

The Values Common for YWAM's Mother-Tongue-Centric, Oral Bible Translation Projects (OMT and OBT and ...)

- **Prayer:** We are calling all YWAMers to intentional, committed prayer for every Bibleless mother-tongue by name. Prayer is the first priority. Without it, nothing else will be fruitful and multiply. It is the foundational action in the Covenant to End Bible Poverty Now.
- **Urgency:** The times we are in are marked by “war, famine and disease”¹ and they require urgent action. The days are short and the task is large. 90% of the languages on earth still do not have the complete Bible available to the mother-tongue speakers. We must act now!
- **Every and all:** All mother-tongue languages are recognized as legitimate languages worthy of translation. Even if some consider it a dialect, we are committed to serve the mother-tongue speakers who want an oral translation of the Bible in their own heart language.
- **Oral first:** Because God created all of us to communicate orally first, an oral translation is the first step in ending Bible poverty among Bibleless mother-tongue communities. We are committed to serve oral learners in ways that are appropriate to their context.
- **Mother-tongue translators:** We recognize that the mother-tongue speakers are the experts in their own language. Therefore, they are the ones called to do the translation work, We who come from outside that language community are called to serve them in that process.
- **Mother-tongue approval:** As the experts in their own language, mother-tongue speakers are the ones that need to lead the quality assurance process within their own community. We who come from outside that language community are called to serve them in that process.
- **Financial integrity:** any financial assistance received from friends of the ministry should be used in such a way as to align with YWAM's Value 16. That means it can be used for capacity building or for acquisition of needed tools/equipment, but never as a salary/stipend.
- **Leadership integrity:** like all our ministries globally, the work of oral Bible translation needs to be linked to a local base leadership following the “tripod” principles: freedom in the Spirit, spiritual eldership, and relationship under the Lordship of Jesus and the Word of God.

¹ Similar to that described in Jer 14:12; 21:7,9; 24:10; 27:8,13; 29:17,18; 32:24,36; 34:17; 38:2; 42:17,22; 44:13.