JANUARY 2020

TRANSLATION *Matters*



LET THE WORD COME QUICKLY

At the beginning of a new year, we stretch forward with expectancy to 2020 and the next decade of this century!

We are among those who step into the new decade, thankful for all that God has done in 2019, yet knowing there's more to come. What a great season of growth and grace the past decade has been in the increase of Bible translation! So many more communities have God's Word in their language, to lead them to Christ, and to nurture their growth towards Christian maturity.

But we don't camp there. With hearts brimming, we stretch forward to what lies ahead. Our goal? 'To take hold of that for which Christ took hold of us' (Philippians 3:12-13). Countless impact stories, of what happens when God's Word comes alive in the languages of people's hearts, spur us on to keep doing what we do.

The past decade has been defined by the spirit of Vision 2025, with its themes of Urgency, Partnership, Capacity Building, Creative Strategies, and Sustainability. The date was never intended as a prediction or prophecy, but the vision has galvanised the global network of churches and Bible translation organisations into a strong sense of expectancy that God invites us to join Him, as He brings His Word to all people – not sooner or later – but soon! Our hearts groan for the coming of Scripture in every language, in the same way that we resonate with the promise of Jesus: 'Look, I am coming soon!' (Revelation 22:20).

No human endeavour is equal to the task of meeting the remaining need for first-time Bibles for 170 million people without access to Scripture in a language and form that serves them well. This will only happen by God's initiative and activity. Christopher Wright explains: "The mission is God's the marvel is that He invites us to join in."

Be part of the next decade's wonder of God's mission!

Karen, CEO

FEEDBACK FROM THE 947 FUNDRAISER FOR MOZAMBIQUE CLUSTER

In August 2019, the first Makhuwa translation workshop took place, marking the start of FOUR language groups in Mozambique receiving God's Word in their own language for the first time: eMakhuwani, eSaka, eMarrevoni and eXirima!

In light of this, our cycle and roadside support teams took to the streets during November to ride for a Kingdom purpose in the Discovery 947 Ride Joburg cycle challenge. In doing so, they made this work of translating God's Word known, were supported by a team of prayer warriors, and raised an amazing R107,404 to support the translation work. This covers the first 35.8% of the budget for the Makhuwa translation in 2020. We are so grateful to everyone who has been part of this, and give all praise to God.

NOW WE MUST KEEP GATHERING:

Two thirds of the translation budget for 2020 is yet to be gathered, and we trust that God will provide. If you would like to continue to partner with the Makhuwa translation and to receive updates about the work, you can do so in any of the following ways:

- Give a recurring or once-off financial gift using the EFT details below and the reference "Your surname/Makhuwa".
- Join the Intercessors for Africa group that have committed to pray for the Makhuwa translation by emailing wycliffe@wycliffe.org.za with "Intercessors for Africa" in the subject line.







Account Name: Wycliffe South Africa | Bank: Standard Bank South Africa
Type: Cheque Account | Account Number: 200711547
Branch Code: 051001 | Proof of Payment: finance@wycliffe.org.za

"R107,404 raised to support the translation work – thank you! This covers the first 35.8% of the budget for the Makhuwa translation in 2020."













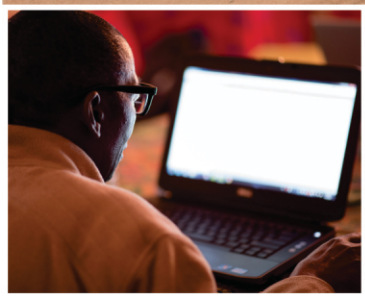
MILESTONES ON THE JOURNEY

When we look back at all that God has done in the year 2019, we can't help but be filled with gratitude and joy! We have seen many new and committed partners stand with us in this work, through prayer, financially giving and more. As a result, we have seen many translation teams across southern Africa progress in their translation work, as well as the initial discussions and the start of new translations like Siphuthi in Lesotho and four Makhuwa languages in Mozambique. It has been a year of many milestones: from hosting the first Siphuthi training workshop in July, to launching our very first "I Love My Bible" Campaign online, to seeing the start of translation for a cluster of four languages in Mozambique. We praise God for His faithfulness.

However, the work is far from finished. There are still around 40 languages to be reached in southern Africa alone! This year, the start of a new decade, we are trusting God to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20). We ask you to join us - continue to support and pray as we work with God to make the vision of God's Word alive in every language a reality!



Makhuwa translation into four languages





Hambukushu Phase 1 closing meeting





Siphuthi Oral Bible Translation

HELP SAVE TREES

We are constantly updating our database, so if any of your details are going to change, please let us know. If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email (and save some trees in the process), please send a request to wycliffe@wycliffe.org.za.

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BIBLE TRANSLATION

Standard Bank • Branch: Kempton Park • Code: 012442 • Account number: 200711547 • Reference: Your name / Chosen project
1 Syringa Place, 29 Smith Avenue, Edenglen, 1609, Johannesburg, South Africa • PostNet Suite 30, Private Bag X1, Edenglen, 1613
+27 11 452 2714/5 • wycliffe@wycliffe.org.za • www.wycliffe.org.za