BIBLE TRANSLATION AND ETHNICITY

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Category: Quotes

> *The evangelical Protestant mission strategy of Bible translation cuts right across the modernist view of the nation state. This strategy asserts taht communicating the gospel in a person's heart language is vital to effective evangelism. Even if pragmatism is the driving-force for some missionaries, the act of learning a person's language in order to be able to communicate an important messsage is recognition of the dignity and significance of a key characteristic of ethnic identity. Committing a language to writing and translating the Bible is incredibly ennobling of ethnic identity. Grammars, dictionaries and books have played a vital parit in the formation and survival of ethnes/nations. What Bible translators do is give ethnes, however small, an enhanced possibility of survival and growth into full nationhood.*
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> *Dewi Hughes in Following Jesus as his community in the broken world of ethnic identity. Evangelical Review of Theology 31:4 2007.*

One of the great things about the Global Connections conference is being able to spend time with people like Dewi, who is the author of the excellent Castrating Culture. It's a real privilege to spend time with so many innovative thinkers who are also inspiring Christians.