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The Diédhiou family

Wycliffe
Bible
Translators

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Dear friends,

Happy New Year!

We celebrated Christmas and New Year in Ziguinchor and thoroughly enjoyed catching up with friends and family members there. We were able to attend two weddings and an engagement party. We had an afternoon at the beach, and a couple of nights in Oussouye, Séba's family's home village, where we got married. In Ziguinchor, we visited our former neighbours, which made us miss living there! We visited quite a few other friends and the children did very well being dragged from one unfamiliar (to them) house to another. As long as there was someone to play with, or some sand, they were happy.

We had some car troubles before our trip, resulting in a new engine; and then some more troubles on our way down, but after another trip to the mechanic once we were back in Thies, we think (hope) that it is all sorted now.



All dressed up for Séba's cousin's wedding, for which he was a witness



Adele having a nap with her namesake, Tante Adele, during the wedding

We were also able to do some work during our trip – we spent three nights in the Gambia on our way to Ziguinchor, and had meetings with a few different partner organisations. We were also able to spend a couple of nights staying with a colleague who is based in the Gambia, and visited the farm that he runs alongside his translation work.

The other two families based in Ziguinchor are also moving to Thies, to be based at our headquarters. Therefore, we spent a day and a half packing up the office in Ziguinchor; sending the important things to Thies in a van, and giving away or selling the rest. It is the end of a chapter, as we will no longer have personnel based in the south of the country for the first time in well over a decade; but we hope to continue making trips down and supporting churches and language communities there as we are able and as requested.



Adele ended up covered in sand many times in Zig!

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Our relationship with the bookshop, where our books and SD cards are stocked, will continue, so I did inventory there the day before we came home. Having worked with the bookshop for over 5 years means we have a solid foundation, and our local language resources will continue to be available in Ziguinchor in spite of the office closing.

Recent and upcoming travel abroad

Adele and my trip to Kenya in late November went well. Adele slept for approx 9 of the 10 hours we spent on the overnight plane to get there! Coming back was a daytime flight, but she did very well on that too. Colleagues in Nairobi had found a recent graduate to look after her. The first day or two were tricky, but Adele quickly warmed up to Mercy and had fun playing with her.

Temperatures were rather different to Senegal, and the landscape was also totally different, so we enjoyed being surrounded by the green hills of tea plantations. My meetings were interesting, and I appreciated meeting many people face to face for the first time after having only met them online. The meetings were held in both French and English, so I also appreciated the opportunity to get into an interpreting booth and help out with that.

Séba and I both have trips coming up in February. I will go to Germany for a week of leadership training. Again I will take Adele – this time my parents will meet us there and spend the week looking after her. We are looking forward to seeing them. A few days after we get back to Senegal, Séba will leave for Nairobi.

He will be attending a Scripture Engagement conference. He will be meeting with people who work across Africa to ensure that the translated Scriptures are being used. Up until



Enjoying the green in Kenya



Francis enjoyed playing with his friend, David, in Ziguinchor

now, his work has primarily been as office manager, and together we have been networking with churches and organisations here in Thies; but we see a lot of potential for him to encourage the use of Scriptures by churches and individuals. Therefore, we hope this conference will be useful in working out what that could look like. There will be presentations on many different topics – Bible study groups, apps, resources that can be translated, and much more.

Finally, we are still in the early stages of planning, but we hope to be in the UK as a family for two months over the summer. More details to come!

Until next time,
Clare and Séba

Praise and prayer

Give thanks that Séba continues to make progress following his operations (now 10 months ago), and that he was well enough for us to make the trip to Zig. Pray that he would fully regain his strength and balance.

Give thanks that Clare and Adele's trip to Kenya went well. Please pray for their trip to Germany, from 9-17 Feb. Pray for smooth travel, that Adele would enjoy the time with her grandparents, and that Clare would benefit from her training course.

Please pray for Séba as he travels to Kenya from 20 Feb – 2 Mar. Pray that he would get a lot out of the conference, and come back with ideas for our work in Senegal.

Please pray for the rest of us back in Senegal while he is away, especially for the children with all the upheaval our two trips will cause.

Presidential elections will take place in Senegal while Séba is away (25th Feb). Please pray for peace.

If you would be interested in praying for us or in supporting us, 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 <https://wycliffe.org.uk/support/Clare+Seba+Diedhiou>
Gift Aid forms are available on request.