



Wow! Can it be July already? Time marches on. Things change. **The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of our God stands forever.** (Isaiah 40:8 NLT) We translate so that people can have the eternal Word in their hands and ultimately their hearts. Thank you for your faithful partnership. I am requesting even more diligent prayer as we reach the last two years for the Dan and Maan translations. Our latest checking sessions have been plagued with delays stemming from equipment failure of every kind one after another to personal tragedies in the lives of the team members. Be diligent. Satan roars, but we know who wins.

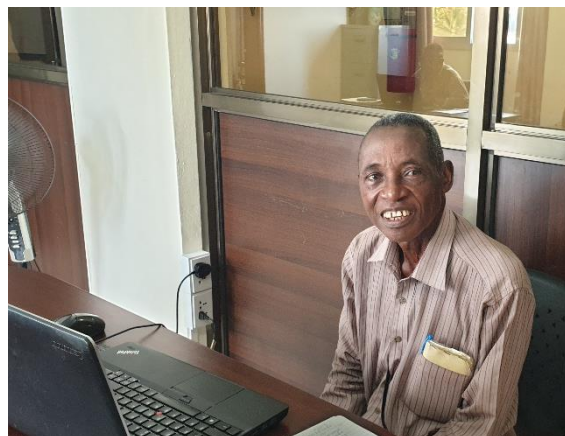
Speaking of diligence, let me reintroduce to you a faithful colleague and friend—Humphrey Ndorbor. Humphrey joined the Bandi project back in 1993. He faithfully worked on the NT translation until completion. Since then he has faithfully and diligently taught Bandi and encouraged people to read it. When the OT project started up, he was right there ready to join the team. He showed me a copy of a prayer letter we published back when he started. Here are some excerpts from that letter. At the time Liberia was crushed under the weight of a civil war. Al and I had just returned to Liberia after evacuation to Sierra Leone. We were expecting our first child.

Hello! I'm Humphrey Ndorbor one of the two new Bandi translators. I'm married to Saynah and have 3 daughters Weemor 22, Miatta 20, and Jaso 8. I am 44 years old and come from a large family. My father had four wives and 29 children. From my mother I had two sisters and a brother. I lived in Ngokorun from 1949-67. The village is only about an hour's walk from Kolahun where Becky used to live. As a child I remember my father who was a Zoe. He had special "medicine " that he used to cure people, or that was used to help parents so their children wouldn't get sick. People would come with a problem and my dad would use special leaves to cure them, or he would make sacrifices with animals they brought to appease the spirits. He would then say, "If God agrees, he will accept the sacrifice" and make the person healthy or the problem go away. I want to believe that my father's power to heal was from the devil and not from God. When my father died in 1968, one of his children was supposed to replace him as Zoe. Since my real brother and I had gone to school, we were ineligible to become a Zoe, so one of the stepbrothers was selected.



Then

and



now

PRAY

Praise: for colleagues in Liberia and here working diligently

Pray: for the Bandi team as they train new team members. For diligence and innovation to keep on track with all the checking so we can complete the Maan and Dan Bibles on time.

Who I am

Becky is YOUR HEART IN ACTION. She serves you as a consultant for translation teams in Liberia, West Africa by using your prayers and support to fulfill your desire to "PUT GOD'S WORD IN THEIR HANDS." Becky rejoices that she is part of your Lutheran Bible Translators team and values this special relationship greatly.

Contact/Support

Becky.Grossmann
✉ @LBT.org
28210 12th Ave.
Gobles, MI 49055

Google Voice:
269-628-5520
☎ (text or leave a message)

Mobile:
269-267-6248

 Lutheran Bible Translators
PO Box 789
Concordia, MO 64020
1-800-532-4253
Lbt.org
Designate
Grossmann or Bandi
OT project

Before the war I had given my life to Christ several times but was never serious about it. Later in September of 1991, I went to church and when they had an altar call, I went forward. This time though I really made a commitment to God and started changing my lifestyle to live as God would want me to live. What really made me look at my life seriously was all the times that God had provided for us during the war.

During the war my wife and I moved from Monrovia to Kakata about 41 miles away. Here we moved into my father-in-law's house with 6 rooms in it. There were already 26 people living in the house. Our 3 daughters remained at the high school campus in Kakata. I made a farm and grew cassava, eddo, and peppers. We were also given a 1/2 cup of rice per day per person by the relief agencies. We stayed there for the next 7 months, then returned to Monrovia.

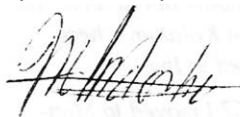
When I came back to Monrovia, I became interested in God's plans for me and spent a year going to the Monrovia Bible Training Center. This was mainly training for evangelistic work. I am not someone who can freely talk in public and was excited when Ngaima Kawala came and asked me to come to some training for a Bible translator. Being a Bandi translator for many years, he explained I could just sit down at a desk and do the work of translating the Bible into the Bandi language without having to address people in public. I was excited at the opportunity to do God's work in this quieter way.

This sparked my memory. Many people have grown up without learning the language of their tribes because of dislocation from their tribal area. When these people would come to a checkpoint, the rebel soldiers would question them. If they couldn't speak the language of their tribe, they might be killed. (Note: This was an attempt by soldiers to discover imposters.)

That's why it's so important for the work of the Bandi Literacy Association (BALA) to go forth. The Bandi people must be able to read their own language. And when they're able to read their own language, they will be able to read their own Bible and understand God's word. That is why literacy and translation work are so important and go hand in hand with each other.

And now I found out where God seems to want me at this time of my life. My prayer now is that my mother and other relatives who are still up in the interior will someday come to know Jesus. I also thank God for your prayers and know that because of them, some of us have come to know the Lord. I also hope that you will continue to pray for us and the situation here.

May God bless you all.



Humphrey continues assisting with team checking, literacy, public relations, and encouragement. He is passionate for his people **to have God's Word in their hands.**

Let's do it.

