

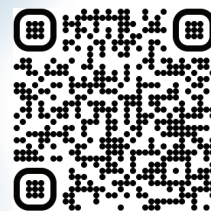
Dear Co-laborer and Prayer Warrior in Christ,

Greetings from Bibles International. As I write this epistle, many are preparing to visit with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving. Although primarily a national holiday, this is a time for God's people to remember all of God's goodness and His display of grace among us. The psalmist in Psalm 136:1 cried out, "O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: For His mercy endureth forever!" In the midst of chaos, upheaval, and confusion in this world, God continues to be good, and His gracious mercy indeed endures forever. We could list a catalog of merciful acts of God's goodness, but at this time I want to thank Him for meeting our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus.

We are so grateful for what God accomplished through the Harvest Dinner in October. This year's Harvest Dinner highlighted the Sara Madjingay people of Chad, Africa, and their Bible translation project. The theme of this year's dinner was *"Almost There! Helping the Sara Madjingay People Cross the Finish Line."* The beautiful Sara Madjingay people are a language group, made up of six tribes, numbering around 183,000 people, and have been patiently waiting for an accurately translated Bible in their mother tongue. The New Testament had a powerful impact on the Sara Madjingay people and their culture. Excitement is currently running very high among the believers as they anticipate having the full Bible in their heart language. One Chadian Christian expressed her desire for a mother tongue translation this way: "French speaks to my brain, but Sara Madjingay speaks to my heart."

O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: For His mercy endureth forever! Praise the Lord that the full amount has been received to help the Sara Madjingay cross the finish line!

God has always answered prayer, but to answer this prayer in such a short amount of time has left us speechless and grateful. We are overwhelmed by the awesome grace of God. In addition, He chose to use YOU as the answer to this prayer. For those of you who responded so rapidly to the needs of this precious group of people, we thank you. You have refreshed our spirits and renewed our hope in the God who still answers prayer. Thank you for your willingness to invest the resources that God has entrusted to you back into His hands for His work around the world. Your investment will produce fruit that will remain in the hands and hearts of the Sara Madjingay people. Here is a link to the Sara Madjingay video that was shown at the Harvest Dinner. Rejoice with us. God has done amazing things among this special group of people..



I see evidences around me that Christmas is coming very soon. Brightly colored decorations and shopping seem to escalate at this time of year. Plans for family gatherings and special church services are underway. We celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior at Christmastime. Galatians 4:4 says that "when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son." The people of God had been waiting for the coming of the promised Messiah for many, many years.

Waiting is very hard. In fact, Israel waited for the Messiah to come for generations. In the same way, millions around the world are still waiting for a copy of the Scriptures in their heart language. We only know about



the birth of the Lord Jesus because it is written in the Scriptures. But suppose you did not have a copy of the Scriptures to inform you of this most important event in all of history? God graciously gave to us the Living Word – Jesus Christ, His Son. Now millions are still waiting for Him to give them His Written Word – the translated Scriptures in their language. Can you imagine the rejoicing of God's precious people on the day when it finally arrives?

Waiting patiently has been the case for another special group of people in Africa.

We praise God for all those who contributed or pledged support of some kind in response to the Harvest Dinner. Your generosity will help the Sara Madjingay people cross the finish line. On the heels of this momentous event, we recognize another people group in Chad called the Sara Kaba Dem who desire to cross the finish line. Numbering 40,000 souls, the Sara Kaba Dem people reside in the Guerea and Moyen-Chari regions of Chad. About 30% of the Dem participate in Animism and Islam. Seventy percent profess Christianity with 39% claiming to be evangelical. In the 1940's, pioneer Baptist Mid-Missions missionaries from the Central African Republic introduced the Sara Kaba Dem people to the gospel.

Bibles International formally engaged with the Dem-speaking people in 1989 by adopting the New Testament translation project. Translation team members, Hondo Job and Yongo Paul, completed the project in 1999. Hondo Job's boyhood witch doctor friend heard the New Testament read in a service conducted by Pastor Job and came to Christ Jesus for salvation. He said, "I could never believe that a God who did not know my language could love me. When I heard God's words in my own language, I realized that He did love me." At the New Testament dedication service, Hondo Job read the verses out loud. A man approached him and stated that he had never heard the Scriptures as clearly as that day. Overwhelmed by gratitude, they sang and read the New Testament out loud from 9:00 am that morning until 7:00 am the following morning. They now hunger for the Old Testament.

As we celebrate Christmas this year, would you be able to help the Sara Kaba Dem people cross the finish line financially speaking? God is doing some wonderful things in Africa and it is such an honor to be a part of His work. We cannot do this ministry without a team effort, so your contribution matters. Please pray for the Sara Kaba Dem people. They need **\$137,000** to complete the Bible.

Would you consider helping the Dem cross the finish line this Christmas so they can finally hold in their hands the translated Word of God?

If you are able to contribute to this great need, you may use the enclosed envelope to send your one-time donation, or you may go to our website, www.biblesint.org, and click the "GIVE" button to designate your gifts. Choose "BI Languages" and then scroll to the "Sara Kaba Dem Project." What better way to celebrate the gift of our Savior, the *Living Word*, than by giving the *Written Word* in the mother tongue of the Sara Kaba Dem people. May God bless you richly.



Thank you for giving. Have a very Merry Christmas!

For the Glory of God and the Sara Kaba Dem people,

Timothy L. Fink

Timothy L. Fink
Director – Bibles International
tfink@biblesint.org
616-942-7712

