

Opening Doors so the *ethnos* can also believe

**Acts of the Good Shepherd
during Mission Asia
November, 2025**

Report by Robin

The believers in Antioch had entrusted the 'sent ones' to the grace of God to do the work they had now completed. Upon arriving back in Antioch, they called the church together and reported everything God had done through them and how he had given them an open door so that nations could also believe in Jesus.

Acts 14:26-27



Report Overview

1 month “on mission”

\$19,310 contributed for this work

31 prayer partners via a virtual group joined me each day

4 countries; 4 currencies; 10 beds (3 in transit)

1 BT conference and 3 oral translation workshops

2 apps: **SPadv** (the Story app) & **Honey Bee** (for oral Bible translation)

42 language communities (130 ppl) trained

3 elephants encountered

Many doors opened

Bible Translation Conference in Chiang Mai



~500 attended; many presentations & discussions. I also presented a [paper](#)

Theme: “Ethics in BT”

Hot topics:

1. how languages are counted
 - usually by outsiders: ~7500.
 - If local speakers counted, the number would be 35,000+
2. types of BT project models:
 - Outsider owned, funded, controlled, done
 - Outsider owned, funded, co-done w/ local believers
 - Insider owned, funded, controlled, done
3. written text vs. oral-audio
4. One-time, partial Scripture product vs. full Scripture publication with perpetual revisions



Bible Translation Conference in Chiang Mai

- Enjoyed re-connecting with and was refreshed by friends and colleagues from my previous “worlds” of PNG, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Media...
- Found a technical networking partner (aquifer.bible) by which to spread our Easy to Translate (E2T) version + Brief Exegetical Notes (BEN) outside of Honey Bee app.



Elephant encounter #1 in Thailand

To join me on this elephant encounter I was connected by a mutual friend to Zim, a vibrant refugee from the 70-year war in Myanmar whose father is a translator in a dangerous / persecuted situation. Zim helps her father when she can.



Delay & different door for Entering India

- Our “sheepy” plan was for me to fly from Chiang Mai to BKK to HYDerabad, India, get a visa on arrival, then drive with Prem to his city (Karimnagar) 4 hours away for several days of workshop prep, visit with my Indian host family, and daily preach at small house church meetings. Then drive back to HYD with Prem and Angel, and fly to Indore for the first HB training workshop.
- This plan failed when I found out I needed an online visa before I could fly into India. I paid \$200 to expedite a visa in 2 days, but it did not arrive. I re-booked my non-refundable flights twice, then did not know what to do. We prayed. It was stressful!



Storming heaven to gain access to India

Praying for that miracle and thanking HIM for providing for you.

Praying!
Praying!



There is always a purpose for God's will.

Lord, please get Robin to destination in good time. You are Lord of the Indian visa authority.



Asking Jesus to refresh your body and soul with this forced delay. And that your sanctified work would be divinely multiplied even while you wait!

Chronicles 20. Jehoshaphat's trust when facing massive armies... The battle does belong to the Lord and he is able to make a way for you!

We're continuing to pray for you and Prem, Angel, and your team. God is with you. And He is working...!

We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you!
- 2 Chr 20:12

Dan 10. Don't be afraid. Your request has been heard in heaven. But spirit powers have blocked my way. Lord, send armies of heaven to open the way!

So sorry for all that is happening to you! We are praying for you! Your God whom you serve is not sleeping. You will soon see his deliverance. All those things are happening because there is great victory ahead of you.. The devil is a loser all the time

IN THEIR HEARTS
HUMANS PLAN
THEIR COURSE,
BUT THE LORD
ESTABLISHES
THEIR STEPS.

PROVERBS 16:9



After two missed flights, and 4 days later, visa was granted!

I abandoned my pre-paid ticket because Prem got me a very cheap, direct flight from BKK to Chennai to Indore (completely different route), taking 12 hrs less time!

We connected 10 pm in Indore, and went to the (safe) Catholic Convent where Prem had arranged and organized to host our large HoneyBee app training the next day.

Hallelujah! All your ways are good and perfect! Times of growth in our lives. May your hand be in this training. May your hand of protection be felt. May the technical issues be sorted out and health be given along with your wisdom, Father!



Indore city, HoneyBeeOBT “Hindi” भाषा Training

- I wept when I saw all the participants the next morning!
- 80 participants!
- 26 (3-ppl) language teams
- Hindi was our “gateway” language
- Our goal: getting locals started on **Oral Bible Translation** via HB app (many had been translating stories via the SPadv app for the last 2 years)



Workshop prep



Prem arranged all the logistics (venues, invitations, travel for participants, signage and ID cards), relations, communications, and handled all the local finances and expectations with integrity, generosity and grace. And he facilitates getting Bible content templates into “Gateway” languages. Big work!

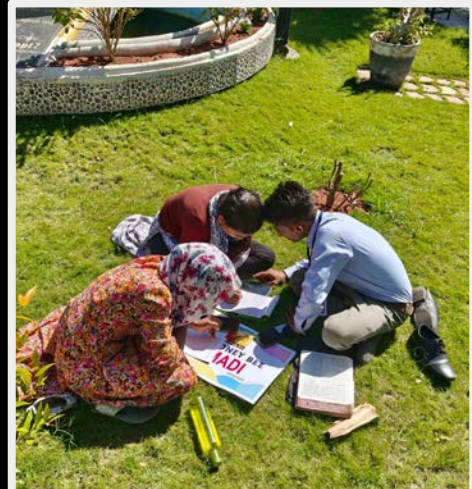


TRAINING ON:

- LEARN
- TRANSLATE + REVISE
- NATURALNESS CHECK
- ACCURACY CHECK
- VOICE STUDIO
- FINALIZE
- REVIEW
- + COMBINE
- SHARE

Training Sessions

- Worship
- Demonstrations / Explanations / Q-A (via interpreter)
- Practicals in translation teams





**Anyplace can
be a translation
office with the
HoneyBee app!**

Happy graduates of Indore (Hindi) HoneyBee training



Testimonies from translators



Our people don't understand Hindi, so now we can get the Bible in our own Ghahara language.

With the HB app we can make difficult things easy, in our own language, for our own people.



We have 3000 dialects just in our Chhattisgarh state! The language changes every 5 kilometers...



Anybody can listen any time to the digital audio Bible. This is great because I can't personally reach everybody.

Five stars for this app! It is God's gift to me! I feel privileged to be a translator for our language! It is so helpful for our people who don't understand the Chh state language. (Our dialect is very different!)



This app is so good for me and my team!! We learned. We want to do translation work with this app.



You might feel weak and discouraged. But your God in you is most powerful! Be **courageous!**

Touring Indore

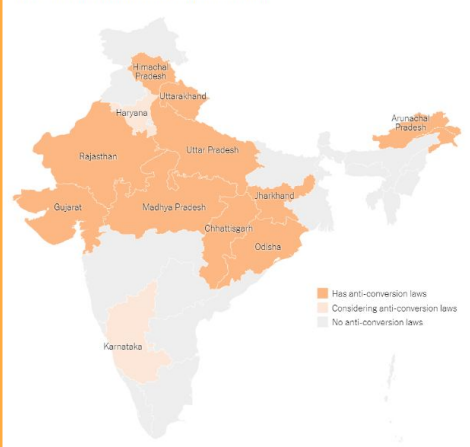


Complications of India

- 20+ different state languages (and scripts)
- 1000s of local languages & dialects
- High illiteracy and poverty
- Only ~100 languages have Scriptures (many done by outsiders or outdated)
- Most northern “Hindi”/Hindu nationalist states persecute Christians
- Heavy monsoon seasons create difficult travel logistics

भारत Hindi
ગુજરાત Gujarati
ଓଡ଼ିଆ Odia/Oriya
ಕನ್ನಡ Kannada
తెలుగు Telugu
தமிழ் Tamil
മലയാളം Malayalam
پنجابی Punjabi
ভাষা Bengali
मणिपुरी Manipuri

States in India with anti-conversion laws

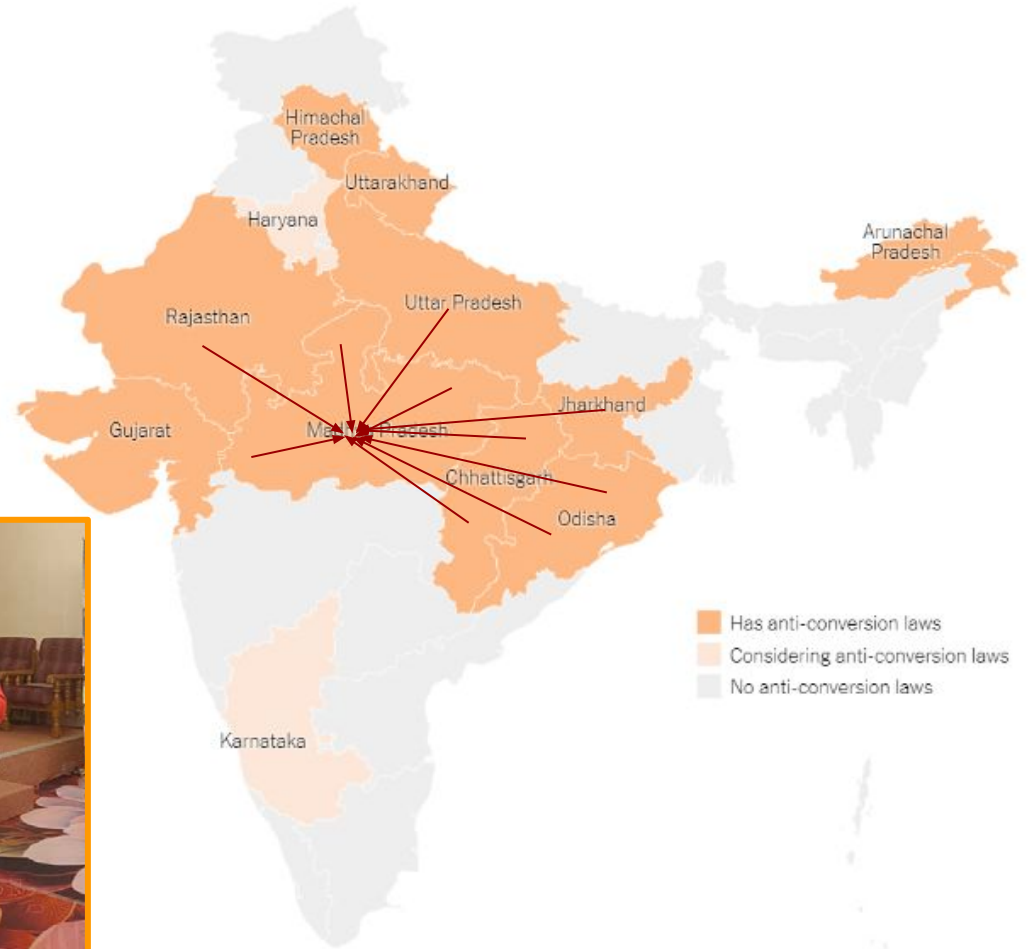


HB translators came to Indore from 6 states

We took up a love offering and prayed for this translator who came to the training directly after getting released from being in jail for 2 months, starved and mistreated. He was charged with “terrorism” for hosting a prayer meeting in his house where 75 people had gathered.

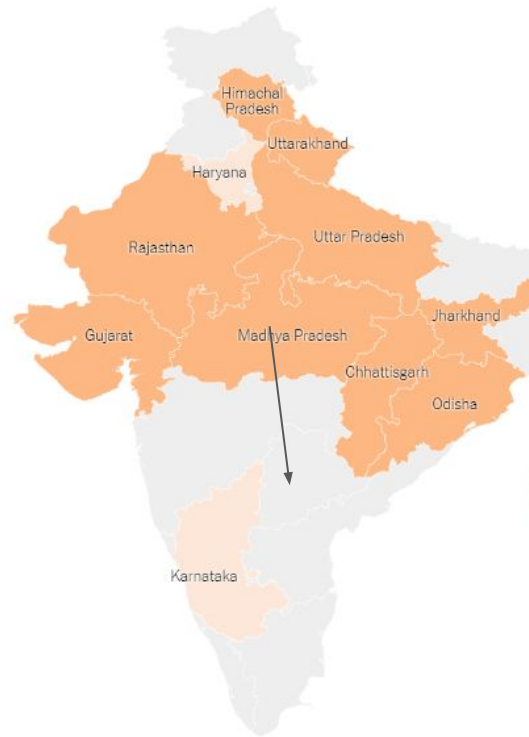


States in India with anti-conversion laws



Transitioning to Karimnagar (hometown) for the next HB training

States in India with anti-conversion laws



- Flew with Prem & Angel from IDR to HYD in the evening
- Aby-Michael (Angel's brother) drove us 5 hours thru the night to Prem & Angel's home in Karimnagar city
- 1 day to recover, prep and shift to the Telugu HB training at the resort in the shadow of a major Hindu temple



HoneyBee “Telugu” training at the resort

Getting participants registered and settled as they arrived....



THE HONEY BEE APP TRAINING

"Reaching India"

TRAINING DATES: 07,08,09&10 NOV, 2025.
VENUE: PRERANA SADAN INDORE - M.P.
HOST: PAISLEY TECHNOLOGIES &
BETHESDA MISSION BASE



Name: _____

Church: _____

Place: _____

In our training hall, asking the Good Shepherd to guard our time.
We had 40 participants for this workshop.
తెలుగు Telugu was our “gateway” language.





We followed a similar training pattern as in Indore:

- be all together for training demonstrations,
- then break up into language teams for practise.

Angel and her Dad were interpreters for me.



The cuisine was delicious!



- Always finger-lickin' good
- Grateful for fire-extinguishing yogurt!
- coffee and chai, always served in tiny cups, amused me



Challenges and Victories

- Invisible opposition
- Relational tensions
- Software bugs (e.g. audio files disappearing)
- Annoyances with leaky plumbing at the resort



Through prayer, by God's grace, all challenges disappeared or got resolved and we finished the training, each language team successfully translating and publishing-sharing Jonah with their people. Our wrap-up included breaking chapatis together, worship, encouragement, certificates, photos ... and games...!

Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those with the enemy...

Sovereign God, refresh the people, place and works taking place.

We have not ceased praying for you ... that you may walk worthy ... bearing fruit in every good work...


Lord Jesus, put a hedge of protection around this training session. Give unity. Resolve the technical issues. Grant progress for your glory!




Fun n Games!




Testimonies from Translators



I've never had the Bible in my Yerkala language. Now I'm very happy to be able to translate for my people. We are encouraged! We don't know when a BT org will come help us translate, but now we can start in an easy way.




I've explained this translation app to my people and they want to support me to get the Bible in our language.



Many of our languages here have no writing system and we've been forgotten. These oral translation apps are a big opportunity for us! You have given us the ability to publish our language and spread the Bible. Thank you!

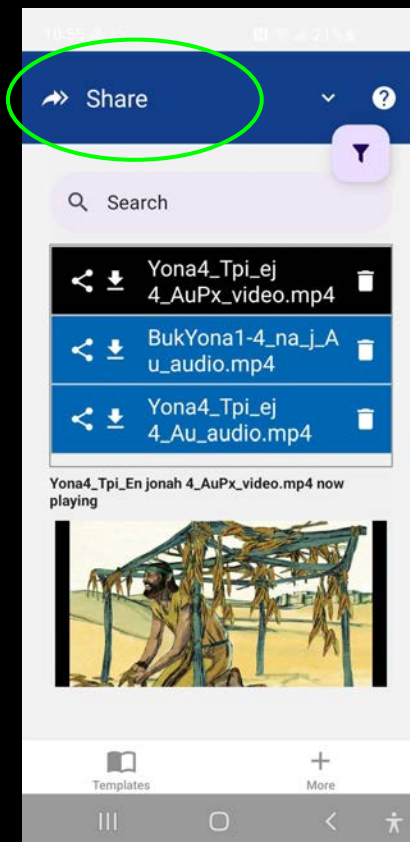
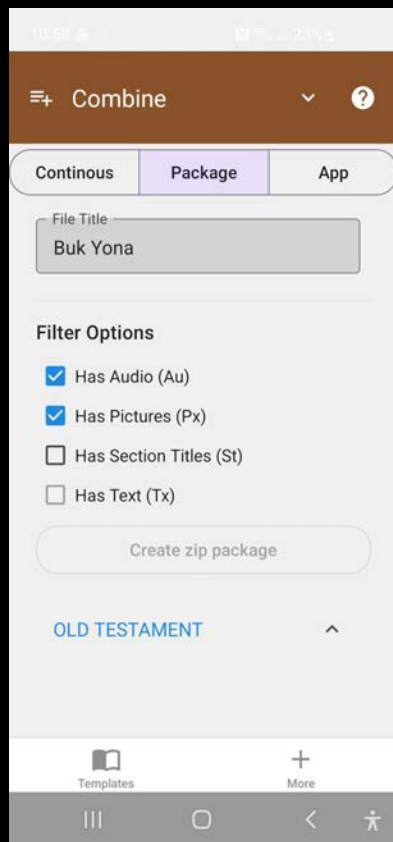
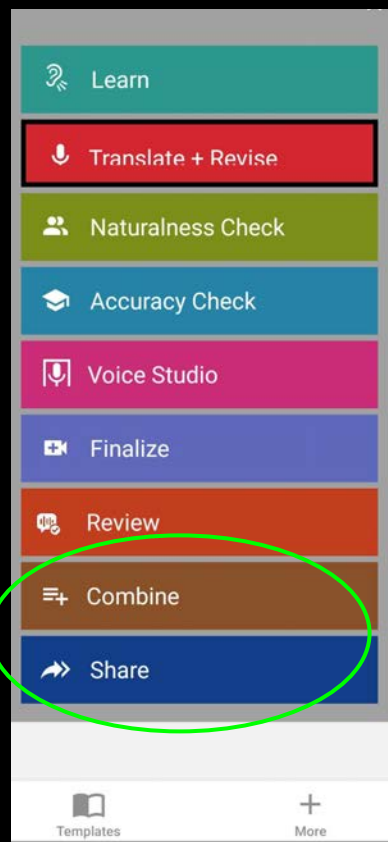


When we learned the Story app 2 years ago, our people were really helped to hear and view the 25 Bible videos we published in our Lohar language. Now our team is very excited to have this opportunity to get the Bible in Lohar!



In 3 days I learned many things about translation. This is very useful for my community! Thank you for coming!

The “Spontaneous Applause” Indicator



Something unexpected occurred that surprised me. Toward the end of the training, as I was demonstrating the ability of the HB app to combine in various ways their translated audio and video Scripture files, and to publish them immediately, sharing-distributing to their language community... all the participants broke out in **spontaneous applause**! This happened in both workshops. They were so pleased to easily, freely and quickly be able to spread the Word in their language with their people. I loved that! 😊❤️

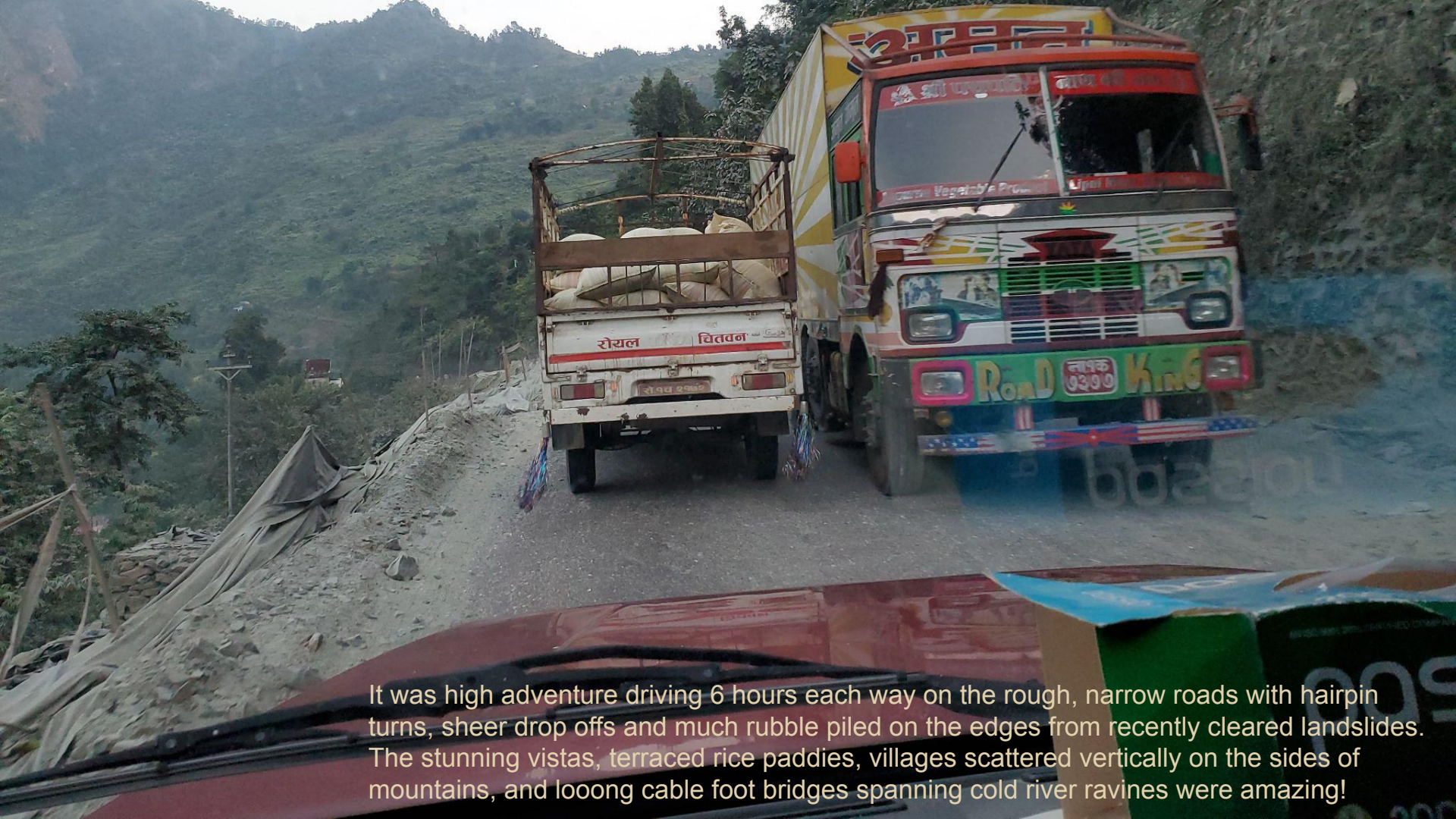


Transitioning to Nepal




After a midnight arrival and rough start getting accommodations (the ** hotel I had pre-booked, changed ownership and name, so technically did not exist...), our host Daniyal (R) sorted out other logistics and we also finally connected with Pst. Irfan (center) who arrived from Pakistan .

Before the few tribal participants arrived to get training on the Story app, Daniyal arranged a special play day for us...!

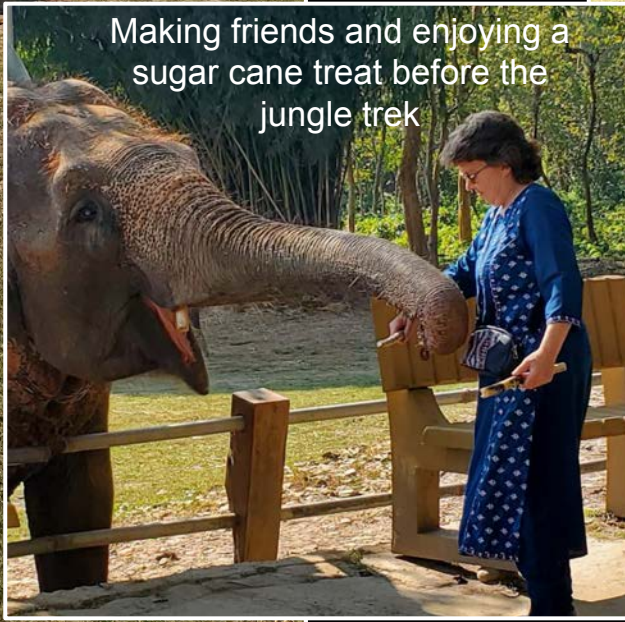


It was high adventure driving 6 hours each way on the rough, narrow roads with hairpin turns, sheer drop offs and much rubble piled on the edges from recently cleared landslides. The stunning vistas, terraced rice paddies, villages scattered vertically on the sides of mountains, and looong cable foot bridges spanning cold river ravines were amazing!

A photograph of an elephant standing on a raised wooden platform with a staircase. A person is sitting on the elephant's back. The scene is outdoors with trees and a fence in the background.

Back-up
elephant
parking so
we could
get on....

These two
sisters were
close friends.
On the jungle
trek, they
would "bark"
at each other
if they got too
far separated.

A photograph of a woman in a blue dress with white polka dots standing next to an elephant. The elephant is reaching out with its trunk towards the woman. They are behind a wooden fence.

Making friends
and enjoying a
sugar cane treat
before the
jungle trek





Finally all the participants for the training arrived and settled in. We were a hodge-podge group whom the Good Shepherd had brought together for a few days to accomplish various things.





Everybody learned how to use the SPadv app to translate and publish Bible story videos. Jesus gave Daniyal good health and great patience the whole time to multi-task, facilitate, mediate, interpret, and organize logistics for two all-women tribal teams plus help his family and his in-laws.





We were not technically prepared to do a big training in Nepal. Daniyal has been struggling for 3 yrs to get Bible templates online and we needed in-person time to sort things out. Irfan needed to see the progression of a sample training. God has called and given vision to both Daniyal and Irfan to reach out to their 100+ tribal groups in Nepal and Pakistan respectively, with these oral translation apps, so the Good Shepherd gave us helpful mentoring time together. We all left encouraged.

Everybody has a story!

Sunil (red sweatshirt), quiet but gifted, came under a lot of stress with his wife Memuka and two young kids to this gathering. Memuka (Daniyal's sis-in-law) feels called to take this translation work to the tribes. Sunil's dad has tried to kill him because they are Christ followers.

Sunil testified at our wrap-up time that God had given him courage to do voice narration for the Bible videos.

God's Word itself
has power!



Pray for Daniyal and his wife Renuka, that love and respect for each other will grow. Their marriage was completely arranged 10 years ago, and they don't really like each other much. They are both crazy about their son Redaniyal, but they are struggling.



I'm a new believer, and very blessed to learn this tool. The Story app will help me learn and remember Bible stories to share with others.



I'm the only believer in my family. I'm a man's 2nd wife, raising his first wife's sons. But I'm chosen by God and very happy to learn this tool – it will make it easier to share the gospel.

There are many idol worshippers in my village. Most are uneducated and they don't know Nepali. The only way they will learn about Jesus is via our home language. Thank you for bringing us the Story app!

I've known Jesus for 17 yrs, just a normal believer. I've tried to share the gospel with others but they have not responded. Now (crying) I feel more than normal; I've learned that I'm somebody, a translator! I'm so happy to have come to this training to learn this Storying tool!

As the pastor of our house church, I'm learning to preach in our Dangaura Tharu language. This tool will help our people learn more deeply.



I feel called to take this translation work to the tribes.



Transitioning back to Texas

- 30 hours travel
- Arrived home on Thanksgiving, just in time for turkey dinner with family and friends
- Recovered from a cold and jet lag the next week while writing up this report
- Grateful to the Good Shepherd for perfectly guiding each day, each event, shielding each person, granting strength for each task, opening every closed door ... that his Word might go forth.

