

Dan

Old Testament Translation

In 2005, a Dan speaker in Liberia began praying for the resumption of the translation process that had been interrupted by 14 years of civil war. Though the New Testament that had been completed in 1981 was out of print, the church was growing and the Dan people recognized the need for Scripture in their language. In fact, they were eager to have the whole Bible.

A sociolinguistic survey conducted in 2012 confirmed the need and desire for a Dan Bible. Today the Dan people are actively engaged in translation and literacy work through partnership with the Bible Society of Liberia, the Liberian Translation and Literacy Organization and Lutheran Bible Translators. There is much prayer support and participation from local churches, whose members often assist in reviewing translated Old and New Testament portions.

Whenever a book is translated, the Bible Society prints and distributes around 500 draft copies to Dan speakers for the purpose of proof reading. Senior translator Rev. Levi Yentee reports, "People love these booklets. They sit together and read, while others listen and ask questions."

Over half the Old Testament and portions of the Gospels have been drafted. Projected completion of the whole Bible is 2023.

Goals

- Complete draft copies of Deuteronomy and Isaiah.
- Encourage the use of translated Scripture materials in literacy classes.

Impact

- People are more attentive and have better understanding when God's Word is in their language.
- Local churches actively support the translation project.





Pray

- Pray that funding will be available to expand Dan literacy programs.
- Pray for good health for the translation team and their families.
- Pray for continued participation from local churches.

Give

The Dan people have a great love for God's Word! Nothing—not even war—has deterred them from their desire to have the whole Bible in their language. Your gift will provide Scripture that will nurture the spiritual growth of families and communities.

Àyé ma mɛnù é n tó ló wo bàè wà bɛà n lò wà dàyéngự wà wo tàye waa kəpəyaanù wô kòè bàè, yàkɔɔɛ a lò wo wò ma naàluo á zìè waa sɔ̀nyaanù là, á waa sɛ́ bɛ kò é yeyíà zúdo.

—2 Chronicles 7:14

