

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

October 7, 2013

TO ALL ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATIONS

Re: Revised *New World Translation*

Dear Brothers:

We are pleased to inform you that all English-speaking congregations will receive a consignment of the revised *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* in English by the end of January 2014, at the very latest. As announced at the annual meeting, this new deluxe format may be distributed in the field ministry to interested persons. Therefore, it is hoped this initial consignment will assist congregations to have a sufficient quantity to distribute to Bible students and other interested individuals. After this consignment has been received, congregations may begin requesting additional supplies to maintain a modest stock of Bibles as is done for other publications distributed in the field ministry.

The printeries in both the Japan and the United States branch offices are working hard to produce Bibles for English congregations around the world. While they are making Bibles as quickly as possible, it will take a number of months to produce all of the Bibles that are needed. Therefore, to ensure an even distribution to all congregations, an appropriate limit will be set on the number of Bibles that may be requested each month. Those who may need more than one copy for their personal use will need to keep this in mind and understand it will take some months before all of the needs can be met.

With the release of the gray deluxe Bible, please note that the hardcover and black and maroon deluxe formats of the *New World Translation* in English will no longer be produced. It is understood that stock of the various formats of the previous version of the English Bible have already been depleted in the vast majority of congregations. In the event that supplies of the previous version are still in the congregations or in the homes of the brothers, these may be distributed in the field ministry or in public witnessing to interested ones. However, progressive Bible students and others attending meetings should be encouraged to use the revised English *New World Translation* so that they will be able to follow along during their studies and at the meetings.

Additionally, the Governing Body has approved of the production of a large-size edition of the revised *New World Translation* in English. As announced at the annual meeting, this will be single-volume edition and is intended for those with poor eyesight. It will be gilded and have a deluxe cover like the regular-size, deluxe edition. The content of this edition will be exactly the same as the regular-size edition. It will not contain any additional reference material. Congregations should not stock this large-size edition for distribution in the field ministry; rather, it will be a special-request item. With the release of this new large-size Bible, please note that the four-volume, hardcover *New World Translation* in large print will no longer be produced.

The Governing Body has selected the production materials of this new deluxe Bible with great care so that the Bible will maintain its dignified appearance. This highlights the importance that is placed on keeping your Bible in good repair and not using one that is torn or soiled. This is especially important when we engage in the field ministry or when giving parts on the platform so

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as not to detract in any way from the life-giving message the Bible contains. Handling your copy of the Bible carefully, keeping it neat and clean, (avoiding contact with water, etc.) will display your high regard for God's Word. We are sure all of you will be mindful of making financial contributions to our worldwide Bible-educational work.

We send our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

cc: Traveling overseers

PS to body of elders:

Please arrange for this letter to be read to the congregation at the Service Meeting during the week of October 7, 2013. Thereafter, it should be posted on the information board. This postscript should not be read to the congregation or be posted on the information board. Congregations attending a circuit event that week should have the letter read the following week.

Requesting regular-size, gray deluxe Bibles (*nwt*; item number 5140): After your initial consignment has been received, please be sure that all publishers and their minor children who can read have received a personal copy. Remaining supplies can be used then for Bible students and other interested ones. As the need arises, language-coordinating congregations may submit additional requests for the congregation(s) they serve. This is not a special-request item; rather, congregations should maintain a modest supply for use in the field ministry.

Requesting large-size Bibles (*nwts*; item number 5141): As mentioned above, this edition is intended for those with poor eyesight and is a special-request item, and therefore should not be stocked.

Status of pending requests for formats of previous version of *New World Translation* in English: In view of the changes outlined above, please note that pending requests for previous editions of the *New World Translation* in English have been canceled. This includes requests for the following editions: hardcover (*Hbi12*; item number 5112), softcover (*bi12*; item number 5116), black and maroon deluxe editions (*DLbi12-b*; item number 5114 and *DLbi12-m*; item number 5115); Reference Bible (*Rbi8*; item number 5108); large-print, four-volume Bible (*bilp*; item numbers 5130-5134); and the MP3 disc set (*mpbi12*; item number 9401).

Additional information regarding delivery: As the Bible has been out of stock for many months, we are aware that there will be a degree of excitement and eager expectation about receiving a copy. As Bibles are received from the printing branches, we will promptly supply congregations with an initial consignment. Due to the large volume involved, this is expected to be in a phased series of deliveries around Britain and Ireland. We do not expect to complete the initial deliveries until the end of January. Thank you for your patience while we meet the demand.