

# Misaje IG Cluster\*

## “Now I Know Who God Really Is”

Saari translator Boniface is a leader in his church and an active member of his community. The Misaje Cluster translator training program had a powerful impact on him. He says: “The devotions, the lectures and the stories each day taught me who God really is.”

Before joining the translation team, Boniface took a three-month course to learn how to give vaccinations. Now when he is



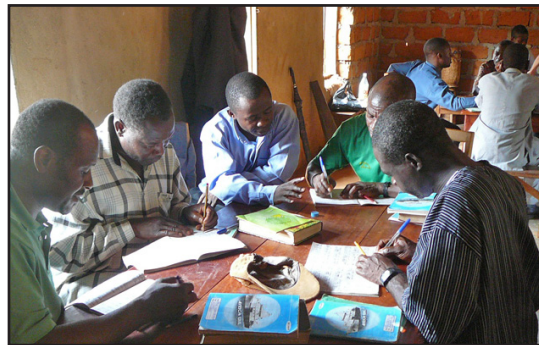
**Boniface vaccinates a child**

back in his home village one week out of each month, he volunteers his skills at the local health center. This concern for the physical health of his neighbors is matched by his concern for their spiritual health. He encourages his local church to use Saari in worship services. “I tell them to use Saari because it is more understandable. It is only through this that we may know God better.”

## Translation Takes Off

Translator training for Misaje Cluster project teams is nearly complete. Over the past few months, teams from the Chung, Kemedzung, Mungong, Naami, Nchane, and Saari groups each learned more about their own language’s grammar. Some were amazed to discover that their language even had a grammar! They learned basic translation skills, such as how to study the meaning of a word and how to do a back translation.<sup>4</sup> They also did a first draft<sup>1</sup> of three parables: the lost coin, the lost sheep and the prodigal son.

Now the actual translation of the New Testament is about to begin! The teams’ first goal is to draft nine parables from Luke’s Gospel. Each of the six teams will translate the passages into their own language, and then make both print and CD copies of their work.



**Nchane team at work during training**



- Location: Cameroon, Africa
- Number of Speakers: 34,500 in six language groups
- Year Project Began: 2010
- Expected Completion Date: 2012

- Thank the Lord for the concern that Boniface shows for the physical and spiritual condition of the Saari people.

- Pray that each Misaje Cluster translation team will grow stronger in their commitment to one another, and that each translator will grow in his commitment to Christ.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire each team as they translate parables from Luke’s Gospel. May the Lord help them translate key Biblical terms like “compassion” and “repent.”



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### Upcoming Celebration

The neighboring Noni people are excitedly preparing for the dedication of their New Testament in December. This celebration should encourage the Misaje teams, since they plan to base their New Testaments on the related Nooni-language translation. They will use the Adapt-It computer program to convert the Nooni text into a rough draft of the New Testament in each of the Misaje Cluster languages. This should speed up the translation process.

Each Misaje translation team needs one person who is fluent in Nooni as well as in their own language. This is so they can make fullest use of the Nooni Scripture text and Adapt-It. Thus far, the Mungong, Nchane and Saari teams each have a translator who is bilingual in Nooni. The Chung, Kemedzung and Naami teams are still looking for someone to fill this important role.

### God Protects Team

Misaje project members praise God for protecting three Noni colleagues from serious injury. Each week, Alfred, Protus and Elijah drive from their homes in the Noni area to the Misaje area to help with project work. On a recent trip home, the jeep they were driving went out of control on a corner, ran up an embankment, and flipped over. Miraculously, none of the men was injured and the jeep was only slightly damaged. People from a nearby village ran to the scene and helped them right the vehicle. The three men were then able to drive the rest of the way home.

### Power from the Sun

The new Misaje Translation Center is up and running! Volunteers from Wycliffe Associates recently installed solar equipment that supplies electricity to the building. Team members thank Wycliffe Associates and The Seed Company for providing a power source that can give translators an uninterrupted supply of electricity each day.

It isn't easy, though, to keep equipment working well in a remote location. A few weeks after the solar equipment was installed, two important parts malfunctioned and had to be returned to the U.S. for repair. Until the system is working correctly again, translators won't have the amount of power they need to operate all of their computer equipment.

- **Thank the Lord that the Noni people will soon be celebrating the completion of the New Testament in their language.**
- **Ask the Lord to help the Chung, Kemedzung and Naami teams find a qualified translator who is fluent in both Nooni and his or her mother tongue.**
- **Thank God for protecting Noni co-workers Alfred, Protus and Elijah when their jeep overturned.**
- **Ask the Lord to continue to protect Misaje Cluster team members, Noni co-workers and their families from illness and accident.**
- **Join the Misaje Cluster project team members as they praise God for their new solar-powered Misaje Translation Center.**
- **Pray that solar equipment problems will be few and that repairs will be made in a timely way so that translators can work without interruption.**

#### 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.

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3030 Matlock Road, Suite 104  
Arlington, Texas 76015

Toll Free: (877) 593-7333  
www.theseedcompany.org

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