



Manjaku New Testament

God's Word on the Move

The Manjaku translation team has been distributing 1 and 2 Timothy and James to churches in the Manjaku areas of Guinea-Bissau, The Gambia and Senegal. Church leaders asked to receive copies of these books along with Jonah and Luke as quickly as possible to use in various Christian activities and in the many literacy classes.

To make certain that church leaders are using printed Manjaku Scripture to best advantage, a fall workshop was held in Guinea-Bissau to give them training in reading and writing their language.

- **Pray that many Manjaku speakers will become literate in their mother tongue and thus have easy access to the Scriptures.**

Formation of New Team

Two new translators were added to the Manjaku team to work alongside the exegete-translator, who also serves as the team leader. Both men underwent rigorous training and evaluating for three months. After their work was assessed and found to be satisfactory, they were accepted by the team leader and local Scripture reviewers' committee.

One of the two new workers comes from the main dialect, which is being used for the Bible translation. The other man comes from a closely-related dialect. This will help ensure that the translation meets the needs of the greatest number of Manjaku speakers.

- **Pray that the newly formed Manjaku team can complete the Bible translation goals they've set for the coming year.**
- **Pray that God will strengthen and protect the translators from Satan's attacks.**

Quality Control

The reconstituted Manjaku team has reviewed and revised the work of the previous team to improve the quality of the translation. They recently redrafted Matthew and finished drafting¹ Revelation as well. The consultant check⁵ of Mark, Acts and Revelation then took place as planned. The first round of village testing³ for Acts and Revelation is now complete too.



- **Location: Guinea-Bissau, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 285,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2015**

- **Pray for the translators as they endeavor to make each drafted book accurate, clear and natural.**



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Following Up on the Faithful

The translators are eager to prepare Manjaku speakers to receive the full New Testament in their heart language when it's available. They recently followed up on the literacy training and church-planting programs that had been offered to village congregations earlier in the year. This included mentoring some new believers who came to faith through evangelistic campaigns last April. They also met with the Scripture reviewers to follow up on the training they'd earlier received.

Tense Situation

Recently, some evangelical churches in the Manjaku area were burned by followers of another major religion. They complained that these evangelicals were converting their women and children to Christ.

- **Pray for the team as they keep in touch with Manjaku churches and other Christian groups to encourage spiritual growth and facilitate further training.**
- **Pray for wisdom and sensitivity as believers share their faith in Christ with their neighbors.**

Six Steps of Translation

- 1. First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
- 2. Team Check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
- 3. Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
- 4. Back Translation:** translators translate the draft "back" into a major language for a non-native consultant.
- 5. Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
- 6. Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

MANJAKU NT PROJECT UPDATE—2

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