

...NA communities worldwide
and NA World Services
work together in a
spirit of unity and
cooperation to carry our
message of recovery...

Communities Around the World Welcome the Message

Translations and Fellowship Development

As of June 2005, NA spoke fifty-five languages. Over the following twelve months, that number grew to sixty-five. The process of translating the literature can be tedious and time-consuming, but the work does not stop there. One of the most crucial steps in the process is the evaluation of the conceptual fidelity of the translation. Essentially, this involves an assessment of the accuracy of the translations and whether or not the translations remain true to the core philosophy of the Narcotics Anonymous message. Of the nearly three hundred translation projects in the queue, we are actively working on almost eighty projects in more than forty languages. We have completed seventy-nine projects since the beginning of the fiscal year in the following languages:

Arabic	Indonesian	Danish
Farsi	German	Hebrew
Hindi	Hungarian	Icelandic
Italian	Latvian	Lithuanian
Norwegian	Polish	Russian
Slovak	Swedish	Urdu



One of our most long-awaited translation projects has been the Japanese Basic Text. After more than twenty years of effort, members in Japan have finally arrived at a translation of the Basic Text that they find satisfactory. They are now hard at work on *Just for Today*. Congratulations, Japan!

As we pointed out in the Project Updates section about Worldwide Workshops, we were able to take part in a Translation Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Forum and Thailand Convention. More than thirty delegates and visitors from thirteen language communities registered and came to share their valuable experiences with



translations processes in their communities. At the time of the workshop, nine of those language groups had active translations committees, eight had published translated literature, and eleven had existing draft translations. Discussions about the challenges and solutions facing the translations process helped these members to share with each other about what works, and we were able to provide some useful hints and tools to aid them in their future efforts. Participants identified a number of ideas about what should come next, including local translations workshops, a push for increased member participation in literature translation committees, development of LTC guidelines, interactions with other language groups, and increased efforts to

collaborate with each other and surrounding communities. Since our visit, communities have reported successful local workshops and revitalized support for translations efforts.

India is another of the countries that demonstrated increased translations efforts this year. There are sixteen main languages spoken throughout India, in addition to many others spoken locally and regionally. Through the course of this year, our translations team has provided active support to seven of those language groups. In February we traveled to Delhi, India, to finalize arrangements for the pro-

duction of keytags in multiple languages. We contracted for a substantial number of keytags to be produced in English, Hindi, Manipuri, and Bengali, in all denominations. When final local translations are approved, Tamil will be added as well. During this trip we also finalized a contract for warehouse space to store literature, keytags, and other merchandise for South Asian distribution. This was also an opportunity to attend the

Delhi Area Convention held near Dehra Dun in the Himalayan foothills, and to meet with SIRSCONA (the primary Indian regional service committee) leadership.

Exciting developments have also been taking place in Africa in the last year. South Africa, which officially became the first seated region from the continent of Africa at this year's conference, has

also supported wide-scale outreach efforts to connect with addicts speaking languages such as Zulu, Xhosa, Southern Sotho, and Tswana. Draft translations in Afrikaans were also completed this year. Beyond South Africa, in more central and eastern parts of the continent, efforts have taken place to make progress with Swahili and Rwandan. We have high hopes about our message taking root on this great continent and spreading among those who really need it.

