

NEWS

Doctoral Students

Two of our doctoral students completed their studies successfully in March 2008. They both received their degrees at the graduation ceremony that was held on 18 March 2008 in Stellenbosch.

Dr. Taurai (Brighton) Imbayarwo from Zimbabwe completed the degree D Litt (Bible Languages) under the supervision of Prof. Christo van der Merwe. His topic was "A Biblical Hebrew lexicon for translators based on recent developments in theoretical lexicography." In recent times, not only the type of linguistic information, but also the ways it is presented to users of Biblical Hebrew (BH) lexica have been severely criticised. Analyses of these lexica revealed that the BH lexicographers seem to be unaware of developments in the field of theoretical lexicography. This interdisciplinary study gleans insights from the highly technical written literature of theoretical lexicography and then illustrates in a well-justified manner how this discipline can be utilised to improve the compilation of a user-friendly electronic dictionary for translators of the Bible.



Dr. Taurai (Brighton) Imbayarwo, Prof. Christo van der Merwe, Fungai & Sylvanus Imbayarwo (parents of Dr. Imbayarwo)

Dr Diphus Chosefu Chemorion from Kenya received the degree DTh (Old Testament) on the dissertation "Translating Jonah's narrative and poetry into Sabaot: Towards a participatory approach to Bible translation (PABT)." Recent developments in the field of translation studies have shown that different Bible translation types are necessary for different communicative functions. The need for alternative Bible versions has been widely acknowledged in African contexts, but few studies have been carried out on strategies for designing and producing functional and acceptable alternative translations that are based on the biblical source texts. This study identifies theoretical strategies for this purpose. On the basis of Christiane Nord's functionalist model, the candidate formulated a Participatory Approach to Bible Translation and experimented with it in translating the book of Jonah into the Kenyan language Sabaot. His supervisors were Proff. Louis Jonker and Christo van der Merwe. [Dr. Chemorion was on of the record amount of 14 candidates who were awarded a doctoral degree in Theology at this graduation ceremony. The photo below shows 12 of the 14 candidates together with their supervisors. Dr. Chemorion stands on the right in the first row.]

