



ISLANDS ASIA

Pray for Zero

May 29–June 2, 2023

A DAY-BY-DAY PRAYER JOURNAL
FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION



Islands Asia

Praise God that national Bible translation partners in the three countries of the Islands Asia* region are growing in strength. Together, they're working to reach the remaining languages without Scripture. As they witness the impact of Bible translation, key local church and business leaders are increasing their support.

Another major world religion with strong control in the government poses a challenge to progress. In some areas, it is illegal to share the gospel. Some pastors have been kidnapped, put in prison, or even killed. Strong partnerships are key to reaching the day when Zero people in Islands Asia are without God's Word. Let's join the Seed Company field team in praying Ephesians 4:1-3 over Bible translation teams in the region:

"Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."



**Because this region has numerous security risks, we've used asterisks to indicate when pseudonyms and general regions have been used throughout this prayer journal.*

Praise Report

How Islands Asia Is Counting Down to Zero People Without Scripture

To get to Zero, we need to work together to research which languages are actively in use and closest to people's hearts.

In a major Asian country, churches, church planting organizations, and Bible translation organizations are using innovative tools and strategies to identify and prioritize the translation needs of the remaining people groups:

Taste of Translation

This 2-day workshop gives a glimpse of what it's like to do a full Bible translation project. If they're eager for more, national partners commit to help them start within a year.

Rev79

This project management tool helps share information and resources among partners in Bible translation.

Oral Bible Translation

Ideal for less literate communities, this entirely oral process takes recorded Scripture through all the same rigorous checking steps as written translation.

“

“This is truly a work of God that can only be accomplished and maintained through humility, prayer, and the Holy Spirit.”

— The Seed Company Islands Asia team

”

PRAISE + PRAY

In November of this year, around 100 leaders will meet to review the status of these remaining needs and prayerfully consider how they might press forward together in unity.

Monday

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

PRAY FOR A BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP

First Scripture for the Bokngobo* of Islands Asia

Seed Company, in partnership with a major Bible translation organization in Southeast Asia and [Faith Comes by Hearing](#), will launch an Oral Bible Translation project for the Bokngobo* people.

Bokngobo Christians (15% of the total population) are a minority group living in a majority Muslim region. As islanders, many of the Bokngobo spend time fishing. They live in small villages where access to formal education is limited.

PRAY

For trainers, the translation consultant, and translation teams as they prepare for the first training in an [Oral Bible Translation tool called Render](#), scheduled for June 26th through July 14.

PRAISE

By the end of this project, the Bokngobo people will have the Gospel of Luke, the "JESUS" film, and Scripture-based worship songs.



A Bokngobo village

Answered Prayer for the Timber* Team in Southeast Asia

We prayed in March for protection for Timber* team members as they distributed New Testament portions, and God answered!
Timber* churches received God's Word with excitement and gratitude.

Pray Now

Pray that believers will have a deeper understanding of Jesus as they hear pastors preach from the translated Scriptures and as they use them in private devotion.



Tuesday

God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

— 1 Corinthians 1:9 (NLT)

PRAY FOR PARTNERS

Operation Snap Dragon* in Islands Asia

Operation Snap Dragon originally began in a large country in South Asia to accelerate production of the “JESUS” film in its many languages through bringing together the [Jesus Film Project](#) and national mission organizations. In 2017, Snap Dragon expanded to a large country in Islands Asia, and since then, they have completed 96 “JESUS” film recordings!

Currently in a season of expansion, Snap Dragon’s aim is to serve more organizations that need technical support and tools for their ministry.

PRAY

- For good health for team members as they regularly travel to remote locations.
- That God will grant them a heart to serve, humility to hear requests, and ability to give the right advice.
- For partners who can support the work.



Preparing a sound booth for "JESUS" film recording



Pray Now

The Lik* team of Islands Asia has sent the complete Bible for typesetting during May, June, and July. Ask for typesetting to go smoothly so the Bible can go to the printer in August.



Wednesday

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?

— Romans 10:14

*Udde kasannera a marang si duffun sikwana nu ammera a mangurug?
Kasannera a mangurug nu ammera madingngag ino mensabena? Anna
kasannara kad a madingngag ino mensabena nu awan a mangibalaggona
meafu sikwana?*

— Roma 10:14 (Gaddang, a language in the Philippines)

But how-can-they ask for help to-him if they-don't believe (in-him)? How-can-they believe if they-can't hear his-message? And how-can-they hear his-message if no-one will-proclaim about him?

— Romans 10:14 (translated back into English from Gaddang)



PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

New Testament Nears Completion in the Philippines

Spread throughout the mountains, valleys, and plains of the northern Philippines, Gaddang speakers, who we prayed for in December of last year, learned of the life and teachings of Jesus in their own language when Bible translation started in 2016. Since October 2022, the translators have worked on the remaining six books of the New Testament.

After reading through the freshly translated book of Galatians together, members of the community declared:

“We were invited to listen, study, learn, interact and fully understand the translated word of God in our dialect. Our faith in him was strengthened.”

“I learned so many things, and while reading the translated word of God, I was refreshed and encouraged.”

PRAISE

- Many are participating in the Gaddang Facebook group, helping team members find the right words as they translate.
- Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, Titus, and Jude have now been added to the Gaddang Scripture app!

PRAY

- For wisdom to revise 1 Corinthians.
- That many Gaddang Christians will commit to pray for the project for the next three years.
- For team members to see Jesus as the only Savior and Lord as they continue in translation.



Thursday

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

— Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

Pray for a Consultant in Training: “Miss B”

Miss B* felt unsatisfied in her government job. Then she was exposed to a Bible checking session. She was so good at thinking critically about the text that someone suggested she return to school to learn Bible translation. She prayed about it and said yes!

Today, she is training to become a Bible translation consultant through Seed Company's internship program. She's already involved in checking translation work for three people groups, working alongside 19 local translators and 3 local pastors.

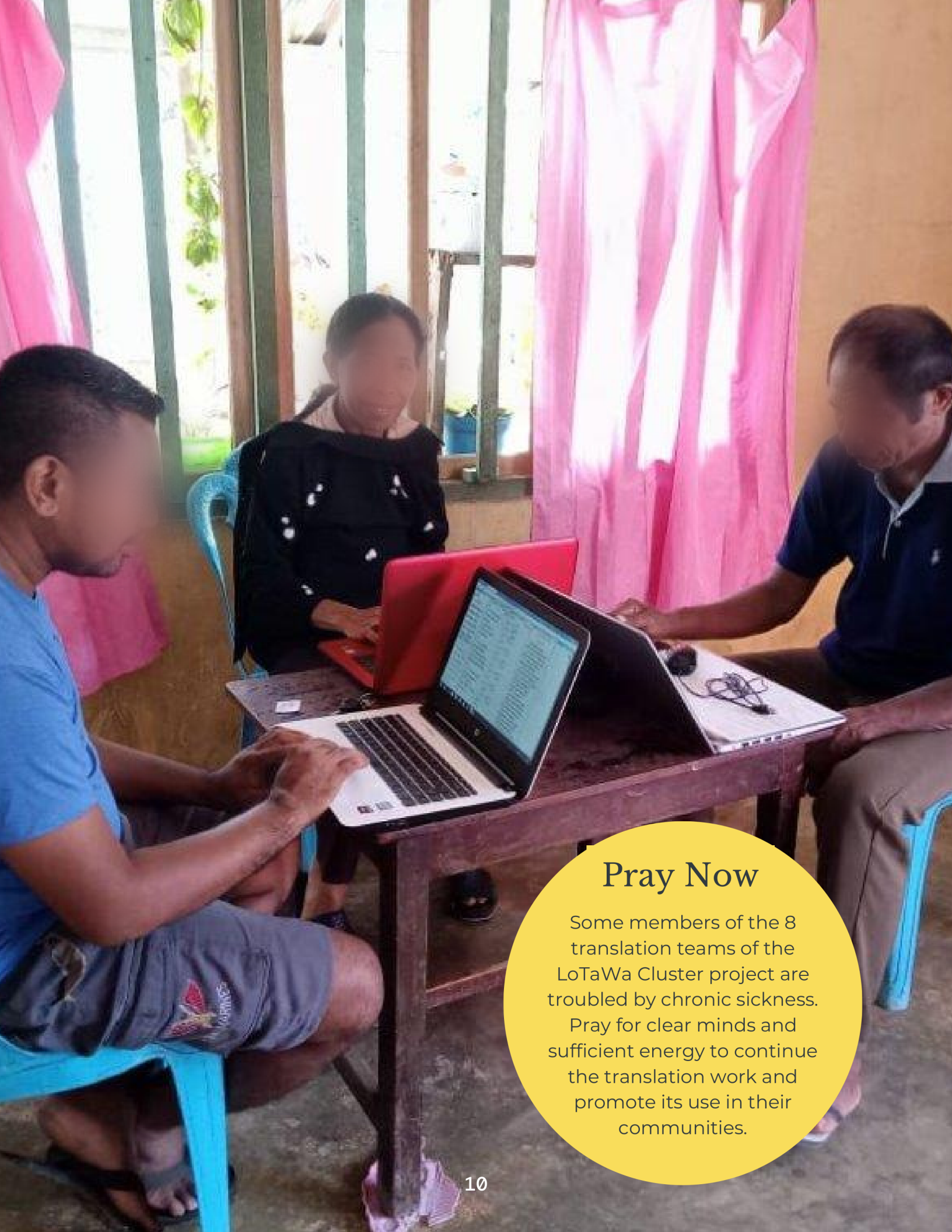
PRAISE

- God has granted safe travels during the rainy season and good health for the teams and Miss B.

PRAY

- For the team members Miss B is working with to continue to grow in their faith and have courage to follow Christ alone rather than local traditions.
- For health, endurance, and diligence as Miss B helps the teams.





Pray Now

Some members of the 8 translation teams of the LoTaWa Cluster project are troubled by chronic sickness. Pray for clear minds and sufficient energy to continue the translation work and promote its use in their communities.

Friday

Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts.

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Pastor H*'s Vision to Reach 100 Languages

When Pastor H, leader of a large church network, was young, his father shared stories with him and his siblings from the only Bible in their village. “God drew me to himself through those stories, and now I want to make sure everyone has access to his Word,” he said.

On a recent visit with key partners in an Islands Asia country with 250+ languages still in need of Bible translation, a Seed Company Field Programs consultant visited with Pastor H and heard his vision: to reach 100 of these people groups with God’s Word!

PRAISE

- Praise God for Pastor H and other church leaders in this country who want to be involved in the Great Commission through Bible translation.

PRAY

- Ask God to empower and equip these leaders with wisdom from on high.



Meeting with Pastor H. and other leaders

Pray for the Pasil Guina-ang Kalinga Team in the Philippines

Pasil Guina-ang Kalinga people, mostly farmers, mix Christianity with traditional beliefs. The New Testament in print and audio will help bring hope to a community held hostage by demonic activity and bring an end to an ongoing suicide epidemic.

Pray Now

That God will help the Pasil Guina-ang Kalinga team complete preparations to submit the New Testament for typesetting in June.



Pasil revision stage with consultant



Pasil visit to senior citizens for community checking



Reading Scripture aloud in Pasil

*THE JOURNEY TO ZERO IS ULTIMATELY A
JOURNEY OF PRAYER WHERE THE COUNTLESS
PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS COUNT FOR
EVERYTHING.*

