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## Which Translation Did Your Ancestors Read?

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**Abstract:** This article gives the dates that the Book of Mormon was translated into each language. By May 1961 the Book of Mormon had been translated into 29 different languages.





# WHICH TRANSLATION DID YOUR ANCESTORS READ?

I, NEPHI, having been  
was taught somewhat in  
having seen many afflictions  
theless, having been high  
yea, having had a great  
mysteries of God, there

ENGLISH, 1830

Moi, Néphi, né de  
science de mon père,  
ours de ma vie; néa  
urs sur tous mes jou  
é et ses mystères; c  
s de ma vie; et je fa  
qui est la science

FRENCH, 1852

Sch, Nephi, war  
Gelehrsamkeit meines  
in meinen Tagen  
t über mich gewaltet  
und den Geheimnisse  
ht über mein Verfah  
im der Sprache mein

GERMAN, 1852

From that day in March 1830 when the copies of the Book of Mormon came from the press in Palmyra, New York, Mormonism's best missionary has been marching with the elders, presenting the glorious message of the restored gospel, brightening the lives of those who heed and become part of the great brotherhood that is the Church.

The "parade" of the host of languages into which it has been printed reads like this: English 1830, Danish 1851, German, French, Italian, Welsh, all in 1852; Hawaiian 1855, Swedish 1878, Spanish 1886, Maori 1889, Dutch 1890, Samoan 1903, Tahitian 1904, Turkish 1906, Japanese 1909, Czechoslovakian 1933, Armenian 1937, Portuguese 1939, Tongan 1945, Norwegian 1950, Finnish 1954.

The first lines from First Nephi, together with the year of publication in some of these languages make up the illustration for these pages.

The word is that the book of Third Nephi is soon to be printed in Chinese and Korean, with the full Book of Mormon to follow.

The book was also published in the Deseret Alphabet in 1869; and in Braille in 1936.

It has also been translated but not printed in Hindoostani, Greek, Bulgarian, Russian, Hungarian, Hebrew, Serbo-Croatian (Yugoslavian), and Filipino. An Arabic translation has also been commenced.

Reports show that the Church printed 475,000 missionary copies of the Book of Mormon in 1960 (nearly twice the number of copies printed in 1955). Add to this the library and "Bible paper" copies, and some of the foreign language copies printed elsewhere in the world, and it comes to more than a hundredfold the original printing in 1830 of 5,000 copies paid for by Martin Harris, which supplied the Church for some time. The second edition of the book was printed in 1837 at Kirtland, Ohio.