

Fall 2016

FRONTLINES

REPORTING YOUR IMPACT ON THE WORLDWIDE BIBLE TRANSLATION MOVEMENT

GOD'S WORD TRANSFORMS THE LUTOS COMMUNITY

Thanks to your generous giving this summer to Wycliffe's 2016 "From First Words to Changed Lives" campaign, you are impacting lives in the Lutos people group of the Central African Republic.

Lutos teenagers were once considered adults only after undergoing painful rituals. Taking part in this tradition proved to the rest of the Lutos people that the young men and women were prepared to live difficult lives. After this, they have the freedom to choose their future path, get married or set up their own household.

But now, due to Bible translation and literacy work — which your support helps provide — the Lutos' lives are being transformed! Because of the influence of Scripture, young men and women have now found

their identities in Christ and can face any hardship with God on their side.

One translator said, "God gave my wife and me five daughters. The Lutos culture requires that they undergo this ritual, but I opposed it. Because, for me, the Word of God holds more authority." Instead of following the cultural norm, the translator allowed his daughters to be baptized as fellow believers of Christ. "Since their baptism, each of my daughters has committed herself to following the Lord."

Literacy work in the Lutos language enables the Lutos people to improve their lives through education. At

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each literacy workshop, many come with a keen interest to learn and are taught to read and write in their language. Most importantly, the Lutos now absorb and live out the message of the Bible. The translation of the Scripture into their heart language has made God's Word become more real to them.

On behalf of the Lutos people, thank you for your gifts to keep literacy and translation efforts moving forward in their language.

WYCLIFFE GIFT CATALOG: PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Reach 27 Million People in India with God's Word

More than 70 percent of the Bibleless population in India are not literate in their mother tongue, and the remaining 30 percent are not yet fluent readers. In 2010, our South Asia Partner initiated a pilot project to record six translated books of New Testament for a very sensitive language. Within two years of the recordings' completion and distribution, the local church doubled in size. By early 2015, the church had grown by 400 percent!

The future of Scripture engagement efforts in India is focused on making God's Word accessible in audio and video formats. This high-priority strategy includes making Bible stories, songs, Scripture portions and the "JESUS" film available in minority languages. The recording and distribution of Scripture portions in another 10 languages were completed in early 2016.

The impact of audio/visual versions of the Bible is amazing! In a language spoken in Western India, 40 audio players were loaded with Bible stories, Scripture portions and songs. The players were distributed to local pastors and churches, to start Bible listening groups. Much to the translation team's amazement, the pastors requested an additional 40 sets the next week!

You can support audio/video Scripture production for 30 languages in India — representing 27 million people — through our Gift Catalog.

This year's catalog presents ways to support the work of Bible translation — including the project featured above. Beginning October 1, you can browse our online catalog at

wycliffe.org/giftcatalog.





GOD'S WORD OPENS DOORS

Answered Prayers in Western Indonesia

There are an estimated 700 languages spoken in Indonesia. Although Indonesian is the official language of the country, most citizens speak other languages as their primary language. Each dialect has a unique language identity, making this region one of the three areas of the world with the greatest Bible translation need.

Translation work is underway for the Wacana* language of Indonesia. Believers are rare among the Wacana, as the majority of the population practices another major world religion. There is no established church among the Wacana and outreach can be slow, but God is using his translated Word to open doors.

One of the biggest challenges the Wacana translation team faces is finding people willing to help them test translated Scripture for accuracy and naturalness in the language. Fortunately, the main translators live in

a college town, where people from all over the country come to attend university. After the translation team visited a dorm where several students from the Wacana area lived, one young man agreed to participate.

The young Wacana man was very supportive, saying that he would help in any way — for free — to see these stories become books. The translators tested the story of Joseph with him twice in person and twice over e-mail, asking questions about the story to see if it was easily understood, or in need of revision. Finding this student was a direct answer to the team's prayers!

Please join us in praying that God would open doors for a church planting team that is trying to find a way to live in the main Wacana homeland, which would allow translation work to continue among the Wacana.

*pseudonym

Funds Provided This Quarter

Your gifts to the Worldwide Projects Fund help support the Wacana Bible translation project, as well as several others providing Scripture access in western Indonesia. Thank you!

NUMBER OF PROJECTS	236
TOTAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTED	\$1,219,143
FUNDS FOR FEATURED PROJECTS	\$7,015

LED TO MAKE AN EXTRAORDINARY GIFT

Brad and Laura, longtime investors in the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators, felt led by the Holy Spirit to do something beyond their normal giving to Wycliffe and other ministries. They found themselves asking the Lord, “How can we do this when our cash flow is already tight?”

While meeting with a Wycliffe Foundation Gift Planning Advisor to discuss their situation, Brad and Laura were encouraged to look beyond their checkbook. The Gift Advisor also recommended that they consider using a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) that would allow them to make a single gift of an asset for the benefit of multiple ministries.

The appointment got the pair thinking about giving from the assets which the Lord had entrusted to them, specifically the vacation home that their family had made little use of in recent years. Brad and Laura had been thinking of selling it, but the prospect of paying significant capital gains taxes gave them pause. They agreed that the property would be an excellent asset to gift into a Wycliffe Foundation donor advised fund.

Once the home was gifted into a DAF and then sold, they were able to make significant grants to Wycliffe Bible Translators and other ministries close to their hearts. These grants were many times greater than their annual cash gifts. Brad says, “We never thought we could make gifts of this size. Through our donor advised fund we were able to dramatically increase our gifts and impact for the work of the kingdom. It’s been a blessing!”

To learn more about asset giving or Donor Advised Funds, visit the Wycliffe Foundation website at **wycliffefoundation.org** or by calling 1-877-493-3600.



WORDSEARCH

When Bible Translators Find Just the Right Word

Translating a Word That Does Not Exist

The word “do” is the third most-used verb in the English language. But how can you translate that word when it doesn’t exist in a particular language? While working with one language group in northern Alaska, Wycliffe translators were faced with that challenge. In John 6:38, Jesus says that he came “down from heaven to do the will of God.”

In Alaska’s frozen north, there are no natural landmarks like mountains or streams. Instead, tall tripods topped

with reflective tape mark the trails. The people “follow” or “obey” the trail markers when they cannot see ahead.

With this in mind, the translators chose to use the word for “follow” or “obey” in place of “do” for the verse. Their translation now reads, “For I have come down from heaven to follow, or obey, the will of God who sent me; not to follow, or obey my own will.”