January 2016

Himba Project on the Road



Thank you Bernie and team – for stepping out in faith to ride for a Kingdom purpose!

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I want to thank you for your tremendous support in getting the Himba Bible translation project on the road last year. What a joy to see such wide participation in making it possible to bring the Good News to the Himba people!

Most of the fundraising and intercession for reaching out to the Himba communities of Namibia and Angola revolved around the Momentum 947 Cycle Challenge (www.cyclechallenge.co.za) in November last year.

For three years running, Bernie Easton has volunteered as the founding coordinator of the Africa Alive cycle team. God has used her enthusiasm and efficiency to inspire people from all walks of life to get on the road for a Kingdom purpose.

A team of 35 cyclists of all ages and fitness levels rode their hearts out in the hot November sun, wearing the Africa Alive colours. The team's desire was to honour God, and they did so, crossing the finish line with heads held high as they flanked Billy the Bible man. Perhaps you saw him on e.tv?



A huge thanks to Grant Easton, who completed the 94.7 km course dressed as a giant Bible. Grant's passionate prayer is that people will catch a glimpse of the value of God's Word, and that giving it to others in their heart language is a cause worth dying for. Well done – we are so glad you survived the scorching heat!



Thanks to your generosity and love for God and the Himba people, we raised R55,000. We, the cyclists, felt encouraged and loved by your support too, so thank you!

As part of the Himba awareness campaign, many of you bought Himba cushions in support of the translation project. The proceeds from the 100 cushions sold have fed into the overall funds needed for this privileged involvement with what God is doing among the Himba. Together with the R150,000 raised over three years, it was possible to launch a partnership that will enable the Himba to grow in God's ways through having His Word in their heart language. We are very excited about the progress made so far and look forward to updating you in our next newsletter. Please continue to support us and to spread the news about the Himba project.

May God bless you with an awe-inspiring 2016. Standing together to see God's glory crest and roll!

Karen Floor
CEO







Update on the Himba Project

- Translation work for the Himba Oral Bible Translation project started at the beginning of November 2015
- A large number of pastors and spiritual leaders attended the launch meetings of the project in the town of Opuwo in Namibia. They participated in the project design decisions and local ownership is strong. A steering committee comprising local churches will provide oversight to the project.
- The Himba translation facilitators and related personnel received training in Opuwo on how to translate the stories from the Herero and English source texts.
- The translation facilitators work with groups of Himba story crafters in the villages to produce a first draft of a story. The draft is tested in other communities, including across the border in Angola. Stories are refined with the help of exegetical advisors and checked by consultants for clarity, accuracy and naturalness.
- Recordings of the stories are distributed among the Himba.
- So far four stories have already been translated from the book of Luke.
- The goal for the first phase of the project is 60 stories and the gospel of Mark.
- We are thrilled that a seasoned Bible Translation trainer, Margaret Hill, will provide training to the Himba translation team from 25 January to 3 February 2016.

"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea"

Habakkuk 2:14

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