

TRANSLATION NEWS

The Scriptures in 1,250 Languages

Some part of the Bible had been published in 1,250 languages and dialects by the end of December 1965, according to the records of the American Bible Society.

Languages in which the whole Bible had been published	237
Languages in which a whole New Testament had been published	297
Languages in which at least a complete Gospel or other book had been published	716
Total number of languages in which some complete part of the Bible had been published	1,250

A complete Bible was published for the first time in: *Twi: Asante* (Ghana) 1964.

Complete New Testaments were published for the first time in: *Arabic: Algerian-Tunisian* (Algeria, Tunisia), 1965; *Chaga: Kirwa** (Tanzania), 1964; *Nuba: Moro* (Sudan), 1965; *Palauan* (West Caroline Islands, Pacific), 1964; *Sora* (India), 1965; *Tzeltal: Bachajón* (Mexico), 1964.

Complete New Testaments together with the Book of Psalms were published in *Mboum* (Cameroun), 1965; *Radé* (Vietnam), 1964.

Complete Portions or more were published for the first time in the following:

<i>Language</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Part</i>	<i>Publisher</i>	<i>Date</i>
Auca	Ecuador	Mark	Bible Societies in Ecuador	1964
Awa	New Guinea	1, 2	S.I.L.	1964
		John		
Bobo: Black	Upper Volta	Mark	Mission Protestante	1965
Bora	Brazil, Colombia	Mark	S.I.L.	1962
Candoshi	Peru	1 John	S.I.L.	1964
Cayapa	Ecuador	1, 2, 3,	Bible Societies in Ecuador	1964
		John		
Chaga: Kirwa*	Tanzania	N.T.	Leipziger Mission in Erlangen	1964
Cofán	Ecuador	Mark	Bible Societies in Ecuador	1964
Colorado	Ecuador	Mark	Bible Societies in Ecuador	1964
Fasu	Papua, New Guinea	Mark	S.I.L. and World Home Bible League	1964
Huambisa	Peru	Mark	S.I.L.	1965
Iatmul	Papua, New Guinea	Phile- mon	S.I.L.	1965
Maya-Mopan	Guatemala, Brit. Honduras	Mark	Bible Soc. in Guatemala	1965
Mixteco: Ocotepéc	Mexico: Oaxaca	Acts	Bible Societies in Mexico	1965
Motu: Police	Papua, New Guinea	Mark	B.F.B.S. in Australia	1964
Siane: Komogu	Papua, New Guinea	Mark	S.I.L. and World Home Bible League	1964
Syriac: Modern:	Iraq	4 Goss.	A.B.S.	1873
Elkoosh†				
Twi: Asante†	Ghana	Mark	B.F.B.S.	1957

Some of the 1,250 languages are no longer in use. In others that have been long on the list, revised translations are being worked out by groups of nationals.

* Also the first publication in this language.

S.I.L. with the co-operation of the A.B.S. and B.F.B.S.

† Reclassification by separation as a distinct dialect from the related language.

Hungary

The Hungarian Bible Council held a meeting in November 1965 to receive and discuss the report on the work of the special commissions on Bible translation. Those reporting on the work of the Old and New Testament commissions submitted the proposal that before the beginning of the final revision of the translations, the presidium of the General Synod of the Reformed Church, which has the charter for publishing the Bible, should convene a conference for the members of the commissions on Bible Translation and those pastors of the member churches who have already given evidence of their interest in and expert knowledge about the work of Bible translation. It was further proposed that the participants of the conference discuss, amongst other things, the question of concordant renderings, the theological meaning of certain key concepts of the Bible, the problems of the explanatory notes and those of the parallel texts. The plan was also put forward to call in an expert on Hungarian usage. The Bible Council adopted the proposals and requested Bishop Tibor Bartha, Ministerial President of the General Synod of the Reformed Church, to take the necessary steps towards convening the proposed conference. The Bible Council stated with satisfaction that the instalments already published containing the translations of the Biblical books had been carefully studied by the pastors of the member churches, and that a great number of observations and proposals about the translation had been submitted. These comments and proposals will be considered by the members of the commissions on Bible translation in the course of their further work.

The plan for 1966 is that the special commission on the Old Testament translation will hand over before the end of June, 1966, the final texts and explanatory notes of the five books of Moses, Joshua, Judges and Ruth. The New Testament commission, owing to the special effort of working through the whole month of January, has made very good progress. The translation of the synoptic Gospels will soon be completed.

New Russian New Testament

After twelve years of continuous work, a Russian committee meeting in Paris completed its work and submitted the manuscript of this new translation to the British and Foreign Bible Society for printing and publication, and it is now in the final stages of preparation. As always in the case of Scriptures for dispersed communities, there is a great problem of distribution and of testing the acceptance of what must be for so many a radical approach to Scripture. Russian readers tend to be conservative and so far have never been challenged, either by the insights of modern scholarship or the cadences of an entirely new presentation of the text in modern Russian. This publication will therefore break new ground in significant ways. Already it has stirred the imagination of well-disposed supporters of this venture, through whose good offices it will be possible to arrange both for broadcasts of the new translation, beamed direct to Russia, and for the distribution of the new translation on missionary terms to those who wish to have their own copies. The new translation has not been conceived as a rival to the much-loved Synodal text, but it is believed that it will win acceptance amongst thoughtful Bible students as a very helpful alternative translation, and the only one which reflects the modern insights and textual developments.

French-speaking Africa

Dr Jan de Waard, a member of the Netherlands Bible Society Translation Department's staff, left Europe early this year to take up the post of Translators' Consultant at the Bible House in Yaoundé, Cameroun. His main task will be to help in Bible translation and revision in Cameroun and neighbouring countries.

Dr de Waard is in the first place a scholar in Biblical languages and exegesis, but also received training in general and African linguistics. It is planned that Dr de Waard shall work in association with his colleagues in other African countries that they may serve each other within their special fields of knowledge.

Correspondence for Dr de Waard may be sent to: Société Biblique, Cameroun-Gabon, B.P. 1133, Yaoundé, Cameroun.

Un "Notre Père" commun à tous les chrétiens

"Le tutoiement, abandonné par l'Église catholique au XVII^e siècle, réapparaît dans la nouvelle version."

La traduction unique du "Notre Père," que sera commune à tous les catholiques, orthodoxes et protestants de langue française, est désormais prête et entrera en usage dans la liturgie romaine, en France, à partir de Pâques. En voici le texte définitif:

Notre Père qui es aux cieux
Que ton nom soit sanctifié,
Que ton règne vienne,
Que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel,
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses, comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés.
Et ne nous soumets pas à la tentation, mais délivre-nous du Mal.

Les catholiques de rite latin ajoutent au "Notre Père" "Amen". Les chrétiens d'Orient et les protestants conservent les conclusions qui leur sont propres.

(La Vie Protestante).

News from the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches

The Joint Working Group between the Roman Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches in its first report referred to the development of joint translations of the Bible being undertaken in various parts of the world. The recent Vatican Council Constitution on Divine Revelation had encouraged such projects.

Reviewing this report, the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, meeting at Geneva in February, 1966, expressed, 'its deep gratitude for the services which the Bible Societies are giving to the member churches of the W.C.C. Their ministry of translating and distributing the Bible had been, and continues to be, of great value to the member and non-member churches in their missionary and ecumenical activities. It rejoices in the fact that the translation and distribution of the Bible is becoming more and more the common task of the whole Christian Church and it encourages all efforts undertaken in this respect.'