

Misaje IG Cluster*

Saying “Yes!” to God’s Call

The big day arrived. After several years of prayer and months of careful selection of the candidates, the Misaje InterChurch Committee (ICC) invited 24 men, four from each of the Misaje Cluster languages, to a special meeting. How many would come? And were they ready to commit themselves to the task of Bible translation?

When the meeting began, all 24 men had trekked in from their villages. Representatives of the ICC and of training organization

SIL explained what the work would involve. Then the crucial moment arrived. They posed the question: “Is God calling you to this work? Are you willing to commit yourselves to translating God’s Word into your own languages?”

Each new translator received a study Bible

Almost before the words were spoken, men began jumping to their feet and raising their hands to accept the translation challenge publicly. The months of literacy workshops and translation principles training had brought them to this moment. God had prepared their hearts to say “Yes!”

- **Praise God that when He called, so many willingly said “Yes!”**
- **Pray for continued commitment and harmony among the translators as well as among the members of the InterChurch Committee and SIL.**

Translator Training is an Eye-Opener

Soon the newly-chosen translators travelled again to Misaje town. Excitement was in the air as they attended the first session of the six-month translator training. Most of the trainees have not gone past eighth grade, so the classes are geared to developing the advanced skills they need for Bible translation.

Early in the program, a pastor led a workshop on African Traditional Religion. Using God’s Word, he carefully compared the belief system of African Traditional Religion with faith in Christ. The teaching opened the eyes of Augustine, a Mungong translator. He saw that he couldn’t sit on the fence any longer, with one foot in Christianity and the other in traditional religion. Back in his home village after the workshop, he made a public stand for Christ. For the first time in his life, he refused to take part in ceremonies that would compromise his faith.

MISAJE INITIAL GOAL UPDATE—1



- **Location: Cameroon, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 34,500 in six language groups**
- **Year Project Began: 2010**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2012**

- **Ask God to help the new translators make the transition from jobs requiring physical labor to the intellectual demands of Bible translation.**
- **Pray that Augustine will continue to be open to the truth of God’s Word as he lives out his faith in Christ.**



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Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The Noni people have just printed their Nooni-language* New Testament. They are neighbors of the people who speak the Misaje cluster of languages. When the Misaje Cluster team members feel daunted by the huge task of translating the New Testament, they can ask their Noni colleagues how God helped them. Indeed, the newly-finished Nooni New Testament will be the basis for the six Misaje translations.

In addition, three Noni translation team members are coming to work alongside the Misaje Cluster teams. Elijah is serving as literacy coordinator, while Alfred and Protus are translation advisors.

Alfred and Protus visited the new Misaje Cluster translators in their homes and took note of their hopes and concerns. These visits were a blessing to the Misaje translators and their families. It made them feel that someone cared about them and was listening to them.

- **Thank the Lord for the Nooni New Testament and for the Noni translators' active help to their Misaje Cluster neighbors.**
- **Pray that God will grant good health and safety to the Misaje Cluster team members and their families.**

A Work in Progress

Despite delays in finding labor and obtaining supplies, work continues steadily on the Misaje Translation Center. The roof and interior ceilings of the main building are in place and the cement floor has been poured. As soon as volunteers from Wycliffe Associates install the solar power system, the building will be ready for use.

- **Praise the Lord that the Misaje Translation Center will soon be up and running.**
- **Thank God that Wycliffe Associates is willing and able to help complete the translation center construction project.**



Alfred and Protus visit translators' homes on a motorcyle taxi

*Noni is the name of the people group; Nooni is the language name .

Praying by Name

Chung: Ngong Ernest Trinja
Kitu Oliver Shang
Ngong Genesis

Kemedzung: Kendonya Ernest
Biebu Isaac
Nditama David
Linyo Pascal

Mungong: Ngong Augustine
Sofa Cletus
Ferdinand Muchuo
San Linus Gabushi

Naami: Ndfinkwe Lawrence Guda
Nfali Sam Dodi
Mbanteh Solomon Mansoh
Jibbo Bernard Kane

Nchane: Ngong Raphael Ntung
Samuel Kilese Nfonkwa
Frederick Chila Kilese
Soka Syverious

Saari: Mboro Victor Killey
Nkimi Inoncent
Kenda Boniface
Ndubi Divine Ayaba

Six Steps of Translation

- 1. First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
- 2. Team Check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
- 3. Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
- 4. Back Translation:** translators translate the draft "back" into a major language for a non-native consultant.
- 5. Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
- 6. Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

MISAJE INTIAL GOAL UPDATE—2

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