

# Islands Asia

One country in the region of Islands Asia has the largest number of remaining Bibleless languages in the world—more than 240. Praise God that national Bible translation partners in the area are growing in strength. Together, they're working to reach the remaining languages without Scripture.

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.

## **PRAY SCRIPTURE FOR ISLANDS ASIA FIELD PARTNERS**

*"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."*

— Ephesians 4:1–6

*\*Asterisks indicate where pseudonyms have been used and locations have been generalized due to security risks.*

[\*\*VIDEO: WHY PRAY FOR ZERO?\*\*](#)

# Regional Praise

## IllumiNations Asia Gathering

Asia is home to the highest remaining Bible translation needs of any continent and country on earth. This past week, [illumiNations Asia](#) held a 4-day gathering to bring together Asian partners in ministry and Bible translation, with the goal of cultivating the kind of unity that's necessary for this region to reach "Zero."

### PRAISE

- Praise God that our Asian brothers and sisters are carrying the baton forward, taking ownership for finishing the Bible translation task in their region.

### PRAY

- For fruitful partnerships and strategies to come from this gathering, and for heavenly wisdom for carrying out the plans God has put in these leaders' hearts
- For God to raise up 144,000 Asian intercessors for Bible translation by 2025
- For the kind of unity among Asian churches and Bible translation organizations that Jesus prays for in [John 17](#).

# 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 Lolengi\* of Islands Asia

Lolengi people live in mountainous areas that can only be reached via airplane. Early this year, regional partner [Kartidaya](#) asked Dr. Linda Jones to lead an orthography workshop for speakers of this language, as well as two other languages located in the same province. As a result, each of these languages now has an agreed-on writing system to use for Bible translation work.

Seed Company, in partnership with Kartidaya, officially launched the Irau [Cluster project](#) in June 2023. The goal is to translate the Gospel of Luke, [the "JESUS" film](#), and worship songs based on Scripture.

### PRAY

- For the Lolengi team as they translate [Luke 7-9](#).
- For their upcoming travels to attend the [consultant checking workshop](#) in September 2023.

### PRAISE

- [Mission Aviation Fellowship](#) is supporting this work by providing air transport for the Lolengi team to and from their village to the workshop site at a lower cost.

## Pray Now

For more translation consultants in a large Asian country with many remaining Bibleless people groups. Recently, a Seed Company translation consultant traveled there to mentor a local colleague in the final steps of consultant training! Ask God to protect him and raise up others like him.

## Pray Now

For the family and colleagues of Lily\*, a friendly, energetic, and loving young mom who was working with one of our largest Islands Asia partner organizations when she suddenly passed away due to an illness. She leaves behind a husband and two children. Before she passed, she got to see a people group she worked with complete the New Testament.

# 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

### Pusat Penerjemahan Alkitab Bible Translation Center

We praise God for our partnership with Pusat Penerjemahan Alkitab (PPA), an organization that specializes in [Oral Bible Storytelling](#) (OBS) projects. Not only are they running their own OBS projects, but now they would like to train other organizations to do the same!

#### PRAISE

- Praise the Lord for partners like PPA who are eager to not only have their own needs met, but also to equip others to do the work as [2 Timothy 2:2](#) teaches.

#### PRAY

- For God to provide a path forward. The logistics of training are not simple, as PPA already has so much going on. Creating availability in their schedule and matching it to another organization's schedule is a challenge.



## Praise God

In late August, two people groups in Islands Asia—the Kobas\* and Kosarek\*—will celebrate the completion of the entire New Testament in their languages within a week of each other! Pray that God’s Word will strengthen these believers’ faith, rooting out fear, confusion, and superstition.

# Wednesday

*After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands.*

— Revelation 7:9 (NLT)

*Nagamput ad chi, mamma-ag agan innila`chan liwan un tagu un sapun mapilang un naypu sin losana ili, tribu, puli ya ugud. Sumisi-ad cha sin sangun chin trono ya sin Kannilu, ad mansisillup cha si mampulaw ya mamangchon si sangan chi palma.*

— Revelation 7:9 (Guina-ang Kalinga, a language in the Philippines)

*When that was finished, suddenly I-saw a multitude of people that cannot be counted who came-from all/every nations/places, tribes, races, and languages. They are standing in front of the throne and (in front) of the Lamb, and they are clothed in white and are holding branches of palm-tree.*

—Revelation 7:9 (translated back into English from Guina-ang Kalinga)

## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

### Pasil Guina-Ang Kalinga of the Philippines

In the mountains of the northern Philippines lies the Pasil Guina-ang Kalinga community. Their diverse churches are united by a shared desire to translate Scripture into their language. Praise God that the translators finally completed their full New Testament audio recording with [Faith Comes by Hearing](#) in June 2023!

Now, they're preparing the printed text for publication in January 2024. The local government's strong support led to a beautiful plan: the New Testament dedication is scheduled to coincide with their annual Bible Sunday celebration in January. The mayor expressed, "What we have is a gift from God, and what we become is our gift to God."

### PRAY

- For wisdom and health for Marie and Tereza as they prepare for and promote the upcoming event and use of Scripture.
- For translators Claire, Josephine, Nancy, and Susana to be salt and light among their people.
- For typesetter Miriam as she prepares the text for printing and publication.



# 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

### The Ripple Effect: Bringing Laborers into the Harvest

As they witness the impact of Bible translation, key local church and business leaders in one heavily populated Southeast Asian country are increasing their support and involvement! They're calling this effort [the Ripple Effect](#) because of the multiplying impact they expect to see within the next few years.

One Bible translation organization and large church worked together to conduct 2-week introductory Bible translation programs for 300 seminarians. By God's grace, 124 expressed strong interest in serving in Bible translation! In addition, this large church has a vision to bring Scripture to 100 Bibleless languages—around 40% of the remaining Bibleless groups in the country with the largest remaining needs on earth!

#### PRAISE

- For God's unity, grace, and favor over this large church and Bible translation organization.

#### PRAY

- For the 7-month Bible translation training these seminarians will soon embark on.



## Pray Now

For the 488,000+ Pacific Shores\* people of Islands Asia, as translated portions of the New Testament are now being aired through local radio stations and live streamed on Facebook! May the light of God's Word penetrate the darkness of syncretism and mysticism.

## Pray Now

Two weeks ago, a key Islands Asia partner organization completed a translation facilitators' training in the capital city of a large Southeast Asian country. About 30 people attended this training! Pray that the participants and their families will be able to apply what they've learned to accelerate Bible translation in the region.

# Friday

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

## IMPACT STORY

### Dakaney\* People of Islands Asia

Dakaney speakers have struggled to let go of animistic beliefs, though most identify as Christians. Heart language Scripture is helping them understand the true gospel.

Recently, a Seed Company translation consultant helped the Dakaney team do the final check of 1–2 Thessalonians, 1–2 Timothy, and Titus before preparing them for distribution. This month, they’re being published and circulated, with the potential to impact more than 300,000 Dakaney speakers. In March, two Dakaney speakers gave their lives to Christ while helping test these books for accuracy and clarity. One of them was from a different religious background. Another was the treasurer in her local church!

### PRAISE

For this Seed Company translation consultant as he mentors two other consultant candidates during a workshop this month.

### PRAY

That as more people receive the pastoral epistles in Dakaney, they will truly come to Christ, even those who may have been attending church for a long time.



## Pray Now

All 66 books of the Lik\* Bible are now being printed! Pray for the equipment to work smoothly and for the people to work skillfully. Ask that the Lik people will eagerly embrace the full Bible when it comes out in a few months!