



PRAY FOR  
ZERO®

# South Asia

Home to more than 2 billion people, a staggering 26% of the world's population, South Asia\* covers four countries. Once ruled by the British, these nations are now thriving democracies.

Some parts of South Asia have had Christian presence from the earliest centuries. The region is also the birthplace of major religions Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism. Islam came to the region early in its growth.

Recently, persecution has increased sharply. Bible translation teams are often monitored and scrutinized, and church leaders have been arrested.

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS	KEY STRENGTH	MAJOR CHALLENGE
We are grateful to partner with more than 30 Bible translation agencies in South Asia.	Many highly motivated and committed nationals are engaged in the Bible translation movement.	Some prominent political parties oppose Christian outreach and make policy changes to oppose evangelism.

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

# Regional Praise

## Bramar\* People of South Asia Receive New Testament

The Bramar New Testament dedication on May 27 honored nearly 10 years of faithful work by translators and those who supported them. About 100 people, mostly Bramar believers, gathered to celebrate. Lead translator Ulasing\* delivered an inspiring message based on [2 Timothy 3:16](#), and a group of Bramar youth sang a beloved praise song that had been translated into their language.

Bramar believers, spanning different age groups, genders, and roles within the community, were individually presented with copies of the New Testament—sending the message that the New Testament is meant for all Bramar people. This momentous achievement will bless the Bramar community for generations to come, empowering them with God's life-transforming Word in their heart language.

### PRAY

- That the Bramar church will use the New Testament to deepen their faith, understanding, and application of Scripture.
- That God's Word will bring transformation, healing, and hope to individuals and families in the Bramar community.

# 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** **Bamboo Terraces Cluster Project**

The Bamboo Terraces Cluster Project includes two languages that are classified as first scripture or Bibleless: Honkei (population 7000) and Norbach (population 1500). These two communities are located in remote regions of the project country. Our partner, IEM, has requested help with these two languages.

The Honkei language is part of a larger family of languages located in a neighboring country. A few of these related languages have the New Testament which are not understandable by the Honkei community. The Norbach language is also a subgroup of a larger language community. The Norbach people also struggle to understand any of the scriptures available to them in one of these related languages. Due to their remote locations, both language communities are not able to use the scriptures available to them in the national language.

### **PRAY**

- Both language teams will begin translation starting with Luke, then Acts, and the 5Ts: 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, and Titus.
- The approval process for this cluster project will move smoothly towards a mid-August, 2023, start date.



## Pray Now

For a Seed Company translation consultant who is currently in an Asian country helping two teams check the first half of Acts. Pray for all questions to be resolved so that this trip will result in a translation that's clear, natural, and accurate.

# 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 ABC\* Theological Seminary in South Asia

Praise God that ABC has sent 60 graduates into Bible translation ministry over the years, including two professors who are now serving as translation consultants after completing [Seed Company internships](#). They're willing to risk opposition and persecution as they travel to help translation teams check Scripture, saying, "It is a step of faith."

ABC also manages a Bible translation project in the Duko\* language. Recently, three Duko translators' children completed Bible college programs, and all three returned to serve in youth ministry!

### PRAISE

Five more Duko youth are attending Bible college this year!

### PRAY

ABC was recently investigated for hosting a western missionary, and more and more churches and Christian workers are experiencing threats and physical attacks. Pray that ABC will continue to flourish despite growing opposition in the country.



## Pray Now

For one of the Duko translators, Mark\*, who recently lost his 4-year-old son in a tragic drowning accident. He and his family are heartbroken, as this son was born after many years of waiting and praying.

# Wednesday

*Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. As the men watched, Jesus' appearance was transformed, and his clothes became dazzling white, far whiter than any earthly bleach could ever make them. Then Elijah and Moses appeared and began talking with Jesus. Peter exclaimed, "Rabbi, it's wonderful for us to be here! Let's make three shelters as memorials—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He said this because he didn't really know what else to say, for they were all terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my dearly loved Son. Listen to him."*

— Mark 9:2-7

2 ಆಜಿ ದಿನೊಡ್ಡು ಬೊಕ್ಕ ಯೇಸು ಪೇತ್ರ, ಯಾಕೋಬೆ, ಯೋಹಾನ್ ಮೊಕ್ಲೆನ್, ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕಾದ್ ಒಂಜಿ ಎತ್ತರ ಗುಡ್ಡೆಗ್ ಲೆತ್ತೊಂದು ಪೋಯೆ. ಅಲ್ಪ ಅಕ್ಲೆನ ಕಣ್ಣೆದುರುಡು ಆಯನ ರೂಪ ಬೇತೆ ಆಂಡ್. 3 ಆಯನ ಕುಂಟು ಮಿಂಚಿದ್ ಹಿಮತ್ತಲೆಕ್ಕ ಬೊಲ್ಡಾಂಡ್. ಭೂಲೋಕೊದ ವಾ ಡೋಬಿದಾಯೆಗ್ಲಾ ಆತ್ ಬೊಲ್ಡು ಮಲ್ಪರೆ ಆವಂದ್. 4 ಬೊಕ್ಕ ಎಲೀಯೆಲಾ ಮೋಶೆಲಾ ಅಕ್ಲೆಗ್ ತೋಜಿದ್ ಬತ್ತದ್ ಯೇಸುಡೊಪ್ಪ ಪಾತೆರೊಂದುಪ್ಪುನೆನ್ ಶಿಷ್ಯೆರ್ ತಾಯೆರ್. 5 ಅಪಗ ಪೇತ್ರ ಯೇಸುಡ, "ಗುರೂ ನಮ ಮೂಲೆ ಉಪ್ಪುನವು ಎಡ್ಡೆ, ಮೂಜಿ ಗುಡಾರ ಕಟ್ಕೆಗ್, ನಿಕ್ಕೊಂಜಿ, ಮೋಶೆಗೊಂಜಿ, ಎಲೀಯಗೊಂಜಿ," ಪಂಡ್ ಪಂಡೆ. 6 ತಾನ್ ಎಂಚಿನ ಪಾತೆರುವೆ ಪಂಡ್ ಆಯಗ್ ತೆರಿದಿತ್ತಿಜಿ, ದಾಯೆಗ್ ಪಂಡ ಅಕುಲು ಬಾರಿ ಪೋಡಿತ್ತೆರ್.

7 ಆತ್ನೆಟ್ಟ ಮುಗಲ್ ಬತ್ತದ್ ಅಕ್ಲೆನ ಮಿತ್ತ ನಿರೆಲಾಂಡ್. ಆ ಮುಗಲ್ದ ಉಲಯಿಡ್, "ಇಂಬೆ ಎನ ಪ್ರೀತಿದ ಮಗಿ, ಆಯನ ಪಾತೆರೊನು ಕೇನ್ನೆ." ಪಂಡ್ ಒಂಜಿ ಮಲ್ಲ ಸ್ವರ ಆಂಡ್.

— [Mark 9:2-7 \(Tubhalu\\*, a language in South Asia\)](#)

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## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

### Celebrating Five Full New Testaments in South Asia

Five translation teams in South Asia have worked closely with each other over the last decade. Now they will have the joy of crossing the finish line together. More than 320,000 people who speak these languages can already access individual books of the Bible in print, audio, and on an app, but each community is eagerly awaiting the publication of the full New Testament—prayerfully this September.

#### PRAISE

- Praise God for the successful completion of the first [cluster project](#) in this country!
- Praise God for how Bible translation has fueled church growth in all five communities over the past decade.

#### PRAY

- For the recently-trained typesetters as they prepare for printing.
- For great attention to detail as each team audio records the New Testament over the next six months, in partnership with [Faith Comes By Hearing](#).



# 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 Litty\*, a Sign Language Translation Advisor in South Asia

Litty\* sensed a call to serve the Deaf community after she completed a course in sign language at a premier secular institute. She joined [DOOR International](#)'s team as a Bible translation advisor trainee, and Seed Company offered her an [internship](#).

At DOOR, translation advisors like Litty are being trained to help teams wrestle through important translation decisions for their language communities. For example, Litty discovered that the phrase “After he has suffered, he will see the light of life” in [Isaiah 53:11](#) didn't make much sense in sign language. But the rendering “After a life of suffering, he will again have joy” from the Good News Translation helped the translators understand! Insights like these help produce a translation that will truly speak to the hearts of Deaf people in South Asia.

### PRAY

For strength as the three translation advisor trainees cope with a busy season at work and in their university studies.

### PRAISE

God is strengthening bonds of love between the Deaf and hearing staff at DOOR International, helping them learn from each other and grow as different members of the body of Christ.



## Pray Now

Pray for peace in Northeast India's Manipur state, where violence between two ethnic groups has caused deaths, injuries, and destruction of homes, shops, and churches. Tens of thousands of people are living in refugee camps. A large percentage of Manipur's population is Christian, including some translators' families.

[Learn More from BBC](#)

# Friday

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

## IMPACT STORY

### The Journey of Himnauri\* Translator Charles\*

When Charles heard the gospel in 2006 through a radio program, he was hungry to know more. Later, he was given a Hindi Bible, which led him to follow Christ! When he learned that Bible translation was beginning in Himnauri, his own language, he eagerly joined the team. The journey ahead would not be a smooth one. At one point, he left the project due pressure from his family, but thankfully rejoined in 2020.

Recently, a 14-year-old girl told him, “God has given you the privilege of translating his Word into your language, and many will be blessed through it. And the Holy Spirit will use your translated materials to transform people!” This encouraged him to persevere despite spiritual opposition, knowing his work will impact eternity.

### PRAISE

- A few Himnauri speakers, who are secret believers, are starting fellowships in their villages.

### PRAY

- For protection, as a few villages are starting to oppose Christian work and stop churches from meeting.
- For the production of Himnauri evangelism materials to distribute through social media.



## Pray Now

Himnauri, which is a high mountain area, is being ravaged by torrential rains, floods, and landslides, which have destroyed mountain highways. There have been vehicles washed away, as well as the loss of many lives, reported in the media.