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Wycliffe Bible Translators

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Hello friends,

A busy season

Some days it feels like I will never get to the end of my to-do list! What does that list include?

Here are a few examples of recent activities:

- meeting with the key people in the Wolof project, to plan and put together a funding proposal for the next three years
- ensuring we had the correct copyright information for a series of lessons about the life of Abraham to be aired on the radio in the Gusilay language
- approving the publication of a smartphone app of the book of Ruth in the Jola Fonyi language
- assisting a colleague with his (successful!) application to study on the translation track of the I Delta course in Uganda, starting in June (I taught on the literacy track of the French version of this course in Cameroon in 2017)

In addition to all these more normal activities, I had a trip to Dakar last month with Francis and our nanny, Awa. Our main office will be moving out of Dakar to the nearby town of Thiès next month, so I was boxing up paperwork as well as all the books in the library. It was Awa's first time on a plane and first time in Dakar, so we managed to have a day of fun too before coming home to Zig. I appreciated the chance to spend more time with her too.



On the plane to Dakar



These are just some of the boxes I packed in Dakar!

Literacy app

Literacy rates in Senegal are low, and even fewer people are confident readers in local languages as the vast majority of formal education is in French. Over the years, SIL has worked with language communities across Senegal to develop "transition manuals", to assist people already able to read and write in French to learn to do so in their own language. These manuals can be used in classes or for self-study.

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First time on a slide at a play park during our fun day out in Dakar

Leçon 3, exercice 5

Complétez la lettre manquante en glissant et déposant sur le mot correspondant.

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Reculer

Vérifier

About a year ago, a colleague asked whether there was any way to turn one such manual into a smartphone app. I did a fair bit of research into different potential software options, and found one combination that seemed

promising. Since then I have gradually been working on it, creating drafts of each lesson and getting feedback, running into obstacles and finding solutions.

The final result has at last been published as an interactive e-book, including fill-in-the-gap exercises, multiple choice questions, and other such activities. This is in the Ndut language – you may remember I attended the dedication of their newly-published New Testament at the end of October. I am hopeful that this interactive e-book will provide opportunities for more people to learn to read in Ndut and, therefore, to be able to read the New Testament for themselves.

Next, I would like to create a template from this e-book, to be shared and used with other languages, hopefully avoiding many of the obstacles I ran into on the way.

Family and friends

Recently, I spent a day with a friend doing the Velvet Ashes virtual retreat, as I have done with others in previous years. I am glad to have had this opportunity to be refreshed and draw nearer to God. We've also been to the swimming pool a couple of times in recent months – Francis is a big fan of anything involving water!

At the start of May, we spent a day in a nearby village, visiting the family of one of Séba's cousins – his wife had a baby at the start of April. And more recently we had the two boys from Tante Adele's house (aged 4 and 11) come to stay for a few days. Francis had a great time playing with them.

Seba has had a quieter month at the restaurant as many Senegalese were fasting during Ramadan; however, that is now over so he is getting busier again. Additionally, many Catholics have First Communion celebrations for Ascension, so he had about 6 cakes to make for that last week.

And to end on an exciting note - looking to the summer, I've now booked flights, so I hope to be in Belfast with Francis from early July for two months. Hopefully restrictions will allow us to meet up with some of you then!

Until next time,
Clare



Francis reading a story to his friend, David

Praise and prayer

Give thanks for a good trip to Dakar with Awa. Give thanks for all the packing I was able to do. Pray for our office move to a temporary rented office in June – and for the construction of a new office building over the coming year.

Give thanks that after a long time and many hiccups, the Ndut transition guide is finally available as an interactive e-book. Pray that it would be useful and help people to learn to read.

Please pray that Francis and I would be able to travel as planned at the start of July. Pray for good moments with family and friends in Belfast, and for Séba who will remain in Senegal to manage the restaurant.

Give thanks that the Covid situation seems to be remaining stable in Senegal. Please pray that this would continue to be the case, and that they would have access to enough vaccinations to continue vaccinating people.

If you would be interested in praying for me or in supporting me, either with a one-off gift or by standing order, please contact Lynn Orr for more information.

Alternatively, cheques payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators can be accompanied with a covering note explaining it is for Clare Orr and sent to Wycliffe UK direct.

You can also give online at <http://wycliffe.org.uk/memberfundraising/Clare+Orr>
Gift Aid forms are available on request.