

How to Pray for Zero

Did you know millions of people are still waiting for one Bible verse in their language, and over 1 billion are still waiting for the full Bible? We are a community united in prayer for those numbers to reach Zero. *In this generation.*

Start with This Prayer

Jesus, speed up and empower the Bible translation movement. Rescue the nations out of darkness with the light of your Word.

Watch video: [Pray for Zero](#)

Join the Day-By-Day Journey to Zero

Every week, travel to a different region of the world in prayer. Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for each step of Bible translation—from zero Scripture to lives being transformed forever!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pray for Those Without Scripture	Pray for Ministry Partners	Pray for a Translation Project	Pray for Teachers and Trainers	Praise for Impact

Thank you for joining us! Together, our prayers can add up to Zero.

Get More Resources:	Join Global Prayer Room:
[P4Z QR code]	[UP QR code]

Mainland Asia

Mainland Asia includes seven countries, most of which are highly sensitive, and the highest concentration of people without even one verse of heart language Scripture in the world.

Pray for Those Still Waiting for a Single Verse of Scripture*

People	Languages
31,194,769	212

**According to ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. November 2023. Estimates differ between organizations, and numbers shift as new needs are discovered or languages fall out of use.*

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We partner with at least 10 organizations in Mainland Asia, though determining exact numbers is difficult due to smaller, scattered groups and high levels of security.	Despite great opposition, local translators remain committed and willing to make great sacrifices to translate God's Word. Some have even become translation consultants.	Starting new projects here is especially difficult. Teams often endure hostility from local governments. Work must be done in secret, security risks are high, and interrogation is a constant threat.

**Asterisks throughout this prayer journal indicate where pseudonyms have been used and locations have been generalized due to security risks.*

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 Bachil* of Mainland Asia

Around 15,000 Bachil people live in Asia, where they plant rice and raise cattle. They are known for using gongs and drums in ritual ceremonies. There are very few believers in this language group, and the government has banned sharing the gospel among them. There have been no known missionaries focused on this language community.

PRAISE

- A few new believers would like to translate and share God's Word in their own language to their own people.
- A Bible translation project for this language group is scheduled to begin in early 2024.

PRAY

- For God to bring more Bachil people to faith in Christ.
- For Bachil people to be hungry for God and his Word.

Pray for the Four Teams of the Rakali* Cluster in Mainland Asia

The four communities of the Rakali Cluster (Rakali*, Kawzyaw*, Manyaw*, and Talya*) have seen much political unrest, which continues to this day. In the 1990s, thousands fled to refugee camps. Today, families still struggle to make ends meet; few can send their children to school. Many go abroad in search of a better life.

These communities have traditionally followed Buddhism or animism, but today, whole villages of Kawzyaw and Manyaw people identify as Christians. Rakali are about 30% Christian, and Talya are still about 99% Buddhist, but their small group of about 30 Christians is growing.

Pray Now

For the safety and deliverance of these translation teams, who have been under heavy artillery fire due to civil war in their country. Some have had to escape to safer places. During all the upheaval, their internet has also been unstable, making it difficult to continue their translation work.

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 SIL in Mainland Asia*

Without linguistic and cultural expertise, quality Bible translation wouldn't be possible. Our partner [SIL International](#) brings these assets to the table on a global scale. Currently, some of the local and regional branches of SIL, including in Mainland Asia, are struggling to come up with the funds needed to accomplish all they hope to do in their local contexts.

We praise God that local leaders are taking ownership for the remaining Bible translation, literacy, and Scripture engagement needs in their regions. Now, the challenge is how to help these locally run organizations with the funding they require to carry out their work.

PRAY

For God to provide strategies for SIL in Mainland Asia to increase their income and steward their resources wisely in a changing world.

Wednesday

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.

We have left God's paths to follow our own.

Yet the Lord laid on him

the sins of us all.

—Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)

Gyoengqraeuz cungj luj yiengz ngaiz loengj roen,

Gag duz gag byaij mwnq.

Hoeng, Yehhozvaz dauq hawj de rap gyoengqraeuz sojmiz hih coih.

—Isaiah 53:6 (Mahumi*, a language in Mainland Asia)

We all like ovines have undergone straying-from the road (or path),

Each animal each walking somewhere (i.e. Each going its own way).

But, YHWH counteractingly has him bear (lit: carry-on-a-carrying-pole) all of our sins.

—Isaiah 53:6 (translated back into English from Mahumi)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Mahumi* of Mainland Asia

The first missionaries came to the Mahumi region over a century ago. Since then, tens of thousands of Mahumi Christ followers have endured the passing of time without ever having clear, quality translated Scriptures in their own language.

Fifty years ago, a local man fondly referred to as “Old John” attempted to start Bible translation into Mahumi but had no training or help. Today, his grandson Peter* is finally bringing his grandfather’s dream to fruition by heading up the Mahumi translation project. He knew persecution and suffering awaited him—yet he still chose to accept the challenge.

Peter's Incredible Recovery

Several months ago, lead translator Peter* was out collecting medicinal herbs when he slipped and fell down a 10-foot cliff, landing on his head on a roadway. He was rushed to the countryside hospital where he spent weeks recovering. Doctors had to remove a portion of his skull to relieve pressure.

PRAISE

After much prayer, Peter is now reunited with his wife and 2 children back home. Other team members are pressing forward in the translation work while he continues to recover.

PRAY

For Peter to be healed of residual headaches and restored to full health so that he can once again lead his team in completing the New Testament and portions of the Old Testament.

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

Caleb*, an Imola* Translator in Mainland Asia

Each year, Caleb spends one month working as a mountain trekking guide to earn some extra income. He also gets an opportunity to connect with other guides and share his faith. The rest of the time, he works in Bible translation for his heart language of Imola.

Over the years, Caleb has been a faithful member of the Imola Old Testament translation team. He has shown such excellence in translation ability and leadership potential that he's begun training as a [translation consultant](#).

PRAISE

A few months ago, Caleb began his Master of Arts in Translation of Scripture and is on a full scholarship!

PRAY

For strength and wisdom as Caleb balances his master's degree coursework, time with his family, and translation work for the Imola project.

Friday

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

IMPACT STORY

“What About the Coh?” Oral Bible Stories Spread in Mainland Asia

In one country known for being “closed” to the gospel, God is on the move through Oral Bible Storytelling. In October of 2022, local church leaders gathered to celebrate the success of one Oral Bible Storytelling project and plan for the next. Storytellers in five language groups had finished recording Bible stories and passing them out on phones and MP3 players, reaching villages as far as 100 miles away. For most people, it was their first time hearing the gospel in their language.

At this meeting, church leaders were selecting five more language groups to reach next. But before the decision was finalized, one church leader asked, “What about the Coh* people?”

This church leader had to travel more than 100 miles and cross over the mountain into a different country to get to a village where she found three Coh people who wanted to translate and share oral Bible stories in Coh! For over a year now, one of them, a young woman, has continued traveling to meet with these church leaders to learn Bible stories even through sickness and leg paralysis. Whenever she returns to her village, she gathers people together, shares the Bible stories, and teaches others how to retell them.

Watch video: [Crafting an Oral Bible Story in Asia](#)

PRAISE

The above video may not show it clearly, but this young woman is rarely without a smile as she shares Bible stories. She is also a poet and writes Bible songs in her own language. People who hear her report that she should be on the TV show “The Voice!”

PRAY

For protection for this young woman and the people who have joined her. One family has had their house torn down and been thrown out of the village. The village chiefs are afraid of the Spirit of the One True God.

This Just In

MORE RECENT PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Please pray for wisdom and grace for all our team relationships and for our upcoming workshop in December. Praise God that our public performance in October went so well. The 500-seat auditorium was sold out to listen to the songs based on Psalms, and the performance was outstanding!

– **11/20/23, from the Kaaps team in Mozambique**

Praise the Lord that Mr. Jerry* has recovered from his illness and is able to work as a translator. Pray for us as we're looking for additional translators and also for our team facilitator, Mrs. Nita*, that the Lord will give her strength and wisdom to manage the team's work in the village.

– **11/22/23, from the Parem* team in Islands Asia**

Praise the Lord for Leny* who is now working as our team facilitator. Praise God for the health and strength he has provided to all 6 translators on our team. Praise God that we finished the consultant check of chapters of Luke, and pray for us as we're continuing to translate Luke and check it with the community.

– **11/22/23, from the Nabas* team in Islands Asia**

Please pray that we can get the Psalms-based songs on the local radio before our next workshop. Also pray that these songs will be used in discipleship groups throughout the region. We also need prayer for wisdom in improving sound quality; our previous attempt turned out so poorly that we had to redo them.

– **11/20/23, from the Wantu* team in Mozambique**

Please pray for a good distribution plan for the Psalms. Praise God for continued harmony in the group and for incredible performances!

– 11/20/23, from the Meetto team in Mozambique