Newsletter from Samuel and Leontine Kpagheri Missionaries with Wycliffe Togo for Bible Translation

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023

## WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS

Christmas greetings from Samuel and Leontine Kpagheri, Jehoshaphat, Josiah and Victoria

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. John 1:9-10

Imagine the world full of uncertainty, all kinds of diseases, and economic crises everywhere, without the Saviour Jesus. Imagine the world full of violence, war and suffering, without the hope of being free one day of the human incapacity to put things right. Imagine the world full of darkness without the true light of Emmanuel. Then imagine being part of those who take this light to people who still live in the deep darkness of sin and the strong bondage of the devil, by bringing them God's word in their mother tongue! This is what you are, a partner in the field of the Master!

May the light of Christ shine brightly during this Christmas season and always, as we reflect the true message of Christmas. Although we are far apart, you are always in my prayers. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful year to come.

Summary for 2022: During this year, I have been able to lead several workshops to train new translators, and check many books with various translation projects in Togo, Benin, Gabon and Cameroon, either online or physically, and fulfil my duties as Acting Director of Wycliffe Togo.

In Togo, I checked 2 Corinthians and Hebrews with the Akebou project, Mark and Ruth with the Akasselem project, Malachi and Lamentations with the Moba project, 2<sup>nd</sup> part of Luke and the 1<sup>st</sup> part of Acts with Houdou project and Nehemiah with the Gangam project.

In Benin, I checked 2 Chronicles with the Aja project.

In Gabon, I checked Acts 1-23 with Wumbu project.

Finally, with the Ngiemboun project in Cameroon, I checked the following books: 2 Kings, Joshua, 1&2 Chronicles, Ecclesiastes, Nehemiah, Judges, Ezra, Esther, Song of Songs and Isaiah. Wycliffe-Togo has launched five new projects. Three of them are oral projects, and two are written ones. Three workshops were held for these new projects.

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023

In addition to all these activities, I have been the Acting Director of Wycliffe Togo since August 8.

Thank God for the successful work I was able to do with the different teams and for safe travels during this year visiting different translation projects.

<u>Pray</u> to God for good refreshment for me after all the work I have done this year.

Pray that I will have wisdom to lead Wycliffe Togo well during this transitional period.

Here is a résumé of my activities for the next three months:

From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January, I will be working with the Ngiemboon translators by Zoom at home in Bassar.

From 23<sup>rd</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February, I will be checking the book of Joshua with the Tem translators in Togo. This community is found in a town called Sokode, which is only 57 km (about 35 miles) from my home in Bassar, but Iwill stay there for the checking session and spend the weekend at home. Most of the native speakers are Moslems.

From 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February, I will be in Lome to prepare to travel to Gabon to check Acts 24-28 and James with the Wumbu translators. The journey itself will start from 28<sup>th</sup> from Lome in Togo in order to be in Franceville in Gabon on 29<sup>th</sup>. I will be travelling back to Lome on 12<sup>th</sup> March. When I was about to send this message, I received a sad news that one of the three Wumbu translators passed away.

From 6<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February, I will be working with the Ngiemboon translators by Zoom.

From 20<sup>th</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April, I will be checking the books of Zechariah and Lamentations with the Ife project. This community is found in the southern part of Togo in and around the town called Atakpame, about 168 km (about 104 miles) north of Lome, the capital of Togo, which is on the coast.

Please thank God for protecting me and my family during this busy year. It is worth noting that Jehoshaphat is studying in Burkina Faso, Josiah is at the University in Kara, Victoria is in Lome for school and Leontine is living in Bassar.

<u>Pray</u> for God's protection for every stage of my travels by car, plane, bus and taxi.

<u>Prav</u> that the different teams and I will work well together and will be successful in polishing the translation of the different books we will be working on.

<u>Pray</u> that the Lord will comfort the Wumbu translation team for the death of one of its members.

Contacts:Leontine and Samuel KPAGHERI<br/>BP: 09, BASSAR, TOGOMail:samuel\_kpagheri@wycliffe-togo.org<br/>Tel: (+228) 90 97 74 50<br/>96 39 40 80



## Wycliffe-Togo BP: 1525, Lomé,

Tel: +228 22 21 11 02, wycliffe\_togo@wycliffe.org