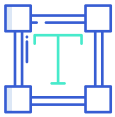


# THE WORD MADE DIGITAL



While the Bible is available in over 700 languages, one in five people still do not have the whole Bible in their first language. Dawn\* is a part of a Bible translation team in the Indian Ocean Islands. She has seen how technology has helped to advance the process of translation.



## A LONG PROCESS

Each translated text goes through many stages: drafting, exegetical check, checks by other translators and facilitators, and a qualified translation consultant, as well as 10-12 people in the local community. It can take several years before it is finally ready for release in audio, app, or printed form.



## COMMUNICATION THROUGH THE STAGES

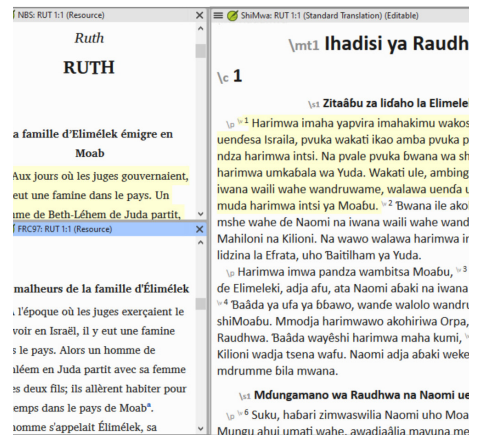
This whole process has been accelerated by a computer program which allows interaction at each stage using written notes and comments, as well as by platforms like Zoom and WhatsApp to facilitate face to face communication when necessary. As facilitators we also have many digital resources available to help us with exegesis.



## THE TEXT

For apps and print we include some Arabic script of the local language as well as Roman script. This may be in the written text, or in the design features like the cover. It's even possible to create letters for sounds in the language which don't exist in an Arabic script. Sometimes people need help to recognise these, but using Arabic script makes resources much more accessible to older people who may not be literate in Roman script. It also makes the appearance of a book or app more attractive to people who are familiar with resources in the majority religion.

## DAWN'S TRANSLATION SOFTWARE





## DESIGN

The design aspect is greatly helped by technology but would be of no use without on-the-ground testing with Islanders. We spent a long time asking many people from different sectors of the population which colours would be appropriate and most attractive for a cover, which borders look best with the text, and we also made sure we checked whether the size of the font was legible for everyone.



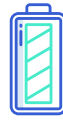
## FINISHED PRODUCT

In the past, the aim would have been to get a printed publication, but nowadays there are many other formats which can be used, and consequently the finished translation is more accessible to a greater number of people. Audio recordings can be made and included in an app alongside the written version, but can also be saved on an a memory card and used in any mobile phone. This is also a safer way for people to have access to resources. App release has become more challenging recently due to requirements of the Google Play store, but once created they can be shared that way, or directly shared with personal contacts.



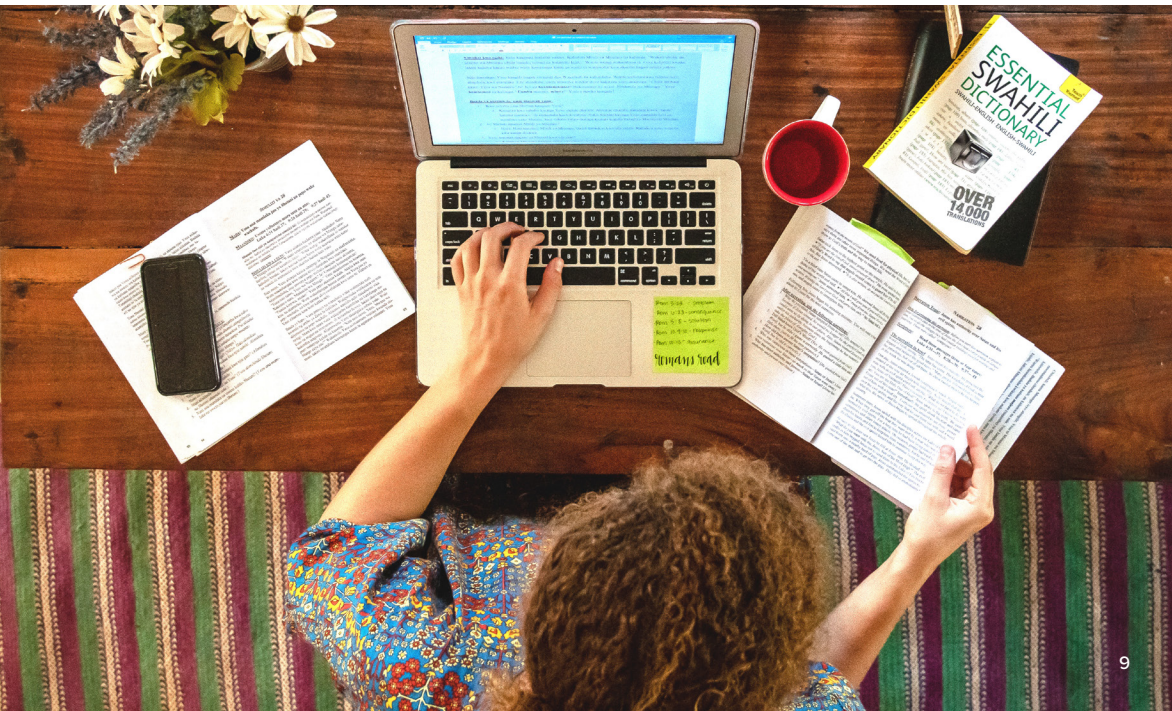
## THE ISLAND TOUCH

We're grateful to the Lord for the privilege of being involved in this translation project in the Islands. Given the context we live in, we're careful how we work, especially as Islanders work closely alongside us. In fact, they're the ones who do the translation, and we work with them as facilitators on exegesis and computer skills. The Islanders are the ones who understand the best way to express the different genres (narratives, poetry, epistles etc) in their heart language.



## POWER OF THE WORD

None of this would be possible without the prayers of faithful supporters. We're grateful for your part in this, as well as the privilege afforded to us. This is the Word of God at work in the lives of Islanders (the few who know him, and the many who don't), and us as facilitators. His Word is powerful and doesn't return empty without achieving his purposes.





A BIBLE  
APP FOR  
THE ISLANDS

## THE BIG PICTURE

**7,300** languages are spoken  
or signed around the world

**3658** languages have at  
least one book of the Bible

**1264** languages have more  
than one book

**1658** languages have the  
New Testament

**736** languages have the  
Bible in full



## PRAISE THE LORD

Give thanks for this exciting  
Bible translation work. Why  
not consider whether you can  
support this important work with  
prayer or financially.

Visit [eu.aimint.org/give](http://eu.aimint.org/give)

