

PROJECT NO: 8804

TAX | NON-TAX

Australia



Training Translators



Overview

To further the work of Bible translation in our country, Bible Society Australia supports the training of local Bible translators through a Certificate of Bible Translation at Nungalinya Theological College in Darwin and 'In Community' Bible translation workshops.

The Need

Mother Tongue translators are vital to the success of any Bible translation project — which have the potential to transform communities, breathing new life into languages and Opening The Bible with many people. Yet, while many translators are passionate about making the Scriptures available in their heart language, they lack essential knowledge and formal training.

±25

students to enrol in the 2023 Certificate II in Indigenous Translating course in three cohorts: Yolngu, Murrinhpatha and Kunwinjku.

9

students graduated from the Certificate II 'First Nations' Language Course in two language cohorts: Yolngu and Murrinhpatha.

11

students graduated from the Diploma of Translation course.

20

ipads were provided through Bible Society for the students to assist in their studies.

Goals

To address the need for training of Mother Tongue translators, Bible Society Australia gives ongoing support to the training of Indigenous Bible Translators through our partnership with Nungalinya Theological College in Darwin.

In 2022, Nungalinya College ran a Certificate II 'First Nations' Language Course, helping teach students to read and write in an Indigenous language. This course also formed an introduction for

those interested in training as a Bible Translator, who need help with the literacy requirements of a translation course.

In order to make Bible Translation training more accessible to a younger generation of translators, Nungalinya College has designed the new Certificate of Bible Translation Course. The Certificate of Bible Translation Course will allow students entry without the same requirements as the previous Diploma

level course. This new course is also specifically designed for Bible Translators, providing a more specialised focus.

Plans are underway to commence the new Certificate II in Bible Translation in early 2023 and a new group of eager translation students have enrolled in order to learn the specialised skills and processes required to create good translations for their respective language group.

Impact

In 2022, two different language groups completed the 'First Nations Language Course' at Nungalinya College, a Murrinhpatha group from Wadeye and a Yolngu group from Arnhem Land. This course was run as a preparation for translators wanting to read and write in their own language.

Louise MacDonald, resource worker with the Uniting Church's Coordinate says, "This is an ongoing project to increase the quality of translation work, but also to bring in a new generation, and because the students are usually also key church leaders within their communities, it will increase the profile of Bible translation work within those communities. It's going to be really significant."

Testimonies

"The course here is helping me build my capacity. It's helping me build my courage."

Yurranydjil, a Diploma of Translation student and Wangurri Translator.

Prayer Needs

- Thank God for the desire among our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters to be trained and serve as Bible Translators.
- Pray that God will help them as they learn and protect them as they travel from their homes to study at Nungalinya College in Darwin.
- Pray also for Nungalinya College, for their principal Ben Van Gelderan as well as Diploma of Translation Course Coordinator Lizz Martin.
- Pray that God would guide them as they prepare lessons and for his strength, wisdom and patience as they teach.