



wycliffe

— BIBLE TRANSLATION —

Intercessors for Africa

The **HAMBUKUSHU** are a Bantu people group related to the Herero group in Namibia; numbering about 60,000 and living in the Caprivi Strip. Originally from northern Namibia they were displaced by war and moved to Botswana over the last 40 years. They are largely an oral people and would greatly benefit from an oral translation. This would help to address the dual practice of traditional African religion and Christianity.



The **Hambukushu's** understanding of scripture is limited. Although there is a Thimbukushu New Testament published by the Bible Society of Namibia, this translation is not used in Botswana. Only 5% of the people are literate and only in Setswana, not the mother tongue of Thimbukushu. The preferred way of communicating is oral. A council of church elders has been established with leaders from 5 Hambukushu churches. They are to be responsible for choosing translators (a translator from each of 4 different regions in both Botswana and Namibia); contacting churches, and providing oversight for the project. The translators are to attend workshops in Shakawe. Between workshops the translators need to test the translation during their regular community activities (without remuneration).

The goal is oral translation of 30 Old Testament and 10 New Testament stories adapted from the Thimbukushu New Testament. The aim is to start work in late-2016, with the completion target date set for September 2019.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. A good council with wise leadership who are willing to be responsible for the oversight of this project.
2. The 4 translators involved to be gifted and highly motivated to give God's Word to their people.
3. An enthusiastic response from the Hambukushu as they hear the Scriptures in their heart language.
4. Transformed lives.
5. Intercessors to partner with the Hambukushu.
6. Finance to complete this project – R1,360,000.