Tim and our co-workers checking over the Tanguat alphabet

"Let the whole world fear the LORD,
and let everyone stand in awe of him." Proverbs 33:8

When we chose to pursue tribal church planting, our goal was to take the Gospel to a language group that had never before had access to it. These languages are considered "unwritten," meaning it has no alphabet or system by which they can communicate with the written word. Today we received the final evaluation of our write-up on the Tanguat language system and orthography which means **we now have a Tanguat alphabet!!** Many months of intense labor has gone into this and we are feeling great relief and excitement to know that we are stepping into a new realm. We have so much to be thankful for. For many months Nduan and Tiffany worked together to gather over 5,000 words into a Tanguat dictionary that Tim would be able to use in analysis. Then Tim spent many, many hours over the last several months checking over the raw data, making sure that what was heard was consistent with what was written and then moving into the phonemic analysis. This process takes all the sounds in the language and decides which letters are needed to cover each of those sounds. When this was completed, he then sent all his data on to a consultant who has been trained in this area of language analysis for her evaluation and approval. This approval is necessary before we can step into the next realm of literacy. **Tonight we received this approval!!** So, praise the Lord with us that we are now able to see the first fruits of our labors and begin the process of writing the first books in this language! We will use these books to teach the Tanguat people to read and write in their own mother tongue. This also means that we now have an alphabet to begin soon writing Bible lessons and Bible translation!!

On February 18th we will have a literacy consultant fly into our village and join our co-worker, Kelley Housley who is also a literacy consultant and they will give us what we call a **"Primer Construction Workshop."** We will have an intense week of making up the literacy books to teach all the sounds, flashcards to be used in class, and working with the tribal people to write stories for the primers and draw the pictures that will go with their own stories. Again, we are praising the Lord for the faithful believers here in our village that will be able to help us with this! They are already thinking of stories and working on their computer typing skills to gear up for this next phase of work.

We really want to say again how this is **only by the grace of God that this work has been accomplished.** God has enabled us weak vessels to take on of His language and He has guided us through the process of making it an available tool for His Gospel. This past year has brought many challenges, not to mention a medical trip to the United States and continued pain and health struggles. And yet, He has shown Himself strong and continued to move the work forward. And through it all, draw us ever nearer to Himself... what a PRICELESS treasure. Praise God!!

If any of you would like to be involved in the financial costs of literacy and Bible Translation, there is a fund set up through Grace Baptist Church in Santa Maria, CA. Normally there would be at least one other missionary family to carry the burden of these costs, but as our co-workers are the Itutang tribal church we see that as our role to assist in the area of finances. We desire our work to be a support of the outreach of this tribal church and if you would like to partner with them in this outreach you can do that through helping with these literacy, Bible lesson and Bible translation costs. You can contact Grace Baptist Church directly to find out more about this fund at gracebaptist@gracebap.net or contact Tiffany's parents at kcgeorge@verizon.net.

Thank you again for your prayers and financial support. May you praise God for these first fruits of your labors and giving as well!
By His Grace,
Tim and Tiffany Lanier, Noah, Micah and Anna