

# How to Pray for Zero

Over 1 billion people don't have the full Bible in their language.

Millions don't have a single verse.

Together, we're praying these numbers down to **Zero**.

### 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.

### Join the Day-By-Day Journey to Zero

Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for Bible translation each day of the week.

SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
Around the World	Ministry Partners	Bibleless	Regional Updates	Impact Stories	Equipping the Saints	Active Projects

**Pray With Others** 

**Get More Resources** 



# Saturday

#### PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Our team depends heavily on technology for our Oral Bible Translation project. We have experienced numerous difficulties, including frequent and prolonged power shortages caused by heavy rains, landslides, and fallen trees. The computer used for back translation also stopped working, nearly halting our progress for a month before it was repaired. Pray that the Lord will faithfully supply everything we need and make it possible for us to catch up. (*See photos below*)

— The Mixtec Tlazoyaltepec team in Mexico

Pray for peace in Madagascar, where strikes have sparked violent protests and unrest. Looting of a supermarket spilled over into the offices of the Malagasy Bible Society (MBS) above it, where intruders stole computers and electronic devices, broke furniture, and scattered documents. Water used to extinguish fire elsewhere in the building caused further damage. Pray that God will encourage and strengthen the MBS team as they rebuild their resources and persevere in His work.

— The Malagasy Bible Society in Madagascar



## South Asia

Home to more than 2 billion people, a staggering 26% of the world's population, South Asia covers 5 countries. While most were ruled by the British, these nations are now thriving democracies. While some parts of South Asia have had Christian presence from the earliest centuries, in recent years, persecution has increased sharply. Political parties oppose Christian outreach, and church leaders have been arrested.

### Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

We praise God that most of the known Bibleless languages in South Asia have been engaged in translation, according to <u>Progress.Bible</u>. While this is a huge milestone, partners strongly believe there are many more needs that haven't been discovered yet. In addition, many translation teams in early stages have a long, difficult road ahead before their people receive significant portions of Scripture. Please continue praying for initiatives like the <u>Finish Line Project</u> that are trying to find and reach the remaining South Asian people groups in need of God's Word.

Pseudonyms may be used for names and locations in areas hostile to Christians.



# Sunday

#### PRAY FOR PARTNERS

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)

### Seeking New Partners in South Asia

Partnerships with national ministries play a key role in the Bible translation process—especially when it comes to communicating with local translation teams and churches. It is through these partnerships that Seed Company and other Bible translation organizations typically connect with the language communities we work with. In South Asia, Seed Company is currently seeking to add 3 new partners to our network, including Ceylon Bible Society, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, and C-Base.

Partners come with varying strengths and core competencies. One of these organizations has a strong history of serving national churches in their country; 2 partners bring strong technology foundations. We believe adding these partners will bring our goal of translating God's Word in all remaining languages in South Asia by 2033 within our reach.

#### **PRAY**

That God will continue to share His wisdom for identifying, equipping, and unifying the partners He calls into the work of Bible translation



## Monday

#### PRAY FOR A BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

### **Providing Scripture for the Hydakini People**

The largely-Muslim community of Hydakini [HAI–DAH'–KEE'–NEE] speakers in South Asia have no access to Scripture in their heart language. While some speak other regional languages, Scripture in those languages still leaves them without full understanding and spiritual growth. One church, in particular, has specifically requested Scripture.

Some 2 months ago, translators launched a project designed to bring them a full New Testament in just 4 years! Scriptures will appear in print, digital, and audio formats, along with Bible study tools and worship songs, to reach both literate and oral learners. They plan to release the first book, Mark, next year.

There are still significant risks, however. The environment is highly sensitive, with strong religious oversight and limited freedom for open engagement or community testing. The number of local believers is still small, and the team must operate with discretion. (See next page for prayer points)



For the Hydakini project, pray specifically:

- For protection and wisdom for the translation team, church pastors, and evangelists working in this sensitive environment.
- For the successful translation of Mark's Gospel.
- For effective Scripture engagement with seekers and new believers.
- For peace, stability, and open doors so that Hydakini believers may grow in faith and courage as they share God's Word in their own language.



## Tuesday

#### **REGIONAL UPDATE**

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.

— Psalm 46:1 (NLT)

### **Civil Uprisings Threaten Peace**

Political turmoil, street violence, and social tensions continue to haunt many regions of South Asia.

In one nation, protesters have burned parliament buildings, homes, and hotels. Scores of people have died. A new interim government was formed, but work and social life have been paralyzed in the capital city, where many streets remain closed. The situation remains tense.

In another country, large student-led protests led to the government's downfall in 2024. The prime minister fled the country, and an interim government was established. Mob violence disrupted law and order, and the situation is still not fully back to normal.

In a third country, mob violence against Christian churches and physical assaults on believers attending Sunday worship are regular occurrences. Many state governments have started enforcing anti-conversion laws. The nation's Supreme Court recently asked 9 states to respond to petitions against those laws. (See next page for prayer points)



For tensions in South Asia, pray specifically:

- That law and order in these nations will improve, bringing relief to their large populations and vulnerable communities.
- That God will protect Bible translation groups and Christian workers from violent mobs and unjust law enforcement agencies.
- That the pace of translation work and Scripture engagement will remain unaffected by changes in government policies and communal opposition.
- That judicial intervention restrains wayward legislation and enforcement.
- For peaceful general elections in February 2026.



## Wednesday

# TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: MANAVAR LANGUAGE OF SOUTH ASIA

He is especially hard on those who follow their own twisted sexual desire, and who despise authority. These people are proud and arrogant, daring even to scoff at supernatural beings[a] without so much as trembling. But the angels, who are far greater in power and strength, do not dare to bring from the Lord a charge of blasphemy against those supernatural beings.

— 2 Peter: 2: 10-11 (NLT)

முக்கியமாவு பாவத்துத்த நெனப்புலையிருந்து வன்ன தம்முது கெட்ட ஆசைகளுதுகணக்கவு நடந்து, கர்த்தருது அதிகாரத்தவு (சட்டைப்பண்ணுனவருகளுக்கு தா) மீறி நடக்குனவருகளுக்கு இந்த தெண்டனை கெடைக்குமு. இவருகளு துணிச்சலுள்ளவருகளு, அசுத்தமானவருகளு, மகத்துவங்களவு தூஷிக்கக்கு பேடியெஞ்சாதவருகளு. ரொம்ப பெலமுமு வல்லமையுமு இருக்குன கடவுளுது தூதருகளுங்கூட கர்த்தருது முன்னுக்கு அவருகளவு தூணைமாவு குத்தப்படுத்தமாட்டருகளு அல்ல.

— 2 Peter 2:10–11 (Manavar)



# STORYTELLING PROJECT PAVES WAY FOR UPURBI [YOO-PUR'-BEE] NEW TESTAMENT

The Upper Streams Cluster project is using Oral Bible Storytelling to bring the gospel to 3 language communities in South Asia, where less than 10% of the people read the language, including the Upurbi people.

As a volunteer storyteller from the Upurbi community, Sushila has learned 63 Bible stories by heart. Now she leads 5 story groups that meet regularly to learn stories and then share them in their communities. These story groups have grown into churches where around 400 people are regularly engaging with God's Word!

Plans are underway to soon begin New Testament translation for the Upurbi. By using the Bible stories to train an artificial intelligence (AI) model, the team will be able to accelerate the work pace.

#### **PRAY**

For wisdom for our partners and translators who are testing out brand-new strategies and AI tools so that heart language Scripture reaches those who need it more quickly than ever before.



## Thursday

#### **EQUIPPING THE SAINTS**

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)

### **Exciting Program Underway**

Ministry partners in one South Asian country are working hard to complete full Bibles in all their remaining languages. Seed Company is supporting a program managed by national organizations to equip Bible translation consultants with advanced skills in checking Old Testament drafts.

Some 24 consultants from multiple organizations across the country have enrolled in the 3-year program. So far, they have successfully completed 2 of the 6 planned workshops. Their training covers areas such as Biblical Hebrew, wisdom literature, poetry, narrative, prophecy, apocalyptic writings, and Old Testament legal text. This program is a significant step toward addressing the shortage of qualified consultants that has slowed the pace of translation work, while also helping ensure high-quality translation drafts. (See next page for prayer points)



Praise the Lord for the trainers and cohort of consultants participating in this vital consultant-training program. Pray that the remaining 4 workshops will take place as planned and serve their purpose well in equipping the 24 consultants to serve Bible translation projects throughout their country. Ask God to protect the consultants and their families from sicknesses and other circumstances that would prevent them from completing the program.



## Friday

#### PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

#### From Dormant Seed to First Local-led Church

Many years ago, a few Himnauri [HIM-NAW-REE] speakers were working in a field when a young man, a Himnauri Uplands speaker, approached them. Though their languages are different, they can converse with each other. The young man started sharing the gospel with the field workers. All walked away, except for 1 man who stayed. The seed of truth planted in this man's heart lay dormant for several years until God opened his eyes and he became a believer in Jesus.

Sometime later, the man shared his testimony with a group, recounting how a young Himnauri Uplands man had shared the gospel with him in a field. The young man, now a pastor, was sitting in the group. He smiled and said, "That young man was me."

The Himnauri man continued growing in his faith, and 2 years ago, started a small church in his home—the first Himnauri-led church. Today, 3 people from his church are helping with final checking of the New Testament. (See next page for prayer points)



Praise God for the dedicated translators and Himnauri speakers who have faithfully worked on the New Testament. Pray that final checking, typesetting, and printing will go smoothly. Ask God to protect, grow, and care for the members of this young Himnauri church. Pray that heart language Scripture will strengthen believers and open the eyes of those who don't yet know Him.