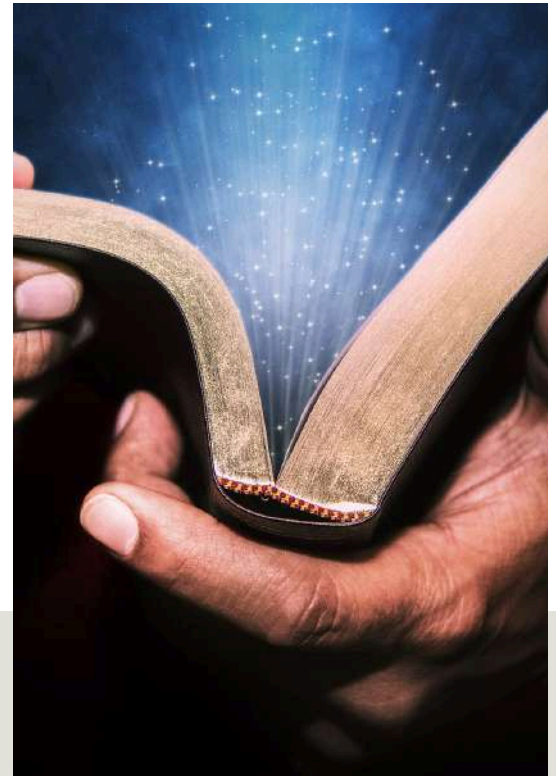


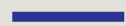
India Bible Study 2023 Annual Report

ABOUT US

India Bible Study Translation Project, doing business as *India Bible Study* is a separate 501(c)(3) nonprofit initiative of Bible Faith Lutheran Ministries to India (BFLMI). BFLMI is a US-based charitable organization seeking to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ across India and to other Indian-speaking people throughout the world. For close to 40 years BFLMI has been spreading the love of Jesus through two core programs: the [Moriah School and Children's Home](#) and [Bible Faith Lutheran Church of India](#).



Our mission is to spread the Word of God.



The ministry of IBS began over ten years ago as an outreach project of the Bible Faith Lutheran Church (BFLC) in India with the purpose of spreading God's Word to as many as possible throughout India. Our translation history began in the 1990s when the Founder, Rev. Bhushana Rao Dasari, translated Luther's Small Catechism (Kuske's) in the Telugu language. In addition, The Book of Concord was completed by other translators who worked in the BFLC Seminary. The Telugu language translation of The Book of Concord is expected to be completed within the next 12 months.

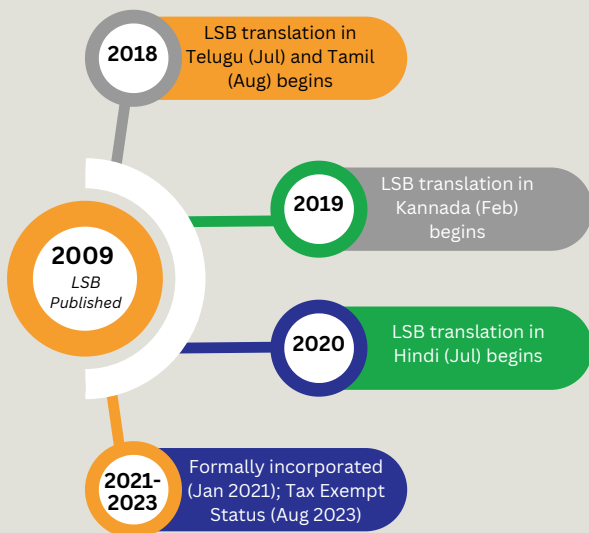




"The Lutheran Study Bible" translation project began at this meeting in South India in 2018. This is the translation team who started working on the Tamil language translation.

Historical Background

In 2009, The Lutheran Study Bible (LSB) notes were published by Concordia Publishing House in St. Louis, Missouri. Inspired by the LSB, the BFLC leadership wanted to translate the LSB notes into the Telugu language in 2010. The work however did not begin until 2018 and by that time, the vision expanded to translating the LSB in all 15 major languages of India. Within six months, the project expanded to the four southern languages of India including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada. This work which has been going since July 2018, was formalized in 2021 in the founding of India Bible Study Translation Project, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We have added Hindi in 2022 and are looking forward to publishing the first language, Telugu, with the title, India Study Bible - Telugu. The purpose of producing the India Study Bible and other Christian and doctrinal material is to help build the holy, apostolic church in India today and for generations to come. The Gospel outreach of this project is expansive and has the potential to reach over one billion people in India and throughout the world.



2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

India Study Bible translation progress as of December 31, 2023

In 2023, our translation work of The Lutheran Study Bible (LSB) notes totaled 333 pages from English to 652 pages in the India languages of **Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Telugu**. The majority of the translation work was performed in Hindi and Kannada in 2023, while the translation of Telugu, including all review steps, was completed in June 2022. In total, the translation work is largely complete in Hindi, Tamil, and Malayalam, with the remaining work to include comparative reading, linguistic check, theological check, and final editing. The work of the five translation teams included the participation of more than 70 translators.

For the **Kannada translation**, all of the New Testament is completed, and currently eight faithful translators are working on the Old Testament.

Over the course of the year, significant strides were made in advancing the work of the **Malayalam translation**. Work focused on the development, translation, and coordination of the Malayalam language, aiming to facilitate understanding and accessibility of biblical teachings to the Malayalam-speaking community. In addition, linguistic experts, religious scholars, and native Malayalam speakers have collaborated to enhance the quality and authenticity of the translation. Their valuable input has been instrumental in achieving a culturally nuanced and linguistically accurate rendition of the text. The local Malayalam community has been engaged to foster a sense of ownership among the people as well as provided invaluable insights for refining the team's approach to the project.



At the **Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)** Convention last June, India Bible Study received a 2023-2025 Mission Grant, titled ***Bringing God's Word to India***. This grant will support translating, printing, publishing, and distributing the new India Study Bible in the Telugu and Tamil languages.

Pictured on left: Paul Dasari, President of India Bible Study, and Eden Keefe, President of LWML.





10-STEP PROCESS

The process of translating the study notes of The Lutheran Study Bible (LSB) from English into each of the 15 Indian languages is a daunting task. India Bible Study created a collaborative 10-step method, with linguistic experts and multiple layers of quality control, to ensure quality, consistency, and a faithful translation of every element of the LSB.

Step 1: Initial Translation

Language experts prepare an initial written translation of the study notes for each book of the Bible. This is a handwritten version, putting pen to paper.

Step 2: Typing

The handwritten translation of the language text is typed. During this step, a comparative check, theological check, and linguistic check is completed to ensure accuracy and quality. This step also includes a final reading and preparation of the final print for editing.

Step 3: Proofreading

Language experts proofread the translated script to identify and correct any grammatical errors and/or mistranslations.

Step 4: Comparative Reading

A final accuracy check involves a meticulous comparison of the language script and the original English text.

Step 5: Theological Check

A team of experts verify theological and biblical concepts, terms, ideas, and meanings to ensure they are expressed clearly and accurately in the Indian language translation.

Step 6: Linguistic Check

A thorough evaluation of the linguistic patterns, words, grammar, and sentences of the language script is performed to ensure consistency and adherence to the norms of the Indian language.

Step 7: Final Reading

The language script on each page is assessed to ensure it is delivering the best possible translated script for lay readers.

Step 8: Format/Layout for Publication

This is the design phase which includes the print layout of the Bible verses, study notes, prayers, articles, charts, maps, and songs in suitable page and column distributions.

Step 9: Review Panel

The script is reviewed by a panel of experts (academicians, pastors, and ministers) and lay people (congregations from various churches) to identify any gaps or opportunities for improvement.

Step 10: Final Editing and Compiling

A complete assessment of the script is finalized by incorporating, emphasizing, or modifying the various comments, suggestions, and remarks of the review panel.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Paul Dasari, MD
President

Paul Dasari is the President and founder of India Bible Study. He has served as the Executive Director of the Bible Faith Lutheran Church of India, and on the Board of Directors of Bible Faith Lutheran Ministries to India since 2000. His other calling is the privilege of being a physician, serving patients hospitalized in the Fairview University of Minnesota Health System based in Minneapolis. Paul lives in Greenfield, Minnesota, with his wife, Jennifer, and their four daughters.



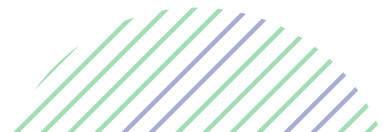
Michael Albrecht, PhD, MDiv
Secretary

Michael Albrecht has served on the India Bible Study Board of Directors since its beginning. Michael has served as a teaching pastor for the Bible Faith Lutheran Church of India's Annual Symposia since 2007. He was a pastor at Saint James Lutheran Church in West Saint Paul, Minnesota, from 1990 until his retirement in 2020. He has a doctorate degree in Church history and served as Senior Editor for the Logia Lutheran Journal. He currently resides in Robinson, Texas, with his wife Donna.



Paul Farley, MBA
Treasurer

Paul Farley has served as Treasurer for the India Bible Study Board of Directors since 2021. He is a member of Saint James Lutheran Church in West Saint Paul, Minnesota, where he became involved with the Bible Faith Lutheran Church while serving as the Missions Committee chairman from 2012-2018. Paul is a Senior Finance Director at Shipt, and has held similar roles at Target and U.S. Bank. He also serves as Trustee of the Saint James Lutheran Church Foundation. Paul lives in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, with his wife Jennifer, and their two young children.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Héctor E. Hoppe, MDiv, STM, DD

Héctor E. Hoppe has served on the India Bible Study Directors since 2021. He served as pastor in several parishes in Argentina, as well as taught at Seminario Concordia in Buenos Aires. He received his Master of Sacred Theology from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. Héctor also received an honorary Doctorate from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He was the editor for multilingual resources at Concordia Publishing House for 25 years. Héctor is the author of *Jesus of Nazareth*. He currently works for Lutheran Hour Ministries with its Spanish program. He lives in St. Louis, Missouri, with his wife, Beatriz García, and has three adult children.

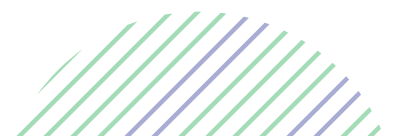


Ruth Richert Martin, JD

Ruth Richert Martin has served on the India Bible Study Board of Directors since 2021. She is a licensed attorney with legal, professional association, and nonprofit executive experience. Ruth formerly served on the Michigan District-LCMS Board of Directors, the Lutheran Braille Workers Board of Directors and, until August 2022, was the Executive Director of MOST Ministries. Ruth lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan, with her husband, Jeff, and has three adult children.

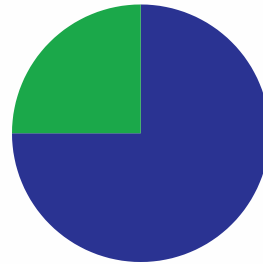
“This Study Bible holds significant potential in aiding the broader language community. It facilitates a profound understanding of scripture, enabling individuals to grasp the essence of the text and cultivate spiritual growth.”

Jerald Praveen, Tamil and Hindi Translation Team



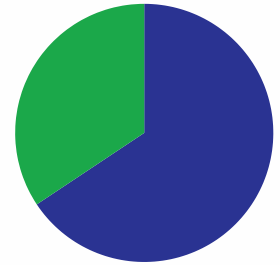


REVENUE & EXPENSES



DONATIONS 75%
CHURCH SUPPORT 25%

REVENUE
\$39,450



TRANSLATION 65%
OTHER* 34%

EXPENSES
\$37,900

**Other expenses includes layout, consultation, travel, reimbursement, and legal.*

Language Directors

- **Dr. Jerald Praveen, Ph.D.**, *Tamil and Hindi Translation Team*
- **Prasanna Kumar Kaki LLM**, *Telugu Layout Editor*
- **Rev. Dr. Victor Moses Chikka**, *Telugu Translation Team*
- **Dr Jayasree Jerald Ph.D**, *Malayalam Translation Team*
- **Rev. Dr. Christopher Victor George**, *Kannada Translation Team*

Organizational Partners

- **Bible Society of India (BSI)**
- **Concordia Publishing House (CPH)**
- **Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)**
- **Saint James Lutheran Church**
- **United Evangelical Lutheran Churches of India (UELCI) (4M members)**

For More Information:

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