



Sentrum vir
Bybelinterpretasie
en vertaling in
Afrika

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Departement Ou en Nuwe Testament
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1. Inleiding: Fokuspunte in die lig van Sentrumdoelstellings

Die Sentrum se aktiwiteite het – bo en behalwe die normale navorsingsaktiwiteite waarvoor later verslag gedoen word - in 2011 veral gefokus op die volgende sake:

- Die volgende vertaling van die Bybel in Afrikaans;
- Implementering van die postdoktorale genootskap;
- Versterking van UBS-bande

Die Missie en Doelstellings van die Sentrum wat bg. aktiwiteite gerig het, kan gelees word op: http://www.cebita.org/About_Profile.htm.

2. Personeel

Die Sentrum het geen vaste personeellede nie.

Beheerkomitee:

Prof. CHJ van der Merwe was in 2011 verantwoordelik vir die Bybelvertaal-, prof. LC Jonker vir die Bybelinterpretasie- en prof. J Punt vir die Kommunikasie en toe-eieningfokus. Prof. CHJ van der Merwe tree vir die periode 2010-2011 op as direkteur.

Prof. HL Bosman, het as voorsitter van die beheerkomitee opgetree, met proff. LC Jonker, AEJ Mouton, N Koopman en J Punt as verteenwoordigers van die Fakulteit Teologie, en proff. AE Feinauer, MW Visser, I Cornelius, CHJ van der Merwe en LG de Stadler as verteenwoordigers van die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe. Ds. Masenyani Baloyi het die Bybelgenootskap van Suid-Afrika en mnr. H Raubenheimer die privaatsektor verteenwoordig.

Medewerkers:

Personeellede van die Departement Antieke Studie en Ou & Nuwe Testament wat met verwante navorsing besig is, dien as medewerkers in die Sentrum, sowel as buitengewone professore ens. wat met hierdie twee departemente geassosieer word. Dr Charlene van der Walt, die postdoktorale genoot verbonde aan SEBIVA, dien ook as medewerker.

3. Lopende Akademiese Projekte

Die volgende projekte was lopend tydens 2011. Hierdie projekte word geloods en bestuur deur die betrokke individu/departement, maar funksioneer tegelykertyd onder die "sambreel" van die Sentrum. Geeneen van die projekte is pertinent as Sentrum-projekte geïnisieer nie.

BYBELVERTALING

- 'n Nuwe generasie Bybels-Hebreeuse naslaanwerke (CHJ vd Merwe)
- 'n Hiperteks-bybel vir vertalers en eksegete (CHJ vd Merwe)
- Die onderrig van Bybelse Hebreeus (CHJ vd Merwe)
- Bybelvertaling as interkulturele kommunikasie: 'n teoretiese en praktiese besinning (CHJ vd Merwe)
- Vertaling en eienaarskap van die Bybel in Afrika (J Punt)
- Die Septuaginta en hermeneutiek (J Cook)

BYBELINTERPRETASIE

- Die herinterpretasie van die Boek Eksodus in Afrika (HL Bosman)
- Die interpretasie van die Bybel in Afrika (HL Bosman)
- Profetisme in die Ou Testament en in Afrika (HL Bosman)
- Fundamentalisme en religieuse konserwatisme (HL Bosman)
- Ou-Testamentiese teologiese perspektiewe op land te midde van armoede en rykdom (HL Bosman)
- Die teologiese ontsluiting van die dekalog aan die hand van spreekwoorde in Afrika (HL Bosman)
- "From multiculturalism to interculturalism: The case of Biblical hermeneutics": Interkulturele lees van die Bybel (LC Jonker)
- Kronieke-kommentaar (LC Jonker)
- "Reforming history": Die verhouding tussen historiografie en identiteitsvorming in die Tweede Tempelperiode (LC Jonker)
- Die postkoloniale Bybel in Afrika (J Punt)
- Religie, heilige geskrifte en identiteit (J Punt)
- Bybelse hermeneutiek en die Pauliniese briewe (J Punt)
- 'n Interpretasie van die Bergrede (Matteus 5-7) in sy literêre en topologiese kontekste (JC Thom)
- Memory in search of dignity: Exploring the transformative potential of New Testament texts (in Africa), with special reference to God-language and human dignity (E Mouton)

KOMMUNIKASIE EN TOE-EIENING

- Die Nuwe Testament en Kulturele Studies (J Punt)
- Die Bybel tussen akademie en geloofsgemeenskappe: 'n Verkennende studie van die raakvlakke tussen akademiese en nie-akademiese omgang met die Bybel (C van der Walt)

Verdere inligting oor hierdie akademiese projekte is by die webskakel <http://www.cebita.org/Projects.htm> beskikbaar.

4. Navorsingsuitsette: Referate gelewer

Opsomming

Sentrumlede het in totaal 16 (OT/NT = 12 en Antieke Studie =4) referate by Suid-Afrikaanse konferensies gelewer, terwyl 17 (OT/NT = 11 en Antieke Studie 6) referate by internasionale vakkongresse gelewer is.

Volledige inligting oor die referate wat gedurende 2011 deur sentrumlede gelewer is, kan verkry word by die webskakel: http://www.cebita.org/Research_Papers.htm.

5. Navorsingsuitsette: Publikasies

Opsomming

Die volgende publikasie-uitsette is deur sentrumlede gelewer (Sleutel: *: geakkrediteer; #: nie-geakkrediteer; SA: Suid-Afrikaanse publikasies; Int: Internasionale publikasies):

A Andrason	2* (waarvan 1*SA en 1*Int)
J Cook	3 (2* en 1# waarvan 2*SA en 1#Int)
HL Bosman	2* (waarvan 2*SA)
LC Jonker	7 (2* en 5# waarvan 2*SA en 5#Int)
JA Kroeze, M van den Heever en B van Rooy	1* (1SA)
J Punt	12 (8* en 4# waarvan 8*SA en 4# intl)
CL Miller en CHJ Van der Merwe	1* (1*Int)
AE Mouton	1* (1*SA)
CHJ van der Merwe	3#, (waarvan 3#Int)
CHJ van der Merwe en Y Coetzee	1* (1*SA)
C van der Walt	1* (1*SA)
ER Wendland:	1* (1*SA)

In totaal is daar dus 22 geakkrediteerde, en 13 nie-geakkrediteerde publikasies in 2011 gepubliseer. Daarvan was 20 in Suid-Afrikaanse publikasies en 15 in internasionale werke.

Volledige inligting oor die akademiese publikasies wat gedurende 2011 deur sentrumlede gepubliseer is, kan verkry word by die webskakel:

http://www.cebita.org/Research_Publications.htm.

6. Navorsingsuitsette: Doktorale proefskrifte

Opsomming

Daar was altesaam 31 lopende doktorale projekte gedurende die verslagjaar, waarvan 13 by Dept. Antieke Studie gedoen word en 16 by Ou & Nuwe Testament. Twee studente word deur die twee departemente gedeel.

Altesaam 5 doktorale kandidate het gedurende 2011 hul doktorsgrade verwerf, waarvan 3 by Antieke Studie en 1 by Ou & Nuwe Testament en 1 wat deur Antieke Studie en Ou & Nuwe Testament gedeel het.

Volledige inligting oor doktorale studente (tesame met die titels van hul navorsing), kan verkry word by die webskakel: http://www.cebita.org/Research_Dissertations.htm.

7. Nuwe Afrikaanse Bybelvertaling

Die Sentrum is steeds deur haar individuele lede op voortgaande basis betrokke by die

nuwe Afrikaanse Bybelvertalingsprojek van die Bybelgenootskap van Suid-Afrika (BSA). Christo van der Merwe dien nie net op die uitvoerende komitee en dagbestuur van hierdie projek nie, maar hy is ook (tesame met Hendrik Bosman, Johann Cook, Louis Jonker, Paul Kruger, Jeremy Punt, Elna Mouton, Johan Thom, en ander kollegas in die deelnemende akademiese departemente) betrokke as eksegete en/of brontaalkenners.

Die redaksionele komitee waarvan Prof. Christo van der Merwe ook deel is, het gedurende 2011 drie keer vergader (23-27 April, 5-9 Augustus en 30 September–4 Oktober). Die komitee het twee hooftake wat met mekaar verband hou: Eerstens moet gekontroleer word of vertaalspanne by die vertaalopdrag gehou het, en, tweedens, moet verseker word dat uitdrukkings in die bronteks konsekwent deur al die vertaalspanne vertaal is. In 2011 is die volgende gedeeltes voltooi: Levitikus 1-19; Joel; Miga; Sagaria; Sefanja; Ester en Ezra.

8. Wêreldbond van Bybelgenootskappe (United Bible Societies=UBS) en die Sentrum

Currently more than two hundred Bible translation projects are running in Africa. One of the biggest challenges of nearly most of these projects is that the translators do not know Greek or Hebrew well. It is as a rule very difficult to send these translators to a university, away from their families and communities – even for a year or two. For this reason Bible translation agencies like the United Bible Societies (=UBS) have been looking for many years into ways to address this problem.

Since it is for the future of the translators after the completion of the Bible translation projects also important to have a formal qualification or some of formal accreditation for the training they received before or in the course of their training project, Dr Margeret Muthwii, the area coordinator of the UBS in Africa approached the Centre for Bible Interpretation and Translation in Africa (=CEBITA). After consultation it was decided to launch an experiment in which a lecturer in Biblical Hebrew from the University of Stellenbosch would present the equivalent of the university's first-year course in Biblical Hebrew at a central venue in Africa. The 112 contact sessions of this 24 credit module would be spread over two months in order, on the one hand, to co-inside with the recess at Stellenbosch, and, on the other hand, to ensure that the students are not away too long from their families and communities.

On 10 January 2011, 17 students from all over Africa (5 from Uganda, 3 from Malawi, 2 from Sudan, 2 from Botswana, 1 from Benin, Togo, Burkina Faso, Congo Brazzaville and Namibia) enrolled for Short Course 2882 (the equivalent of BH 178). The short course was presented by Prof Christo van der Merwe, director of CEBITA, and member of the Department of Ancient Studies, at the Carmelite Retreat Centre outside Nairobi. The second leg of the course was presented from 30 May to 23 June 2011.

The performance was beyond all expectations. Students completed 20 small and 7 more exhaustive assessments. Their ability to read a Hebrew text aloud, was assessed on 3 occasions. Of the 17 students who registered in January, 2 could not attend the second leg. Of the remaining 15, everyone passed the course. The average of the group was a 77%.

A variety of factors could have contributed to the students' remarkable performance, e.g., many of the students are gifted, some students had done some Biblical Hebrew before in informal workshops, the students were highly motivated and during the eight weeks they focused only on the content of this course. Furthermore, the lecturer was supported on an ongoing basis by one or two translation consultants of the UBS, so that, whenever needed, students got individual attention.

The content and structure of the course also play a pivotal role in the positive outcomes of the experiment. In this regards the long and rich history of the study of Biblical

Hebrew and other Ancient Studies at the University of Stellenbosch provided the foundation, e.g. the encyclopedic legacy of Prof Charles Fensham, the innovation and vision of Prof Walter Claassen, the creative insights as far as Bible translation as intercultural communication of Prof Ferdinand Deist, the insights of Prof Isak Cornelius as far as the visual and Prof Paul Kruger as far as the conceptual world of the Bible are concerned. The presenter of the course, Christo van der Merwe, specializes, among other things, in recent developments in linguistics and translation studies, as well as foreign language learning that contribute to a (more adequate) description of Biblical Hebrew which could make it more assessable for both learners and translators of the language. The course therefore benefitted by (1) a long term NRF funded project in the creation of an exhaustive Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar, (2) a research project in the optimal use of computer technology in the learning of a non-spoken language that is learned for a special purpose (e.g. translation), and (3) several doctoral projects. Insights from a PhD project into the most effective way of acquiring vocabulary of a cultural “distant” language, in particular, were extremely helpful. The fact that the presenter himself has been deeply involved in several major Bible translation projects during the last 15 years sensitized him for the typical needs of translators as far as the source text of the Bible is concerned.

The above consideration contributed to a course with a clear focus, namely, the understanding of Biblical Hebrew as a language embedded in its cultural world for translators in Africa (who in turn has their own conceptual worlds). For this reason, for example, more attention was paid to the understanding of the lexicon of Biblical Hebrew in the culture and world of its time, than to the memorization of all the paradigms of irregular and seldom occurring forms. The advanced research that has been referred to in the previous paragraph made it possible to identify those constructions and expressions with the highest frequency. In the teaching these constructions and their most prototypical functions are concentrated on. By distinguishing between content knowledge and procedural knowledge and skills, memorization was limited to the most relevant aspect of content knowledge, e.g. the most basic paradigms of the regular verbal forms, all lexemes that occur more than 90 times in the Bible, etc. For the tracing of information about seldom occurring constructions, students were trained the skill to consult and use reference works.

Course material consists of a logically structure Biblical Hebrew reference grammar, a pedagogically structured workbook with information from and reference to the reference grammar, as well as exercises and vocabulary lists, an electronic program with which the parsing of verbs could be practiced at each student’s one pace and an electronic program for the learning of new vocabulary. The latter can also be used on Apple’s iPhone. Although each student had a laptop and cellphone, not one had an iPhone. This situation can change in future.

Paratext is an electronic programme that has been developed by the UBS. It is used in all translation projects of the UBS. It is, on the one hand, a type of purposed-built word processor into which all new translations of the Bible are imported, checked and edited. Translations are also printed directly form Paratext. On the other hand, Paratext contains the Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic source texts, as well as a range of tools and resources that translators may need, e.g., a morphological parser of each expression in the source texts, a range of translations. Although most of the students were acquainted with the “word processing” dimension of Paratext, few could use the source language tools effectively. How to use these tools effectively was part of the procedural knowledge and skills that had to be mastered in the course.

At this stage it could be reported that students performed very well in Short Course 2882, i.e., in terms of the aims of the short course, viz., understanding the Biblical Hebrew writing system, the relative fluent reading aloud of a simple narrative text, sight knowledge of 420 lexemes in their cultural setting, a basic overview of the geographic and cultural-historical background of the world of the Bible and the conceptual world of

its people, a thorough knowledge of the basic paradigms, insight into the basic features of the Biblical Hebrew grammar, the ability to translate simple narrative texts and the skill in the use of Paratext in the reading of a Biblical Hebrew narrative text.

Like the case with any formal qualification at elementary level, a high mark does not necessarily mean that translators will or can use and apply their new acquired knowledge and skills. It can at most be claimed that they were empowered with a foundation on which they can build further. This short course is followed up in 2012 with the equivalent of modules BH 212, 222, 242 and 252 (again in Jan and June). In this follow-up course there will be focused on the implementation, as well as systematic broadening and deepening, of the knowledge and skills obtained in Short Course 2882. The primary aim of the follow-up course is to train students in the optimal use of existing resources in the reading, understanding and translation of the Hebrew Bible.

It is impossible for a full-time lecturer to teach on a regular basis during his/her "research time." For this reason an agreement has been made with the UBS that some of their consultants, who have a master's or doctoral degree in Semitic Languages or the Old Testament, will attend the first round of each short course. They are then introduced into the philosophy of instruction, the course material and electronic tools to be used in that particular course. The consultants also get the opportunity to take responsibility for some of the lectures and the setting and grading of some of the assessments. The names of the consultants who are most suited to present the short course will be submitted to the Faculty of Social Science and Arts – with the request to accredit them to present the course in future. All the teaching material for these subsequent courses will be provided by the Department of Ancient Studies. All the question- and answer papers will be moderated by the Department. In 2011, Drs Gerri van Steenberg (DLitt Stellenbosch), Andy Warren (PhD Cambridge); Anastasia Malle (PhD), as well as Mr Samy Tioy  (Doctoral candidate at NGEST) and Ms Ilse Visser (MTh Free University and MPhil candidate at US) attended sections of Short Course 2882.

Short Course 2882 is an example of the activities of a Centre of the University of Stellenbosch which pursues its mission in Africa by supporting Bible translation in Africa academically (cf. www.cebita.org). High level expertise is used to serve the community at grass roots level by empowering mother-tongue translators in an innovative way to escape the mould of English and French translation which have typically are used as bases for translating the Bible.

9. Sentrum se publikasieereks

Die verkope van die publikasieereks verloop nog steeds traag.

10. Postdoktorale genootskap

Dr. Charlene van der Walt se navorsing het veral op drie areas gefokus:

Eerstens, op empiriese navorsing en data kolleksie in verskillende lesersgemeenskappe waarin die fokus veral geval het op die interpretasie-strategie van die groepe gewone/gelowige lesers, predikante/priesters en akademiese lesers. Die spesiale data kolleksie instrumente wat ontwikkel is in die eerste jaar van die Post-doc is met groot vrag gebruik in die jaar en kreatief aangepas vir verskillende kontekste.

Tweedens: vanuit 'n gemeenskaplike interkulturele Bybelleesprojek in samewerking met die Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, is 'n nuwe proses ontwikkel en materiaal geskep rondom die lees van 2 Samuel 13:1-22. Die doel van die projek is om die interaksie tussen lesersgemeenskappe van verskillende dele van die wêreld moontlik te maak en om dit empiries te ontleed.

Derdens, die proses wat ontwikkel is vir lesersgemeenskappe aan die hand van 2

Samuel 13:1-22 het die moontlikheid geskep om interkulturele Bybellees te gebruik as 'n kreatiewe instrument ten einde die stilte rakende seksuele geweld aan te spreek. Hierdie derde fokusarea het dr. van der Walt die geleentheid gebied om in verskillende gemeenskappe op konkrete wyse betrokke te raak.

'n Meer omvattend verslag is op aanvraag beskikbaar (by prof. LC Jonker).

11. Finansies

Die Sentrum se korttermyn-finansies is gesond. Die besonderhede is in die finansiële verslag vir 2011 opgeneem. Die verslag word aangeheg.

12. Bedankings

Die Sentrum wil graag die Beheerkomitee en Dagbestuur bedank vir hulle ondersteuning.



.....15 Mei 2012

Prof. HL Bosman

Voorsitter: Beheerkomitee



.....15 Mei 2012

Prof. CHJ van der Merwe

Direkteur