



# Suryoyo Old Testament

## They Are the Ones Who Changed the Most

When mother-tongue translators take on the challenging task of Bible translation in hopes of bringing life-change to their people, it often turns out that they are the ones who change the most. As they spend more and more time in the Scriptures, they gain a growing awareness that the God of the Bible is personally speaking to them. This experience often deepens their faith and nurtures their love for the Lord.

But as the translators' appreciation for God's Word increases, so does their realization of the weightiness of the task. They sometimes shudder to think that they could translate words and passages in a way that's not accurate.

- **Praise the Lord for personally impacting the lives of the translators as they labor to bring His life-giving Word to their people!**

## Hand to the Plow

Each team member is "putting his hand to the plow" (Luke 9:62) as they seek to advance God's kingdom through Bible translation. Community testing of Genesis and Exodus took place in Suryoyo when the lead translator visited monks at the monastery. A team check of Exodus has been done as well. Drafting of Leviticus also continues. The team plans to have selected Psalms that are daily read in church printed and laid out so these can be introduced in church services alongside the previously recorded Psalm portions.

- **Pray for strength and patience for the lead translator.**

## Your Language Is Valuable

By God's grand design it's through language that values, traditions, mindsets and beliefs are imparted. One's mother tongue contributes at the deepest level to how he views and processes his world. Therefore, the heart and mind are most deeply penetrated by one's first language. That's why it's so crucial for people to have access to God's Word in their mother tongue.

Initially, the local people where a Bible translation project is taking place may not recognize the high value of having the Scriptures in their mother tongue. But often they're so touched by the value that the translation team places on their language that they become open to the message of the gospel.



- **Location: The world**
- **Number of Speakers: 500,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2009**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2017**

- **Pray that God will bless the team's efforts to preserve the integrity of His Word.**

- **Rejoice that we serve a God who gives meaning to every language (1 Corinthians 14:10).**

### 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.

SURYOYO OT PROJECT UPDATE—1

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