



# Pura New Testament

## Discouragement and Challenges

Translator Julius reports: “I was very sick for two months. This was one of the problems that hindered us in our translation. I also felt depressed after the community testing sessions for Acts that we did in Bali [a few months ago]. The words, criticism, strong comments and objections from the readers we asked to help got me down. I was thinking that our translation will be worthless. I kept remembering that they said, “Your translation is not theological.” Anyway, after praying a lot, I am no longer thinking about it and I’m at peace. It is only in my memory. After God restored peace to my soul, I told Ema that we should continue our translation work. So we translated Titus and then continued on with Luke. We are happy to do our job again. I’m sorry for keeping this heartache from you. I know God is in control. **Please pray that we will cling to God.**”

- Give God thanks for restoring Julius's peace of mind and giving him faith to believe God is in control of the translation work.
- Pray that Julius and Ema will work well together and that God will strengthen them and bring members of the community to encourage them.

## Moving Forward in Translation

The team did a great job in translating Titus. Then they finished drafting Luke through chapter 22, so they have two more chapters to go. As they work, it's becoming easier for them to translate based on meaning, instead of trying to do it word for word. That's a huge step forward.

Translator Ema says, “There are some terms in Luke that are difficult to translate into Pura. But since we have more understanding of meaning-based translation, we discussed them and found good solutions.”

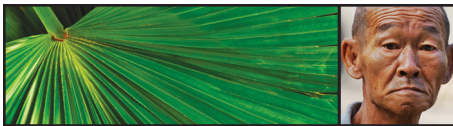
- Praise God for the progress on Luke and for the team's increased understanding of how to translate for meaning, rather than word for word.
- Pray they can quickly complete Luke and move on to another book.

The project advisor needs to work with the team to revise the back translation of Acts that she did from Pura into English. This step is done to prepare for a consultant check because consultants



- Location: Timor, Indonesia
- Number of Speakers: 11,000
- Year Project Began: 2007
- Expected Completion Date: 2017

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don't typically know the local languages but need to understand the team's important translation decisions. They want to assess how closely the translation matches the original meaning.

- **Pray the back translation will be accurate and helpful when a consultant is available to check Acts.**

### Excitement About Scripture

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. Many people were excited about buying Scripture publications in their own language.

Folks from Alor visited the booth and asked for Scripture in their language. The only publication is the short booklet of the parable of the sower from chapter 4 of the Gospel of Mark, also called *The Story of the Good Seed*. People read it with big smiles and then excitedly bought all the available copies! Included in the group was a man who purchased three copies for his grandchildren. He'd also heard the Kupang Malay Bible (a regional trade language) was available to download on mobile phones. After successfully downloading it, the team showed him how to use the application. Revealing his position as a lay leader for the churches in Alor, he commented: "This is the right language for village people on Alor. This is simple and understandable for everybody. And this is a good language for me to explain God's messages to the people I lead."

- **Pray the Holy Spirit will use God's Word to bring growth in peoples' faith and understanding.**



**This man was excited about the availability of understandable Scripture on his mobile phone.**

#### 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.

PURA PROJECT UPDATE—2

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