

### Eurasia

We may read devastating news headlines about the region of Eurasia\*, but faithful Bible translators are working behind the scenes to bring the light and peace of Christ. Trusting partnerships, cooperative teamwork, and faithful intercession are crucial in this challenging region.

PARTNERSHIPS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We work with 14 strong managing partner organizations in Eurasia, including churches, church planters, and other mission organizations.	Many ministries use translated Scripture not only within their own borders but also in nearby countries through broadcast, diaspora, and refugee outreach.	Security concerns, geographically difficult-to-reach areas, and oppressive political and religious situations all pose challenges to Bible translation.

#### PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE

Let's join in praying Habakkuk 2:14 over Eurasia: "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." Lord, we ask you to accelerate the day when every people group in Eurasia knows your glory, revealed through your Word.

#### Watch the Sacrifice for Zero video.

\*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

# Five West Asian People Groups Will Soon Receive the New Testament

On September 22, the Darata\*, Hakid\*, Koid\*, and South Warmi\* people will dedicate the New Testament. Then, on September 27, the North Warmi\* New Testament will be dedicated! We prayed for these groups in April. Now we rejoice as they finally get to hold the New Testament in their hands.

All of these projects have been completed in partnership with linguistics organization SIL. Work in these five languages began in 2007, and Seed Company has been partnering with them since 2015.

#### **PRAY**

- That Isaiah 44:3 would be fulfilled among these people as they receive the Scriptures: "For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants" (NIV).
- For God's grace and peace in the preparations and that all guests would receive their visas.

#### **PRAISE**

 Sometimes in Bible translation, printing takes longer than expected, and it's a last-minute scramble to get the books in time for the dedication. So we praise God that all of these New Testaments have already completed printing!



### Monday

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone." —Mark 16:15 (NLT)

### PRAY FOR BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUPS

## God Makes a Way for Three Language Groups to Begin Bible Translation

Forbidding mountain ranges, economic turmoil, political upheaval, religious persecution, and humanitarian crises alike pose great challenges to beginning Bible translation among new people groups in Eurasia—most of which have no known Christ followers. Some Bibleless languages are not easy to gain access to, and many have had previous attempts that did not work out.

So we praise God that a local partner has recently gained access to three Bibleless language groups in remote locations. This is a great breakthrough because they'd tried to begin Bible translation in these groups before without much success. In addition, they've already found local people willing to be involved in the work!

- For spiritual obstacles to be overcome in the mighty name of Jesus and for the projects to be approved to begin.
- That God will help the partner follow through on their strategy.
- For translators' training and safety as they get involved in the project.



### Pray Now

The Nabil\* translation team <u>has seen Scripture go viral online in a place where sharing Christ is illegal</u>. Pray for their new Facebook "first responder," who will be answering questions about the translated Scripture. His home country is going through great unrest, and his unbelieving family—including his aging mother—are caught in the turmoil.



### 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

"T," a Local Indigenous Ministry in Central Asia

Seed Company is currently vetting a potential partner, "T," to determine if the two organizations can work effectively together in Bible translation. If so, this will be the first local, indigenous Bible translation organization Seed Company has partnered with in this particular country, which is dominated by another major world religion.

- For clarity and unity amidst language, financial, and cultural differences.
- That God will make it clear to both parties if they can be fruitful partners in Bible translation.
- For God to bless our brothers and sisters at this local organization with the human and financial resources they need to bring transformation in their country.
- For protection from governmental and religious scrutiny, especially for workers who were originally born into families that follow another religion but have come to Christ.



### Pray Now

For people who have chosen to follow Christ and are facing deportation from Turkey back to Iran. where "apostasy" is punishable by death or life in prison. In addition, inflation in Turkey is currently at 84%, causing unspeakable hardship for many.



### Wednesday

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

-Genesis 1:1-2 (NLT)

-Genesis 1:1-2 (Davam, a language in Eurasia)

## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Kular\* of Eurasia

Kular people live in a restricted country dominated by the majority religion. Comprising less than 1% of the population, local believers are hearing God's Word in their heart language for the first time thanks to faithful Bible translators. House churches are now being nourished by Old and New Testament selections in print, audio, apps, and social media formats.

- For God's grace as the team translates Proverbs and 11 more New Testament books.
- For the gospel of Jesus to heal this land, where most people work more than one job to make ends meet, and many turn to drugs, prostitution, or suicide.



## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Embassan\* Cluster of Eurasia

Barakat\* was hungry to read the Word of God. For several years he observed foreign believers' lives and needed to know why they were different.

One believer gave him a selection of translated biblical texts called "Stories of the Prophets," which the Embassan team had published a year ago. Barakat devoured it and came back, saying, "I know there is more! Where can I find the rest of the books? I don't want to read texts that have been changed or have mistakes in them. I need the true books."

#### **PRAISE**

- In a culture where everyone is taught that the Old and New Testaments have been corrupted, this seeker is calling them "the true books."
- Barakat and his family are reaching out to the poor and starving, and God is bringing new love and compassion into their hearts as they read Bible stories.

- For Barakat and his family to come to saving faith.
- For many others like Barakat who still need to encounter "the true books." Ask God to help this team translate the remaining portions of the Bible in a culturally appropriate and faithful way.



### Pray Now

For Bible translators with our partner The Word For The World in a war-torn North African country. They're scattered across five different states, with some family members still in the war zone. Translation work has stopped, and armed rebels have taken their money. Their homes are currently occupied by paramilitary forces who have also stolen all their belongings.



### 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**Szabi Weer, Sign Language Intern

Szabi Weer, a Deaf Hungarian brother in Christ, is currently working with the Balkans Sign Language <u>cluster project</u> while he trains to be a Bible translation consultant. He is an experienced sign language translator and knows five sign languages.

#### **PRAY**

Currently, none of the translation tools are in sign language, and the only ones available require him to be able to read English, something he is currently unable to do. Because of the lack of translation tools in a language he knows, he may have to stop his internship. Please pray for wisdom about the decision and for God's perfect plans to take shape in Szabi's life.



### Praise God

In June, we prayed for 22 exegetes in training (biblical interpretation experts). They're helping translation teams complete entire New Testaments in 18 months and whole Bibles in just 4 years! Plans are in the works to "set them loose" in 2024 to go places we couldn't even imagine going, places we can't talk about.



### Friday

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

### **IMPACT STORY**

### Chergash Believers in Croatia & Serbia Learn Christ Is Enough

Chergash is a Roma language, and while most speakers identify as Eastern Orthodox, many don't practice what they profess. They have a reputation as beggars, outcasts, liars, and thieves—but translated Scripture is helping them know the true gospel.

After reading Acts 19, about the power and protection of the Holy Spirit, two women at a Chergash Bible study felt compelled to give up their practice of "čuvar kuća," a tradition of keeping Easter eggs all year round as charms to protect their homes.

They realized Christians do not need amulets. Jesus' finished work on the cross is enough for us to face the challenges of life, and his Holy Spirit empowers us to do the will of the Father. Praise God for revealing this truth to these women through his Word!

#### **PRAY**

That God's Word will continue to free Chergash people from anything that holds them captive and keeps them from walking in the freedom Christ purchased for them.



### Praise God

For the faithfulness of Astare\* translators, who work in an area where many people follow a radicalized form of a major world religion. "However, the Holy Spirit is at work," they report, "and many are filling out forms to receive the Astare Bible."

"How can this be? While we think of Christians as having corrupted Scriptures and wrong beliefs, as infidels who will go to hell, they pray for us and support us." — an Astare man to a local translator