



Lutheran Bible
Translators

Megahans in His Service

October
2022

Prayer Letter and Mission Update

End of the Year Update: Bible Translation in Tanzania and Botswana

Tanzania—Ukerewe

The Kerewe Team has finished the books of Jonah, Luke, and Acts, and have printed them for distribution. They are nearing the completion of the Gospels of John, Mark, and Matthew. In October (2022), Michael will travel to Tanzania for the final check on these three Gospels and prepare them for typesetting. The team will then begin translating the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament).

Training the translators is a major part of the first years of a program. Part of the training is done by the team members. Each is given a research assignment and then presents a lecture to the others with Michael observing and commenting.



Ev. Sospeter Makena lecturing on the Pentateuch while the other translators take notes.



The whole team listening to the Consultant in Training, Dr. Beckendorf (LBT Botswana), as he work with them via ZOOM on the Gospel of John. Michael is Dr. Beckendorf's mentor.

Bible Translation is for the people. These are some of the Kerewe young people and an infant who were baptized at Sayuni Parish in Gallu, Ukerewe in Tanzania, a congregation at which Michael assists when he is in Tanzania. Now they can hear God's Word of Eternal life in their own language because of the LBT Translation Program.



ENCLOSED IS ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250

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BOTSWANA-KHWE

Dr. Beckendorf and the Khwedam Bible Translation program have successfully finished their Panoramic Bible Translation and have sent the manuscript for typesetting. Our prayer is to finalize the typesetting and printing and have it ready for distribution around March 2023. They plan to start working on translating the complete Bible into Khwedam.

NEW PROJECTS-TANZANIA

In 2023, LBT plans to begin three new programs in Tanzania: **Kara** (on an island in Lake Victoria, near the current Kerewe Program on Ukerewe Island), **Sumbwa** (in Central Tanzania), and **Taturu**. Michael has invited numerous other LBT personnel to participate in workshops for these new groups. Our goal is to hold the first workshop in February 2023.

A Word from the Regional Director

I have had the immense privilege of working with Dr. Megahan for the last 2 years as he trains and mentors in Botswana and Tanzania. His passion for the transforming power of God's Word overflows to others. He has the combination of pastoral skills, theological training, missionary experience in both Tanzania & Botswana, and linguistic prowess that make him especially well-suited for his current role, especially for the emerging work in Tanzania.

Dr. Megahan has a vision to "train the trainers." In other words, he realizes that he won't always be around to do this work and wants those he equips to have the full capacity to reach their communities' translation goals. The Bible translation that is being started will take many years, so this empowerment is important for long-term success.

Dr. Meghan may be retired, but he works hard, and his ministry needs your support. It takes money for airfare, in-country transport, accommodations, and food when he travels to Tanzania and Botswana. When you support the *Megahan ministry*, you are a part of his team and the work to mentor the next generation of Bible Translators and consultants.



Did you know that LBT is celebrating the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's German translation of the New Testament? His translation was foundational to the Reformation's spread. It's the same today. Bible translation supports the flourishing of the Church around the world.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Thanksgiving for all who continue to support financially and in prayer the LBT ministry to Tanzania.
2. Financial support to finish 2022 and to enable the workshops and consultation visits in 2023 for Kerewe and for new Programs—Kara, Sumbwa, and Taturu.
3. The printing and distribution of the Khwe Panoramic Bible in Botswana.
4. For Michael's physical, spiritual, and mental well-being as he continues to serve as a Bible Translation Consultant with LBT.

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READ about the Megahans' work in Tanzania at go.LBT.org/kerewe.

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