

# The Rutara



## Trust for the Harvest

Rutara people trust one another. Without a thought, they naturally demonstrate honesty and care for their neighbors during harvest time. Many fields are quite large, requiring more than one day's work to complete the reaping. After they've prepared the bundles of grain or rice, they leave them lying in the fields to be collected. No one would consider stealing another's harvest, so Rutara farmers don't worry about thieves.

## Gaining Ground on James

Translators George and Beera Nashar are almost done incorporating the corrections into the book of James that they gleaned from testing in the community. Soon the book will be all set for a consultant to check. First, though, they need to translate the material back into literal English so that a consultant can work with the text.

### Translation Step 4: Back-Translation

A back-translation enables consultants, who don't typically know the local languages, to understand how the translation communicates.

- Praise God for the team's good progress on the important letter of James.
- Pray that George and Beera will complete the back-translation of James on schedule so that they can sit down with the consultant to check it for accuracy and clarity.

## Acts and Philemon in the Pipeline

The book of Acts continues to receive the team's close attention. Their ongoing in-depth study of the book's message is to ensure that they themselves understand it well and gives them an overview of what kinds of issues they need to tackle as they work on it.

On the other end of the continuum, the team has finished testing Philemon with Rutara speakers. Next, they'll incorporate the people's feedback into the text and then back-translate it in preparation for the consultant.

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- Location: Restricted access area, South Asia
- Number of speakers: 200,000
- Project Goal: New Testament with Old Testament portions
- Year Project began: 1995 with Seed Company sponsorship in 2005
- Expected Completion Date: 2016
- Please pray that nothing would distract George and Beera as they focus on their translation task.
- Pray for Beera with her ongoing arthritis issues and the associated skin disorder. This is painful and can be discouraging and distracting.
- Pray for the Nashars' daughter, who is away at boarding school and struggles with homesickness. This too can cause sadness for her parents, who are very concerned for her wellbeing.



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### Catch 22

Good news: The Rutara project got a new laptop in early December! Bad news: The Windows 7 operating system isn't compatible with the existing versions of Translators Workplace and other translation-related software. Because of the extra setup required for this new equipment, George had planned to get technical help early in the year. Until then, they weren't able to use the new computer.

### Encouragement from James

Imagine the encouragement that the Rutara Christians, who make up only a tiny fraction of the population, will receive from the following verses in James as they become available in the Rutara language:

*“Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”* (James 1: 2-4).

- **Praise God for this new computer and for the available technical help.**
- **Pray that there'll be no technical glitches because of the new operating system, which could cause the team further delays.**
- **Praise God for this wonderful reassurance from God's Word.**
- **Pray that the Rutara believers will be encouraged by this Bible passage and be emboldened to share their faith.**

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