



Taking Light to the Darkness of Southeast Asia

2020 Harvest Highlight



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Dear Colaborer in Christ,

August 2020

Greetings from *Bibles International*. We are living through incredible days as we have watched the world enter a global pandemic like nothing we have seen before. Our service for Christ is within the context of travel restrictions, closed borders, medical screenings, and international lockdowns. A chaotic reaction to circumstances has created conflicts, riots, violence, political upheaval, and even an increase in suicide. Never has a global ministry of Bible translation been so urgently needed as during this time when people are searching for hope.

We thank God for each of you and your generous giving that has enabled us to continue with the ministry that God has given us. You have been incredible in the investment of your resources for God's work. We praise God for the amazing response to our IT Appeal, which will enable us to upgrade our network capabilities. In addition, we thank the Lord for many of you who have given toward the "Pente" Appeal, so that 90 million souls will have access to the Bible in their mother tongue. We pray for the final \$7,500 to come in that will enable an extremely generous donor to match that grant for the "Pente" with \$50,000. God is able!

As you may know, each year we host the Harvest Dinner in October to highlight current project needs. Last year we promoted the "Pente Project." Usually we have a catered dinner, special music, a special guest speaker, and a video highlighting that year's Bible translation project. We rejoice in the fellowship we have as we focus on what God is doing around the world. We do not ask God to bless what *we are doing*, but rather we witness what *God Himself is doing* and align ourselves in our prayers, service, and giving with what He is accomplishing. Unfortunately, this year we are forced to adjust our plans due to COVID-19. We will not be able to have our Harvest Dinner as we have had in the past because of venue restrictions. Therefore, we are adjusting our means of communication regarding what God is doing through a special **Harvest Highlight**. We hope that you will join us in response to this urgent need.

BI Harvest Highlight in 2020

First, we are asking that you might consider setting aside a Sunday in October or November in your church as *Harvest Highlight Sunday*. We have several BI missionaries who would love to come to your church to speak and explain what God is doing around the world, and to share our *Harvest Highlight Project* for the year. If you choose not to have a speaker come, we encourage you to consider showing our *Harvest Highlight Video* in your church. It will explain our 2020 project (just as we do at all our October

Banquets). The video will be completed soon and posted on our new website in September under **Harvest Highlight**. You can access our website video at <https://biblesint.org/events/harvest-highlight>. If you are not able to have a BI speaker, nor have time to show the BI video, a third option would be to set a few minutes aside in your service to pray for the BI ministry and for our *Harvest Highlight Project*.

Your prayers are the lifeline to our ministry worldwide. We thank you for leading your church in celebrating BI's *Harvest Highlight* with a speaker, video, and/or prayer.

Second, we are asking that you consider investing the resources that God has entrusted into your care toward our 2020 *Harvest Highlight Project and Appeal*. The theme of our project this year is **Taking Light to the Darkness of Southeast Asia**. Paul told the church at Corinth in 2 Corinthians 4:4, "the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." Psalm 119:105 tells us that the Word of God is both a light and a lamp. There are eleven countries in Southeast Asia that are in spiritual darkness. Only the light of God's Word can bring transforming hope through the good news of the gospel to a generation groping in darkness.

Three specific projects that have recently been adopted by BI in Southeast Asia are the **Asho Chin** (New Testament), the **Goga** (New Testament), and the **Longphuri Naga** (Literacy). The evil one (Satan) delights in keeping mankind in darkness by blinding their eyes. We are told in 1 John 1:5 that God is light. In Jesus Christ there is no darkness at all. Who will deliver those who live in Southeast Asia from darkness and spiritual blindness? Only the Lord Jesus Christ through His Word. Millions are walking in darkness. Millions are spiritually blind. Would you help us *take the light of God's Word to the darkness of Southeast Asia*? To take light to these three precious people groups will cost a combined total of **\$212,000**. Please pray for these three Bible translation and literacy projects. This is an urgent need! How great that darkness can be!

Bible Translation Day and Adopt-a-Language

We would like to introduce two additional opportunities this year. First, September 30 is **Bible Translation Day** (as approved by the US Congress). The Sunday which falls closest to that date is September 27. It is a time to thank God for translating His Word so that many can hear from Him. You may contact us at bibleaday@biblesint.org to receive our bulletin inserts emphasizing a productive Bible translator of the past, or you could download it from www.biblesint.org. You can use the bulletin insert as a way to encourage your people to celebrate Bible translation around the world, or have an offering for the ministries of BI. Thank you for acknowledging this special day for God's work!

Second, you can access a video at our website www.biblesint.org about our **Adopt-a-Language** program. The video is only 10 minutes long and will inform you of this incredible opportunity to be involved in this part of our Lord's Great Commission. We have heard amazing testimonies from pastors who have led their people to adopt a Bible translation project in the past. It will be a unique and spiritually rewarding experience for the entire church. We can send you a copy of the Adopt-A-Language video preloaded on a thumb drive upon request.

Thank you for Taking Light to the Darkness of Southeast Asia,



Timothy L. Fink
Director – Bibles International
Harvest Highlight Project