

Synoptic Gospels and in Paul's letters, there were minor differences in our renderings. We had not always been consistent in translating certain key words and phrases in their various contexts. The New Testament was therefore divided into four sections: (1) the Synoptic Gospels; (2) the Johannine writings; (3) Paul's epistles; and (4) the remaining books. Each section was allotted to one member of the Committee, who was to review it carefully and submit proposals for final alterations, while the convener was responsible for reviewing certain important words and phrases throughout the New Testament. In the course of three meetings during the year 1959, the Committee then completed its final revision of the Santali New Testament, which will now be printed and published by the Bible Society of India and Ceylon. We hope and pray that it will be accepted and used by the Santal Churches, and thus remove one obstacle to the coming of the day when we can speak of the Santal Church.

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## TRANSLATION AND TRANSDUCTION

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It is very helpful to think of the communication of the Christian faith as involving both translation of the Bible and transduction of the gospel. The former is the primary means of the latter, but no end in itself. The dictionary defines *transducer* as "a device actuated by power from one system and supplying power to a second system". If we replace *system* by *culture*, and think of the Christian agent as the *device*, we have a fine description of the man who seeks to make the power of the gospel, first active in one culture, to become a source of power in a second culture. Thus we seek to be transducers. The Bible, however, as a specific document born in one (or two) cultures, cannot be transduced, only translated—it will always be a foreign document in the other cultures of the world. Let's face it. (You *have* to know Palestinian geography and the Hebrew culture to make full sense out of it, and at that point it is quite obviously a foreign book, even if skilfully translated.) It can nevertheless in translated form be a basic tool in the transduction of the gospel. Proper transduction of the gospel will produce in inspired preaching in the new culture something *parallel* to the New Testament. The distinction between the translation of the New Testament and the transduction of the gospel is very important, though commonly confused.

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