

Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada • Winter 2008



# WORD *Alive*

## *Asia: In Person*

Featuring people from one of the world's regions with the greatest need for Bible translation.



Winter 2008 • Volume 26, Number 4

# WORD *Alive*

*Connecting you to Bible translation*



**Photo Credits:** Ben Depp (Cover, May, June, October, December); Dean Schauer (page 2, February); Dave Crough (January, March, April, July, August, November, back cover); and Esther Havens (September).

## Quoteworthy:

“When you read God’s Word, you must constantly be saying to yourself, ‘It is talking to me, and about me.’”

—Søren Kierkegaard (1813-1855),  
*Danish philosopher and theologian*



*Partners in Bible Translation*

**Word Alive**, which takes its name from Hebrews 4:12a, is the official publication of Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada. Its mission is to inform, inspire and involve the Christian public as partners in the worldwide Bible translation movement.

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BY  
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# Putting Faces on 500 Language Groups



According to our best estimates, Bible translation still needs to begin in about 2,250 of the world's languages.

These languages are not evenly spread around the globe. In fact, 80 per cent of them are located in just

three main regions:

- 1) the Indonesia-Pacific Archipelago;
- 2) Central Africa and Nigeria; and
- 3) Mainland Asia.

Beginning in this calendar issue of *Word Alive*, and continuing in subsequent years, we will feature these regions of greatest Bible translation need—one each year.

In this, the 2009 calendar, we present images from the Mainland Asia region, which stretches from Southeast Asia to Central Asia. More than 500 language groups without Bible translation projects even started are found there.

If we break things down further, the first centre of concentration within this Mainland Asia region is South and Central Asia. In South Asia, translation has not even started

there for 150 languages, spoken by people from Western China to India and Nepal. In Central Asia, there are another 100 Bibleless groups.

The region's second centre, East and Southeast Asia, ranges from Southwest China through Southeast Asia. This area is home to 250 languages needing Bible translation.

While these numbers are impressive and significant, they represent something more substantial—tens of millions of human beings without God's Word in their heart languages. They also represent diverse geographies, livelihoods, cultures, ethnic traditions, political circumstances and religious practices. To help put a face on all of that, we are presenting photographs of people from the Mainland Asia region with each month.

We want this calendar to be practical—to be the calendar of choice in your home or office, to keep track of important dates and personal events in 2009. But, most of all, we want it to be an inspiring reminder for valued partners like you that there remains a huge unfinished (in some places unstarted) task in Mainland Asia.

As you refer to the calendar, we ask you to pray for a number of issues:

- Pray that Bible translation for the remaining languages will begin soon.
- Pray that Wycliffe and other organizations will be able to partner with local churches and agencies in the region.
- Pray that God will provide the necessary personnel, prayer and finances to see the translated Word presented with clarity—not only in printed form, but also through audio-visual media, oral storytelling, song and even sign languages.

We know that the Bibleless language groups of Mainland Asia are on God's heart. We trust that they will also be on yours in 2009 and beyond. 🍁



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References to "SIL" are occasionally made in *Word Alive*. SIL is Wycliffe's key partner organization, dedicated to training, language research, translation and literacy.

#### Wycliffe Canada Vision Statement:

A world where translated Scriptures lead to transformed lives among people of all languages.

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AN AFFILIATE OF  
**EFC** The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada



January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<i>The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.</i> <i>The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.</i> —Psalm 19:8 (NIV)		February 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 <small>Martin Luther King Jr. Day (U.S.)</small>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# January



February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <small>St. Valentine's Day</small>
15	16 <small>Presidents' Day (U.S.)</small>	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <small>Ash Wednesday</small>	26	27	28
January 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<p><i>For as . . . a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.</i></p> <p>—Isaiah 61:11 (NIV)</p> <hr/> <h1>February</h1>				March 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 <small>Daylight Saving Time Begins</small>	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 <small>St. Patrick's Day</small>	18	19	20 <small>First Day of Spring</small>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	February 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	<p><i>“But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him.”</i></p> <p>—Jeremiah 17:7 (NIV)</p> <hr/> <h1>March</h1>		April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30



April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<p><i>“Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God. . . .”</i></p> <p>—Isaiah 55:5 (NIV)</p> <hr/> <h1>April</h1>					4
5 <small>Palm Sunday</small>	6	7	8	9	10 <small>Good Friday</small>	11
12 <small>Easter Sunday</small>	13 <small>Easter Monday</small>	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<p>“... Show me now Your way, that I may know            You and that I may find grace in Your sight.”            —Exodus 33:13a (NKJV)</p> <hr/> <p>May</p>			June 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10 <small>Mother's Day</small>	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18 <small>Victoria Day (Can.)</small>	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25 <small>Memorial Day Obsrved (U.S.)</small>	26	27	28	29	30	
31							



June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 <small>Flag Day (U.S.)</small>	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 <small>Father's Day • First Day of Summer</small>	22	23	24 <small>National Day (Qué.)</small>	25	26	27
28	29	30	May 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<p><i>“All your children shall be taught by the LORD, And great shall be the peace of your children.”</i></p> <p>—Isaiah 54:13 (NKJV)</p> <hr/> <h1>June</h1>		July 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>June</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30</p>	<p><i>You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.</i></p> <p>—Isaiah 26:3 (NIV)</p> <hr/> <p>July</p>		<p>1 <sup>Canada Day</sup></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 <sup>Independence Day (U.S.)</sup></p>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>August</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>30 31</p>



August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		July 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<i>"It is God who arms me            with strength and makes            my way perfect."            —2 Samuel 22:33 (NIV)</i> <hr/> <h1>August</h1>		September 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1
2	3 <small>Civic Holiday (Can.—except Qué., Nfld., P.E.I.)</small>	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	August 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 <sup>Labour Day</sup>	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 <sup>First Day of Autumn</sup>	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	<p><i>Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.</i>            —Psalm 34:5 (NIV)</p> <hr/> <h1>September</h1>		October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<i>“Anyone who welcomes a little child like this . . . welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me.”</i> —Mark 9:37 (NLT)		November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	2	3
	<h1>October</h1>					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 <small>Thanksgiving Day (Can.)</small>	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day (Can.) • Veterans Day (U.S.) • Wycliffe World Day of Prayer	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)	27	28
29	30	October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<i>Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.</i> —Psalm 90:12 (NIV)		December 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	
<h1>November</h1>						



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January 2010 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <sup>First Day of Winter</sup>	22	23	24	25 <sup>Christmas</sup>	26 <sup>Boxing Day (Can.)</sup>
27	28	29	30	31	<i>The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.</i> —Isaiah 32:17 (NIV)	
						December

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*It's time to simply say . . .*

# Thank You!

*In any magazine, the back cover is prime real estate. It is a special space normally reserved for ads. Here we usually promote a Wycliffe-related book, publicize an event related to our organization, or offer our readers an opportunity to be involved in the global ministry of Bible translation.*

*But not this time. Instead, as we finish celebrating 25 years of publishing Word Alive magazine, we just want to say "thank you!"*

*Wycliffe Bible Translators may have a vision of a world where translated Scriptures lead to transformed lives among people of all languages. But ultimately it is the Lord's church that is responsible to see the vision fulfilled.*

*That includes people like you! You provide the people to serve with us. You send the financial gifts to keep the work funded. You pray to unleash God's grace to make it all happen. Wycliffe could not do it without you as partners in the task!*

*As you post and use this calendar for 2009, please remember daily that we are deeply grateful for your partnership. And all year long, we will be working hard doing what you've sent us to do—and informing you about it through Word Alive.*

*With much appreciation from all of us at Wycliffe Canada!*

