

Annual Report **2019**

**TO
GOD
BE THE
GLORY**



A Word from Bruce

Bruce A. Smith | *President/CEO of Wycliffe Associates*



Bruce and wife Jan

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine . . . to Him be the glory!” (Ephesians 3:20–21)

These words from the Apostle Paul in the Book of Ephesians are ringing in my ears as I reflect on the past year. My heart is overwhelmed with thankfulness for all that each of you made possible through your prayers and financial support.

Your partnership in Bible translation reaches from isolated island chains in the Pacific to the dry and arid lands of the Middle East. It touches brothers and sisters who are persecuted at the mention of the name Jesus, to those who have heard His name but have never held a Bible in their language. Every time you partner with Wycliffe Associates, you touch thousands . . . even millions . . . of lives with the gospel!

And when another life experiences the transformation of having God’s Word for the first time, we see a picture of the day when every language and every tongue can worship the Lord in freedom and in harmony with one

another—adding to the wonderful tapestry that is the family of God! You make this possible.

But this is not the time to slow down. We are poised and ready to make a bigger impact in Bible translation in 2020 than we have made in any year prior.

We need you like never before.

I am praying bold prayers for this year. I am praying that God will amaze us as His Word goes forth among the nations. And I am praying that you will feel the call to use your time, treasures, and talents to further Bible translation in 2020, to plant more seeds of the gospel on good soil!

As you turn the pages of this report, may you be stirred in your spirit. And may you put your faith into action and pray bold prayers with me! I pray you will catch the vision for God to do even MORE than we can ask or think in 2020! We celebrate what He has done, but I know He has so much more in store . . .

Seeds on Good Soil

In 2019, supporters like you helped advance Bible translation in 101 countries around the world through:

- MAST (Mobilized Assistance Supporting Translation)
- TNTs (Tablets for National Translators)
- BTRKs (Bible Translation Recording Kits)
- POD (Print On Demand)
- Scriptures for New Frontiers
- Under Attack Project
- Emergency 911 Fund
- Nigeria Advance
- Middle East Advance
- Papua New Guinea Advance



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Ready to Plant the Seeds

The MAST methodology equips national Bible translators with the training and tools they need to translate God's Word themselves. Local men and women are ready to take risks, ready to translate God's Word into their heart languages, and ready to plant the life-bringing seeds of God's Word into people's hearts.

Your faithful support helped put God's Word directly in the hands of the people who are hungry for the hope found in the Scriptures.

Seeds planted... through your prayers and support:

- Total new language starts in 2019 using MAST: 288
- Completed New Testaments to date using MAST: 254
- MAST Bible translations in progress: 1,200

*"Translating the Bible into our language is a great opportunity for us. We will be able to know and understand more about the Scriptures. And I believe that **more and more souls in our tribe will be saved because of this Bible translation in our language.**"* —Alfredo, Philippines



Empowering the Local Church

For decades, pastors and local congregations believed they had no choice but to wait for foreigners to come and translate the Bible for them. But because of the MAST methodology, local churches can lead translation projects themselves!

Through your support in 2019, entire networks of pastors and national translators all over the world, including countries where Americans can't travel, received the tools and training they needed to start Bible translation workshops on their own . . . and let God's Word be planted in the hearts of their people!



*“For the past 17 years, I’ve been preaching the Good News to my people. I know they could not fully understand the Scriptures because we’ve been using a Bible that is different from our language. This Bible translation into our language is a necessity for us!” —Pastor A**

*Name and photo changed for security purposes

Reaching the Unreached

Bible translation technology revolutionizes the way God's Word is put into the hands of people. When national Bible translators have access to translation technology, they can complete their work in less time and use translation checking resources to ensure their accuracy. Providing national Bible translators with the technology they need for translation work helps to plant more seeds of the gospel in hearts ready to receive the Word.



TABLETS FOR NATIONAL TRANSLATORS (TNTs)

When a national Bible translator is handed a computer tablet, they hold in their hands a powerful tool *filled* with the resources they need to translate the Scriptures into their heart language. Tablets give translators access to a digital library of translation resources. And in dangerous regions of the world, these mobile devices are small and discreet so national translators can work under the radar of intense persecution.

Through your prayers and support:
6,257 TNTs have been distributed to date.





"I watched a national translator sit down with a tablet and begin to show another translator how to use the tools and the program to start translating Scripture. This gentleman got so excited that he wanted to know how to get these apps. He suddenly was so focused on being able to take this back to his village!" —Wycliffe Associates worker, at a workshop in Zambia



BIBLE TRANSLATION RECORDING KITS (BTRKs)

In many parts of the world, literacy is a luxury. There are millions of people who cannot read or write a single word. And in many cases, the language they speak isn't even written—their people communicate best through the spoken word! Often, these people groups are some of the most isolated. But, God's Word is still necessary for them . . .

Through the use of recording equipment—Bible Translation Recording Kits—national Bible translators are able to make audio recordings for spoken-only languages. As these people groups hear the gospel in their heart languages, the seeds of hope and new life are sown in their hearts and begin to bear much fruit!

Through your prayers and support:
1,031 BTRKs have been distributed to date.

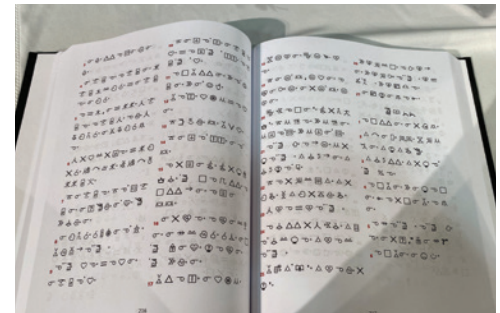
Creating a New Language

One of the most unreached people groups lives shoulder to shoulder with other believers, and yet they are often the most isolated. When someone is born deaf, or deaf and blind, they will most likely live the rest of their lives on the edges of society, barred from much of their culture, and even out of reach of the gospel.

Wycliffe Associates has developed a concept-based language, the Symbolic Universal Notation (SUN), to reach these people isolated from educational systems, their communities, and even the gospel.

Through this ground-breaking language, the gestures of sign language are converted into symbols on a page. And in the case of the Deaf Blind, 3D printers are used so they can touch the symbols to understand!

Your faithful support and prayers help ensure no one is marginalized from the gospel. Because of you, the SUN New Testament translation is complete, and people who are deaf—or deaf and blind—are finding truth in God's Word!



Scripture Distribution

Training and translation are only the beginning—after finishing a translation of the Scriptures in their heart language, national Bible translators are eager to share the Word of God with their people. Technology advancements allow Scripture to be distributed electronically and in printed form!

PRINT ON DEMAND (POD)

Finally, after generations of waiting, people are able to hold God's Word in their hands immediately after completing a translation. And this is possible through the Print On Demand technology that you help provide!

Each POD system gives local translators the opportunity to print and bind copies of the Bible—even thousands of Bibles—on site . . . no need to wait for anyone. These high-speed systems are compact and capable of being concealed in a small area, especially in countries of intense persecution.

POD units have made God's Word tangible, reproducible, and shareable! And Bible translators can distribute copies of the Scriptures—planting millions of seeds of the gospel—immediately upon completion of their translation work.

*“As a Christian, when I had the access to the Word of God, I understood the situation in this way, where there is God's Spirit, there is freedom . . .” —Pastor Z**

*Name and photo changed for security purposes

Through your prayers and support:
108 total POD systems have been deployed to date.



NEW FRONTIERS

Standing Strong

“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:10)

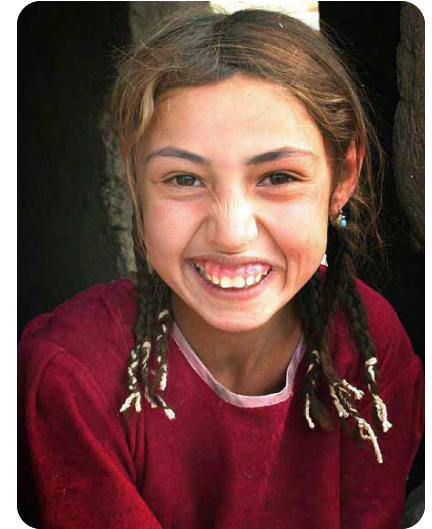
Intense persecution constantly looms over national translators in countries so dangerous they cannot be named. Secret police visits, death threats, beatings and imprisonment, and sometimes even martyrdom could be listed on national Bible translators’ resumes!

When Satan attacks God’s people, and the persecution only increases, local believers double down on their faithfulness and commitment to translating the Scriptures. Instead of hiding in fear of being caught or turned in, national Bible translators reach out and ask for help to start more translation projects!

The soil in these hard-to-reach parts of the world is rocky and dry, but national translators

know God’s Word will soften hearts and cultivate the seeds of the gospel planted on good soil. The Word of God is growing stronger in even the darkest of nations, drawing more brothers and sisters into a relationship with Jesus Christ . . . a relationship that will bear much fruit. And God’s Word says that it will never return void or empty! (Isaiah 55:11)

In 2019, your prayers and faithful support came alongside these brave men and women. You provided the encouragement and strength to take another step forward. Your support showed national Bible translators that together, we are a family—the family of God, and we will work . . . until the task is done!



*“I want to ask you if you are the God of Islam. Just tell me that you are, and I will wear the hijab (covering), and I will do all the prayers you want. But if you are the God of the Christians, even if this will lead me to be killed, I will still believe in you.” —Aliza**

*Name and photo changed for security purposes

AFRICA

Planting Seeds of Peace

For generations, tribal conflicts and unrest have poisoned almost any hope of families living peacefully in Africa. Neighbors slaughtering neighbors. Schoolchildren kidnapped. It's been a nightmare of seemingly unstoppable violence.

But God's Word is bringing peace and transforming lives in areas of intense war, tribal violence, and political instability!

Right now, hundreds of language groups—more than ever before on the continent of Africa—are working to complete their translation projects to see God's Word in the hands of their people. And Scripture is already bearing fruit: translation team leaders report that when groups hostile toward each other see what God's Word says about

peace, their hearts become open to reconciliation. They begin sharing meals together and worshipping together!

This news is spreading quickly, as local leaders and churches learn they can take the reins of Bible translation projects and not wait for foreigners to come in and do the work. They see this as a mighty provision for their communities and an opportunity to have the power of God's Word in their heart language.

In 2019, your prayers and faithful support launched Bible translation workshops among marginalized people, warring tribes, and spiritually blind people groups and planted seeds of the gospel that will flourish and bring forth much fruit for the kingdom!



"We are a marginalized people. But you've validated our language, and you've validated us. Thank you!"

—National Translator, Tanzania

SOUTHEAST ASIA

A New Generation of Translators

For generations, the work of Bible translation in Southeast Asia has been hindered or stopped by hostile authorities or crushing problems. It seemed impossible that the people would ever see Bibles in the language of their heart—and only a miracle could make the impossible possible. ***This year—that miracle has happened.***

God has raised up another generation passionate about God's Word and determined to see the Scriptures in their heart languages. Wycliffe Associates is working with new teams of young men and women, deeply devoted to Jesus and theologically trained. They are

ready and committed to the work of translation. It is amazing to see the next generation of national Bible translators picking up this torch!

It takes bold faith to stand up in this part of the world, where Christianity is a minority religion, and every day brings threats of persecution.

In 2019, you helped start Bible translation in this hard-to-reach part of the world. And through your faithful prayers and financial support, a new generation of national Bible translators are picking up the banner of bringing God's Word to their people.

"We seek God's work first, even if it means to leave our daily work, and we can't contain our happiness. I am grateful that we were able to translate the New Testament in just a month. It is a great privilege for us to know the Bible and be able to serve God."—Jovelyn, Philippines



"I never imagined having the Bible in our language. But because God is so gracious towards us, He used Wycliffe Associates so we could have the New Testament in our language. Thank you, and God bless you."
—T Ng*, Southeast Asia

*Name and photo changed for security purposes

PACIFIC

“We can’t contain our happiness . . .”

Spiritually trapped in the intense grip of animistic religious practices and physically isolated by extreme terrain and great distance between islands, men and women in this part of the world are desperate for God’s Word to set them free!

But local believers and national Bible translators are not afraid to confront these hardships head-on. With extreme faithfulness and steadfastness, they are shining a light into the darkness. And the one thing that moves unhindered through the islands . . . the message of hope that can be found in God’s Word!

Christians in remote villages have heard stories from other

islands about the incredible transformation that happens when God’s Word becomes available in the heart language of the people. Tribes at war for generations and regions bound by demonic influence have experienced a new wave of peace, the peace that passes understanding (Philippians 4:7).

When the seeds of the gospel are planted in good soil, hope abounds, chains are broken, and salvation is received.

In 2019, your prayers and support brought God’s Word to remote islands in the Pacific, bearing much fruit for the kingdom.



“I’m really happy because my grandfather doesn’t know English. So, when we translate the Bible, he will understand it in his mother tongue. He will know what the Bible means.”
—Shilla, Pacific Region

Everyone, Everywhere!

Accomplishing more together

Everyone has a role to play in Bible translation . . . without you, the vision of God's Word into every language would be hindered.

While MAST workshops help national Bible translators utilize Bible translation tools, there is a group of volunteers working behind the scenes.

Some are working to compile Bible translation resources, with the help of Bible scholars, so that when

each tablet is turned on in a MAST workshop, top-notch translation resources are available. Technology specialists write the code, develop the apps, and deploy the systems to support every tablet used by national translators.

And when the requests come in for more translation tools and new workshops, each of you answer the call to provide for the needs of those asking for God's Word! Local

churches, faithful prayer and financial partners, talented linguists and theologians . . . we are all on this journey of Bible translation together. And because of our concerted efforts, God's Word is now in the hands of people all over the world.

Thank you for helping to accelerate Bible translation in 2019! You helped plant the seeds of the gospel on the hearts of people crying out for the hope of God's Word.

Get Involved in 2020 with your time, talents, or treasures:

- Support Bible translation teams through prayer and giving
- Involve your local church
- Volunteer to support Bible translation
- Share your specialized skills



Where Our Support Comes From

Contributions
Contributed services and facilities usage
Interest and other revenue
Total contributions and other revenue and net assets released from restrictions

Fiscal Year 2019

\$29,326,875
\$19,136,839
\$671,042
\$49,134,756

Where Your Support Goes

Bible translation ministry programs
Supporting services
Fundraising
Management and general
Total expenses
Change in net assets

\$37,688,222
\$7,127,167
\$2,163,089
\$46,978,478
\$2,156,278

Note: Wycliffe Associates' volunteers provide labor and other services for various ministry activities. Contributed services meeting the criteria for revenue recognition in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States amounted to approximately \$18,257,290 and are included in the Statement of Activities as "contributed services and facilities usage" revenue. Volunteer services during the year ending September 30, 2019 not meeting the criteria for recognition in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, have been estimated by management to be approximately \$1,771,750 (unaudited). Although these services have a significant impact on making the ministry effective, the estimated value of such services is not reflected in the financial statements.

Assets

Current assets
Long-term assets
Property and equipment, net
Other assets
Total assets

Fiscal Year 2019

\$3,977,896
\$13,574,607
\$1,668,821
\$951,836
\$20,173,160

Liabilities and Non-Current Liabilities

Current liabilities
Other liabilities
Total liabilities

\$717,047
\$0
\$717,047

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions
With donor restrictions
Total net assets

\$14,372,144
\$5,083,969
\$19,456,113

Total liabilities and net assets

\$20,173,160

Complete audited statements as audited by Batts, Morrison, Wales & Lee, P.A. are available upon request or can be downloaded at wycliffeassociates.org/about/financial-reports/

Ready For More!



■ AFRICA ■ LATIN AMERICA ■ MIDDLE EAST ■ PACIFIC ■ ASIA

The tide is rising! We are moving further. Unprecedented numbers of people are reaching out and asking for the tools and training to help their communities see God's Word in their heart languages.

Slowing down is not an option!

As we look to the goal of every language having God's Word, every day counts. Every "Yes!" we say to communities crying out for God's Word is one step closer to that goal. And as we take each step, we are seeing God's power and provision like never before. 2020 will be no exception.

We are taking steps of faith, leveraging advancements in technology, and engaging more partners. **This year, we are praying**

that more Bible translations will begin than ever before!

Our God is a God of going above and beyond all that we could ask or think, and we are praying bold prayers.

Partnerships are key. Local churches all around the world are taking the reins and leading the charge like never before! Because of their passion and their determination to hold God's Word in their hands in their lifetime, the local church has become the catalyst for many language groups.

And your partnership—your faithful support through prayer and financial giving—will allow MORE to be accomplished in 2020. More language groups will

read God's Word in their heart language. More seeds of the gospel will be planted on good soil. More will come to know the hope found in the Word of God!

Our sights are set on God's Word in every language, and we believe we are in this together. Let's pray expectantly for the miraculous to happen. Let's pray for God's Word to spread in the hardest to reach areas of the world. Let's pray for the walls of opposition to fall in countries that have kept the gospel out. Let's pray for the power of God to move throughout the earth until every nation, tribe, and tongue have access to God's Word!

When we pray, God answers! Let's pray and trust Him MORE!

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