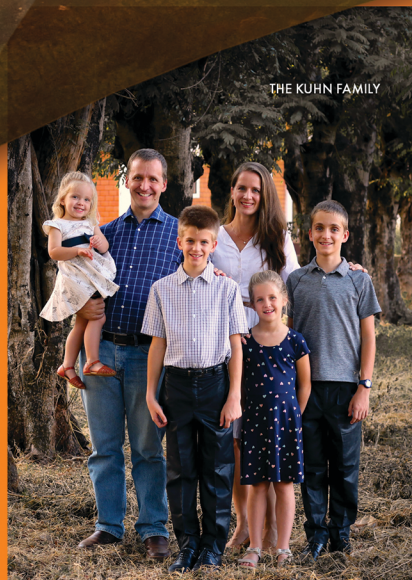


CAMEROON



THE KUHN FAMILY

Dear Praying Partners;

For the past three years, one of my Nizaa Translation team colleagues, Rev Ousmanou Dieudonné, has been studying in a program called iDelta. It is a program run by our Bible Translation partners, SIL Francophone Africa, and aims to provide graduate level courses in Translation-related fields. His studies concluded earlier this year and I asked him to share a little bit with you about what he studied, how it impacted him, and how he imagines putting his new knowledge to use in the Nizaa context. So, this letter will be in the style of an interview, with me (MJK) asking the questions and him (OD) giving the responses!



Connection

SEPTEMBER 2023



MJK: Hi, Pastor Ousmanou! Thank you for agreeing to sit down with me to talk about your experiences studying in the iDelta program. To start, can you tell us what stream you studied in and what kinds of topics were included in that stream?



OD: Of course, I was in the Scripture Use stream. It is a broad domain that aims to help language groups interact with the word of God in their mother tongue. This can be done before, during, and after the Holy Scriptures are translated into a target language. It includes things like android app development, audio and AV productions, Bible storying and so many other activities that help people use their Scriptures. More than that, since our mission is holistic, the classes even covered topics like community development and trauma healing.



MK: Good stuff! I would imagine that your three years of studies included many memories and highlights. Can you tell us about some of them?



OD: My best memories relate to the importance of having open sharing in a field of work. It wasn't always easy... but we were able to have good exchanges via zoom (due to COVID) and then in face-to-face classes. It was good to have the contributions of such a diverse group who were interested in a common field. It wasn't always easy to make oneself understood, or to accept the idea of another, but in the end, we were usually able to find common ground.

As far as learning highlights go, the biggest nugget is how crucial it is to consider the sociological context and to involve the project stakeholders in my decision-making.





MK: Thank you! If you don't mind getting a little personal, when you reflect back on the Pastor Ousmanou of 2020 and compare him to the Pastor Ousmanou of 2023, has the study program changed you? If so, how?



OD: Yes, I would say that I have changed since 2020. Generally speaking, the training I received makes me a more accomplished worker. More specifically, I would say that the training I received in media development revolutionizes everything I can produce.



MJK: It sounds like you have learned a lot and that you have found benefit in the courses and experiences that were part of iDelta. As you move forward in working in the Nizaa project, how do you envision applying what you learned to further God's work?



OD: The iDelta experience will help me to develop strategies that will present Christ to the unreached. The options range from audio, visual, and book form through to adaptations of biblical parables and stories. It doesn't matter how long it takes... we trust that, by God's will, we will succeed.



MJK: Amen! Well, that just about covers what I was thinking of asking you about. Is there anything else you would like to say to our partners in Canada?



OD: First, thank you for making it possible for me to participate in iDelta! I would also like to ask the Canadian partners to persevere in praying for the Nizaa. In this community, the harvest could still be delayed because evangelization among the Nizaa had stalled for many years. We all need to exercise lots of patience as we reach out. That said, I am optimistic the training I received in collaboration with SIL Cameroon is not just an achievement to be preserved, but I must make profitable use of it as we work to share God's Word.



Ousmanou in class



Ousmanou's Birthday Celebration



iDelta class of 2023

Please pray for:

- Pastor Ousmanou and his work in Galim; that God would inspire and direct him as he uses what he has learned to enable him to share God's Word in Nizaa with his community.
- For the Nizaa people; that God will cause His Spirit to go out and His love to be known everywhere that God's Word in Nizaa is heard.
- The organizers of iDelta; giving thanks for their service, initiative, expertise, and leadership, and that God would continue to use them to train up a new generation of linguistic mission workers in Africa.
- Join the faithful in the Église Évangélique Luthérienne du Cameroun (EELC) as they celebrate 100 years of Gospel ministry in Northern Cameroon in October. The first Lutheran Missionaries arrived in this part of Cameroon in 1923 and the church is organizing festivities to mark the occasion.

Rev. Mike, Kara, Tobias, Gideon, Gloria and Jubilee Kuhn