SEPULANA



Language: Sepulana
People Group: Mapulana
People Group Size: 800,000
Location: South Africa
Lifestyle: Subsistence farming
Translation Phase: 2
Translation Time-frame: October 2022 - September 2027
Translation Goals: Oral Bible translation and transcription of the New Testament
Completed in Phase 1: Oral Bible translation of 40 narratives from both the Old and New Testament, and an oral and written translation of Mark
Source Languages: Sepedi and English
Managing Partners: Wycliffe SA / Church of the Nazarene / Mapulaneng Writers' Association

IMPACT

My involvement with the Sepulana translation programme has enabled more people to connect with our churches, receiving God's Word in their mother tongue. I have witnessed a great revival and have seen their joy in worshipping God and seeing an increase in engagement with the translated scriptures.

Jeffrey Malibe, Sepulana Translation Team

Mapulaneng, meaning "the place of the Mapulana people," spans northeastern Mpumalanga and southeastern Limpopo in South Africa. Sepulana, a non-official community language, is widely spoken in Bushbuckridge. Long marginalised during apartheid, the Mapulana have since advocated for Sepulana to gain official recognition. In 2018, a government body began using Sepulana on official signage, and in 2019 the Mapulaneng Writers' Association launched six newly published novels in the language. For the Mapulana, access to Scripture in Sepulana will encourage deeper study of God's Word and strengthen outreach to those who are unreached. The community is eager to see Sepulana valued and affirmed.





GET INVOLVED

Pray

Join the prayer mailing list to intercede for the Mapulana community, the translation team, and the programme.

www.wycliffe.org.za/signup-sepulana

Give

Become a partner and invest in God's transformative hope, planting seeds that will impact millions across Southern Africa.

www.wycliffe.org.za/give-now

Adopt

Journey with the Mapulana by building relationships, encouraging, and supporting them in practical ways as they work.

www.wycliffe.org.za/contact/adopt-a-language

Visit

Get to know the Mapulana people by visiting them and taking time to talk, pray, eat, and serve with them.

www.wycliffe.org.za/contact/visit-a-language