

Mattocks Missionary Mosaic

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I can understand their draft!

Glancing to my left at the end of the table I could see Atika's chin above her computer screen with the biggest smile ever as she exclaimed, "Rich, I can understand their draft [as she pointed at Angela]. *This is the language we speak today!*" Atika (who graduated from high school several months ago), had come with her elderly father, David, to help revise the 47 year old Fore [For'-ay] language New Testament (NT). David had been recommended to me (Rich) by other godly, Fore Christians, who have been asking for years to get help to revise and reprint their NT. When David was a young man, he had helped with the Fore dictionary after the NT had been printed 47 years ago. I asked Atika to help her dad with the computer. Weeks later, after David experienced a severe illness, their first five revised chapters showed us that David needed to make major changes to 58% of the verses; both because the first translation was missing parts of the story in many verses and the language had also changed with exposure to the outside world.

During the first two checking sessions, Atika seemed to be a non-Fore speaker. Then we sent chapters home with Joseph and Angela, who completely retranslated them, but their draft was very accurate and natural! The third day of advisor-checking with the Fore team, I noticed Atika pointing at her screen and talking in Fore! So I asked Atika to read while another person back-translated into the trade language for me. She read like a fluent speaker. After several hours I asked her to be the back-translator. She was able to quickly translate most of it with just a little help on the meaning of a few words. In the meantime, we were sailing through the verses, correcting a few errors in the draft. I was praying and pinching myself: "Lord, is this true? It almost looks like Joseph and Angela (a married couple) are phenomenally gifted in translating their Fore language. Lord, have



The Fore revision team's first week of team-checking the book of John at an Ukarumpa translation cubicle. Left to Right: Atika (front), Joseph, David, Rich (Advisor) and Angela (right). The Kamano-Kafe are audio recording in our home translation office.

you provided us a drafter with the gifts of William Tyndale in Fore?" We checked 62 verses the first day and 73 the next. Even after completing the Kamano-Kafe Bible, the Kamano team never achieved that many verses very often. It turns out that Angela and Joseph are neighbors of James, the lead Kamano translator. James had been giving them translation lessons at their house, helping them understand what he learned about the Papuan sentence structure in Kamano, how it differs from English, and how to make it grammatically accurate and natural in the Fore language. We see God's amazing hand in the start of the Fore New Testament revision. Next time you are on the internet, look up "**Fore language and Kuru, or mad cow disease.**" Fore is a neighboring language group of Kamano-Kafe with 26,650 people. We have a long road ahead of us, and need four more computers and solar panels with batteries. The daily allowance for one of these five translators is \$9 to keep them serving. You can help support this team by giving to the Tyndale "Fore Project", either on the website, or by mailing a check to Tyndale Bible Translators office (see bottom of page 2 for address).

The Kamano-Kafe team checking and consultant checking—all 31,102 verses—were completed in April. The entire Bible is nearing publication! The Kamano Team is currently re-audio-recording Genesis (one of our earliest translated books), then will finish recording the Old Testament (Isaiah through Malachi). "**The sponsorship letter**" has been given to Kamano-Kafe churches, leaders and friends, to give them a head-start on tithing to sponsor the printing of the books of their Bible. This is what we also did in 2014 when raising funds to publish the New Testament; Kamano-Kafe people tithed 58% of the NT printing price. Praise the Lord that they have already sponsored eight OT books.



Above: The Fore translation revision team's first checking training session May 7th at our ping-pong table. Left to Right: Atika helping Angela on the computer; James and Kossack (Kamano) mentoring Shadrach (a Fore speaker, front).

We have gotten U.S. mail twice now since March, however, it takes 3-4+ months to get to PNG! Only life-threatening medevacs are allowed, so medical help in Australia is still not available. Thank you for praying for us to stay healthy, especially since COVID has been on the rise here lately.

- ☝ **Praise the Lord**—The Kamano team is finished with the Old Testament (OT) team and consultant checks. Kossack continues OT recording before we, Lord willing, get the book ready to print the entire Bible.
- ☝ **Praise the Lord that the Kamano-Kafe people have tithed towards publishing 8 OT books so far.** We will share more in our September Mosaic after the Kamano-Kafe people have had the first chance to tithe.
- ☝ **PTL**—Tyndale has been asked by SIL (numerous times) to assist the **Fore** ('For-ay') revision. **That team started team-checking weekly in May. Pray for help to fund the TBT Fore Project, needed to continue this work.**
- ☝ **Please plead with us for the Lord of the harvest to give us more workers for Tyndale Bible Translators, especially in PNG!** We need more advisors to do what we do for other languages who are begging for help with NT revisions in languages where their New Testaments were published 20-50 years ago. We are maxed-out working with 3 language groups now: Kamano-Kafe, Fore and Gadsup...and the coffee project as well!



Above Photos (May 17th): twelve 80-114lb. bags of coffee parchment (which are hulled to get green beans to roast) are loaded almost to the ceiling in our truck. The Kamano-Kafe Coffee Roasters team will hull and roast these beans to sell. As the saying goes here: "A vehicle is never full in PNG." This 4x4 trip to a nearby village to buy coffee parchment from a local church also helped this church raise funds for a building project. One of the elders rode back to Ukarumpa on top the bags just inches from the ceiling! (Yes, the windows were open for a little better COVID safety.)



Left: (April)—The Gadsup translation team revising Luke (which we finished May 19, then started John) in an Ukarumpa Cubicle. Joyce, who took this photo, advisor-checks with them 3 afternoons a week.

Above: Left to right: Esther, Donald (standing), Muntera and Kennedy (typing on computer).

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Moving?

Please send address changes either to us, or to Joyce's sister:

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☺ *Christa's Corner* ☺

- ☺ Christa has been working long, busy 8-11 hour days as a medical scribe and has been learning a ton! Please pray for better ergonomics than standing and typing at odd angles for long hours. This is required to follow both Physician Assistants and doctors into appointments (often in rooms without accommodations for scribes to sit and type). Christa sets her laptop down on any available surface, depending on the room, and starts typing. The speed of appointments, prepping and editing the electronic appointment files, along with the extra stress of eye shields and masks, makes for tiring days.
- ☺ Nowadays, Christa mostly shares with us unique things she is learning at work about medicine, people and their reactions to problems. She is enjoying finding nature trails to run and bike on and new waterfront parks.
- ☝ In April, Christa began the preparations for the long process of applying to medical schools. Please pray for wisdom, energy and motivation to go forward after long days at work.
- ☝ Please pray that Christa will find a community of friends to connect with in Olympia, as this is especially difficult during a pandemic. Christa is not used to driving longer distances to see friends or go to church. She is attending a Bible Study small group near where she lives.



Right Photo:
Christa (back), Wendy and Eulene (front). Two friends took Christa on a picnic and a hike to a beach on Mother's Day.
Left Photo:
Christa standing on a tree at a park near Olympia.



Giving Options for Financial Partnership:

TBT also has a very inexpensive and safe bank-to-bank transfer option!

1. For help, call Kim (TBT Office) at 971-231-4196.
2. **Online:** <https://tyndalebibletranslators.org/give/>
3. Or send a **check made out to Tyndale Bible Translators** with a **note attached** stating: "for the ministry of Rich & Joyce Mattocks" to:

Tyndale Bible Translators
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