



Translating in Malayalam

In 2020, we came in contact with a pastor from Kerala State, India, as he was traveling in the USA. He was interested in having a quantity of John/Romans booklets printed in his language, Malayalam (Ma-le-YA-lam). However, we did not have a Textus Receptus translation into Malayalam. Instead, we challenged him to examine his Malayalam Bible according to the checklist we have on our web site. He and a friend in India did just that. The result was that they discovered errors in their Bible and determined to do a new translation. The Pastor and several church leaders in India met with us via Zoom to discuss the possibility of a new translation. They had a very positive response. We sent them detail principles and suggestions on how to organize their team, begin to translate, and bring it to a successful conclusion. They have been discussing the actual organization among themselves. The pastor we first met has now returned to India.

There are students in the Bible institute there whose mother tongues do not have a Bible. We would love to help start translation projects in these languages. In India, there are thirty-four languages and fifty people groups that have no published Scripture, according to peoplegroups.org. That amounts to about 19 million people. All these groups are considered to be unreached by the gospel of Jesus Christ, as less than 2% of their population is born again. Forty-two of these groups (*3.5 million people*) have not had ANY church planting efforts in the last two years, as far as is known. Five groups (*1.5 million people*) have had initial church planting efforts in the last two years. Only three groups have had extensive church planting and that includes the deaf (almost 13 million), but there is still no Bible. The need is great.

Please pray that God will open doors and burden hearts about the evangelism and Bible translation needs of these people. Pray that each of the translators will be all God wants them to be and that He will meet all their needs. Pray for them, their families, and their churches. Pray that many people there will be saved and walk with the Lord. Pray that God will protect them all and keep them from the persecution now going on in India.

