

Mainland Asia

In Mainland Asia*, people often endure hostility from local governments as they translate Scripture. Work must be done in secret, security risks are high, and interrogation is a constant threat for many teams. Despite the obstacles, local translators remain devoted to God's work. Several have become Bible translation consultants.

Faced with so many remaining needs, yet such heavy opposition, translators in Mainland Asia need prayer for heavenly wisdom in order to reach the day when there is zero Bible poverty in their region. We join in praying Luke 10:2 over them: "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

[Watch Video: Sacrifice for Zero](#)

**Because this region presents numerous security risks, asterisks have been used throughout this prayer journal to indicate when a pseudonym is being used.*

Regional Praise

Faithful Dako* Translator Resumes Work Despite Persecution

Fifteen months ago, the translation office of the Dako translation team was raided by police. They destroyed over a thousand copies of Luke, interrogated translators, and confiscated their computers, forcing the project to come to a halt.

Recently, one of the translators reached out, expressing her determination to resume the translation work alone, despite great personal challenges and risks. Her husband has recently undergone a stomach removal surgery due to cancer, and her young twins are attending school, although the authorities have threatened to prevent their enrollment if she continues with the translation work.

PRAISE

Praise God for this sister's resolute spirit and desire to press on.

PRAY

Ask God to hide and protect her on this journey and help her make good progress on the remaining 35% of the New Testament.

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 Iroca* of Mainland Asia

The Iroca people, residing in a mountainous region, primarily rely on subsistence farming and adhere to animist practices and ancestral worship. Christian communities among them face government scrutiny and persecution. Despite some exposure to Christianity over the years, they still lack access to God's transformative Word in their native tongue. Their positive attitude toward their heart language provides an open door for translators to share the gospel through their work.

Through this project, the team aims to translate the Gospels of Mark and Luke, blessing the 3,600 Iroca speakers with a knowledge of the only God who saves.

PRAY

- Ask God to give the team wisdom and prepare the hearts of the Iroca people to receive his Word.

PRAISE

- God has already provided translators from within the community.
- This work will be done in partnership with the biggest church organization in the country.

Pray Now

[God answered our prayers in April](#) for the advisor to be able to meet face-to-face with the Rudu* team after four years! Pray that the secure apps installed on their phones will provide more consistent communication. Ask for protection from police interrogations in their repressive country.

Pray Now

Ask God to remove obstacles hindering the Oral Bible Storytelling project from going forward in the [Ten'edn community of Thailand](#). Recently, a Wycliffe team had to cancel a trip due to illness. Pray for local people and partners to be able to meet soon, and ask God to help them craft transformative stories from Scripture.

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

Oral Bible Stories Open Hearts in Unreached Communities

A national partner who worked with the Imola* people high in the Himalayas wanted to take the gospel to neighboring groups. They started with Bible storytelling, developing 45 stories for the Banyi*, Kees*, and Yahdhok* communities. Some people from each group gave their lives to Jesus!

After this success, the partner made plans to engage four more languages with oral storytelling. All seven communities then began to translate Luke, Genesis, and Proverbs. A third project, using these same principles of taking the gospel to the unreached, is getting ready to launch! It's called the Gharok* storytelling project, and it will include four new language groups. Praise God that so many groups are receiving God's Word in their own language for the first time!

PRAISE

Praise God for the vision and innovation he's given this national partner.

PRAY

That God will call enough Gharok storytellers to help make the stories come alive for their people in time to begin August 1.

Pray Now

Sengti* church leaders and Scripture reviewers live just 5 km from the city where translators live, but the journey takes 3 hours on challenging mountain roads. Pray for the team's perseverance as they travel to check the translation for quality.

[**VIDEO: See what the journey looks like for the Sengti team**](#)

What do teams do to check a translation for quality?

In comprehension testing (or community reviewing), community members listen as translators read drafted material and then answer questions that help the team determine whether the translation communicates clearly and naturally.

Wednesday

Let your unfailing love surround us, LORD, for our hope is in you alone.

— Psalm 33:22

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— Psalm 33:22 (Rakali*, a language in Mainland Asia)

Oh God forever, as we hope-depend for everything in You, Your love that never ends will be with us.

— Psalm 33:22 (translated back into English from Rakali)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Rakali* of Mainland Asia

Civil war in the country where the Rakali project is located is causing great suffering. People are losing their homes and even their lives. Some translators have had to flee the area, but they’ve pressed on through constant danger and uncertainty.

PRAISE

Recently, the living situations of 3 translators stabilized to the point that they were able to check Scriptures together on Zoom. Pray for this stability and safety to continue!

PRAY

Ask God to protect the Rakali translators whenever they pass through soldier checkpoints on the roads, as they never know when they could be arrested.

Pray Now

Local believers are translating Scripture for the Mana* people, who live in remote northern mountains with limited access to education. One translator recently quit due to persecution and harassment, but unfortunately, few others know the language like he does. Pray for his protection, and ask God to raise up another to help the team.

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 Intern Joseph* and His Wife Naomi*

Joseph and Naomi, a dedicated couple, have been involved in Bible translation since 2017, bringing knowledge of Greek and Hebrew as well as strong English proficiency to their work. They save time for translation consultants by conducting “pre-check”s of translations, and they also help with paying salaries, collecting receipts, and other administrative tasks.

Their passion for Bible translation has led Joseph to enroll in a 3-year MA program in a neighboring country to study linguistics and related subjects.

PRAY

For Joseph, Naomi, and their young daughter as they embrace a new culture and navigate the demands of an intensive study program. May God grant them strength, wisdom, and resilience throughout their journey, enabling them to excel in their studies and contribute even more to the vital work of making Scripture accessible to all.

Pray Now

For Gabriel*, the translator/consultant of the Lamuli* project, who was recently released after a 7-day imprisonment. May God bring comfort to his wife after the traumatic police search. Pray that the 8 projects he's involved in remain unaffected by authorities.

Friday

Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts
— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

A “Blessed Year” for the Khily* Team

The Khily translation team declared this to be a “blessed year”—They were finally able to visit the Khily language area after two years of pandemic restrictions and political instability.

During the trip, they held a one-day Bible training, attended by people from many different churches. One participant said he had observed increased unity and solidarity among the Khily community since the beginning of the Bible translation project. He said, “The more we read the Bible, the more we know that we are brothers and sisters in the family of God even though we are different in terms of the denomination we belong to and the village we live in.”

PRAY

That God’s love, peace, and justice will prevail in the country, restoring political stability.

Pray for a Project Being Suspended

After 13 years, the Nula* project will need to be suspended due to a moral failure of the sole translator. The field partner found the situation to be so emotionally draining that she decided to take a sabbatical.

Pray that translator Martha* will recognize the seriousness of this sin and the lies used to cover it up, even though lying is not considered a serious offense in Nula culture. Pray she will be restored to a right relationship with the Lord and receive his mercy and grace.

May God restore this sister and this project in the future so His Word can be proclaimed among the Nula people.