



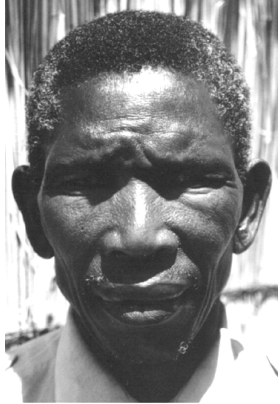
At the Well



Tim and Lisa Beckendorf, LBT missionaries in Botswana

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

John 4:13, 14 (NIV)



Splash's father:
Moronga Ntemana

Passing

Splash's father passed away in May. I'd known him ever since we arrived in Shakawe and had a lot of respect for him. He had been a strong advocate for his people, and for language development since 1976. He was a significant resource for the history of the Khwe and was

featured prominently in several projects that sought to document that history. He was one of the last of his generation, and his passing is another reminder of an end of a significant era for the Khwe. Notably, he was also an important leader in promoting the Khwedam Bible translation among his community. He would often encourage the translators to persevere when Satan attempted to frustrate our efforts. He was a Christian and raised his children in the faith (he even named one of his grandchildren 'Galatia' after the book of Galatians) for which we give great thanks!

The funeral was huge, much larger than any other Khwe funeral that I've attended. People came from all over, even from South Africa, and even the paramount chief from Shakawe and his associates were present, which attests to his significance in the community.

We give thanks for the life of Splash's father and his positive influence on others.

Closer to Completion

May was quite an eventful month as we had scheduled long ago to have our final consultant check during that month. At our last checking session in February, Dr. Meghan gave us the deadline of the end of March for completing all drafting and team checking for the last section of our translation. We managed to complete it at the end of April, which for Africa is still on time, and were all ready for Dr. Meghan's visit. One week prior to his arrival we organized for village review so that it would be completed before our final consultant session. Then Splash's father passed away, and things became a bit more complicated. Although the funeral was a week in the past by the time our consultant Dr. Meghan arrived, Splash and Moronga were still occupied with funeral details, and since there were people still gathered from the funeral, the guys decided to do the village review the week Dr. Meghan was here. They



Dr. Meghan working with Splash

managed to finish checking the translation in the village but missed about half the days that we had scheduled for checking with Dr. Megahan. With the little time we had left, we managed to check through the last of our translation to the satisfaction of Dr. Megahan. So now we are reading through the entire translation, checking for spelling errors, etc. Our goal is to finish the read-through by mid-July so that we can then send it for the initial typesetting.

Please pray for diligence in reading through the translation so that we can have it ready for typesetting by August.

Primer Work

As mentioned in our last prayer letter, Splash was working on two primers in Khwedam for use in primary schools where there are Khwe students. He wrote one for pre-primary and one for primary education. I've helped with formatting and checking spellings and grammar. Then it was sent to the Ministry of Education for approval. They have since sent it back after making their inclusions to the formatting for us to do a final check. It is a real challenge at this point to fit it into our schedule but necessary for the sake of the community.

Please pray for us to be able to finish checking these primers along with the work we are doing for the Bible translation.

Homefront

Every rainy season the termites become more active, and this year they were particularly aggressive, eating the rafters in our shed that houses our solar system. Despite our valiant efforts, the termites prevailed, leaving little to support the roof. So, we enlisted the skills of a neighbor who replaced what had previously been wood with steel.

Now we don't have to worry about a wind carrying away the roof of the shed.



Tim and our neighbor's helper removing the roof sheets from our shed

Correspondence and Support Information

You may support this ministry with gifts payable to Lutheran Bible Translators and indicate that they are for the Beckendorf Ministry. They may be mailed to:

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PO Box 789
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You may contact us at:

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Your servants in Christ,

Tim, Lisa, Aaron, and Andrew Beckendorf