter Naly is attending fifth grade and Gladys is in third. The children are studying at new schools and have to live away from their parents.

- **Pray that the Lamins' Biblical Greek studies will give them an increased grasp of the meaning of the Scriptures to produce an accurate translation.**
- **Pray for the Priau team as they move steadily through each New Testament book.**
- **Pray for Liamu as he guides other translators through the process of translation.**
- **Pray that Liamu's write-up of the Priau grammar and phonology will give other teams insight into the languages they're working in.**
- **Pray for the girls' studies, health and spiritual growth. Pray for God's will in their lives.**

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.

PRIAU NT PROJECT UPDATE—2

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