

Annual Anyi Translation and Literacy News – Summer 2002

Volume 1, September 2002

Dear Anyi ministry friends,

Another year has come for me to update you on the progress that we are making on Anyi Morofu translation and literacy. On both fronts I have very good news to report.

Translation Update

As you recall, I have finished drafting the narrative portions of the NT, that is, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, and Revelations. Last year I began drafting the letters. I managed to finish Colossians, Titus, and Philemon. I received very positive feedback from the reviewers. This summer I edited these three books and drafted 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2 & 3 John, and Jude. Praise God I was able to achieve this rather ambitious goal while keeping up with my other responsibilities. All in all, I have now drafted 16 of the 27 books of the NT. My goal for next summer, God willing, is to translate James, 1 & 2 Timothy (and maybe 1 & 2 Thessalonians). I also hope to finish editing Galatians.

Literacy Update

The literacy program is soaring to new heights with the gift of a laptop computer that we received this past Christmas. My younger brother, Yablé Koffi, who is in charge of the literacy project was exuberant in his last letter. He thanked profusely the sister in Christ from the New Love in Christ Church in Harrisburg, PA who donated the computer. Now he can produce his

own Anyi texts. He is working on a number of exciting literacy texts that will sustain the interest of those learning to read the Anyi New Testament that I am translating. Such bridge materials are important to allow new readers to make the transition to the Anyi New Testament texts. Enrollment in our evening classes continues to be very high, exceeding even my expectations.

New partnership

We have started a new partnership with **Advancing Native Missions** to serve as the administrator of the financial contributions that you send for the Anyi ministry. These are men and women of great integrity and vibrant faith who were highly recommended to us as people who will administer wisely the gifts that you send. I am very pleased about this new partnership. So, please note that from now on, you can make your tax deductible contributions for the Anyi ministry to following address: **536 Anyi** Literacy and Translation Fund (ALT/CATA), C/o Advancing Native Missions, P. O Box 5303, Charlottesville, VA. 22905.

E-mail: anm@adnamis.org.

Website: www.adnamis.org.

Note: Do not forget the code: 536 Anyi.

Prayer requests

1. The price of growing: We are experiencing some growing pains at the moment. Due to the high number of people enrolled in the literacy program, our operation

budget of three thousand dollars a year is no longer sufficient to pay rent, the salary of the literacy director, food and lodging during workshops, electric and water bills, etc. My estimate is that we need a five to six thousand dollar a year budget to keep the literacy program going well. Pray for wisdom for me as I start a new fund raising campaign to meet our budget need.

2. Pray for the literacy director's safety because he has to travel some nights under difficult circumstances to observe literacy classes in villages.

Translation treasure

Many of you have indicated to me in the past that you like my translation treasures. So, here is another one for your enjoyment. Anyi has two colorful and vivid phrases to express "**patience.**" It can be translated literally either as "*to drag one's bottom on the ground,*" or "*to put one's heart on the ground.*" I speculate that the first phrase is an imagery based on observing toddlers drag themselves unhurriedly on their bottoms to go from point A to point B. "*To drag one's bottom on the ground,*" is often used to encourage a person not to rush through things. The second phrase is often used in reference to managing anger or other psychological states that have the potential for damaging interpersonal relationships. When a person is in such a state, he or she is often advised to "*to put his/her heart on the ground.*" These are the phrases that I have used to translate the word "patience" whenever it has occurred in the New Testament.

Family news

We are all doing well. The summer seems to have flown by so fast. We are looking forward to a camping trip with friends from Houghton College who are coming to visit us. Family activities this summer have included:

- Kim's helping out at Vacation Bible School at church.
- Jeremy's tennis and soccer lessons. He starts first grade this fall at the Saint Cloud Christian School.
- Corinne's third birthday. It was a Hawaiian party. She thinks she is a big girl now!
- I (Ettien) begin my third year of teaching at Saint Cloud State University.

The Anyi say "thank you" to you

The Anyi word for "**thank you**" means literally "*to lay somebody on the ground.*" As you can see from the way "patience" is translated, the Anyi do not conceive of the ground as something dirty. Therefore, allow all of us in the Anyi ministry "*to lay you on the ground*" for your prayers, your encouragement, and your generosity that make this work possible.

Now is time to say so long. Until you hear from me again next summer, let me pray 2 John 1:2 for you: "*beloved sibling, I pray to God that everything that you do, that it succeed, that you receive good strength, and that your soul receive strength,*" (back translation from Anyi into English.)

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