

# L&E MALAWI.ORG 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

From Maxwell Mpitanyanga, President

## INTRODUCTION

Through your prayers and fasting, the Almighty God has made possible what was impossible in our eyes at the beginning of this year. The year 2022 began with pain and sicknesses. I was sick for at least some months while a cyclone destroyed many people's properties including literacy materials and lives. Even as we were in these situations, God did not forget us. He has been with us for all these difficulties. We are giving thanks to the supporters who stood with us along the way. L&E MALAWI was able to carry out all the activities programmed for this year. The most significant achievements were the training of teachers from different churches in Malawi and Mozambique, opening literacy classes in the difference churches, and the printing of the Chisena, Macua, and Portuguese primers.

## Malawi Projects

### SENA LITERACY PROJECT

Soon after planting the crops, we had very heavy rains which brought floods all over the area where Sena classes are located. Therefore, the Sena speaking areas were greatly affected by Tropical Storm Ana. The area was flooded all over. Many houses, crop fields and properties were washed away by floods. Tropical Storm Ana left people homeless and hopeless. The primers I had distributed were among the properties which were washed away by floods. I had opportunities to help the classes with learning materials like boards, boxes of chalk, and dusters. All of these were also washed away by floods. Soon after Storm Ana, we experienced other floods from Tropical Cyclone Gombe that took all the leftovers of the first storm. Right now the classes are about to resume. The outbreak of diseases like cholera, malaria, and other waterborne diseases troubled many people because the places were not safe. Most painful, the numbers of deaths increased daily. Many elderly people, children, and women lost their lives by floods. They had not enough power to run away from deadly floods.



*A homeless teacher and his wife sleeping under a tree at Matsukambiya Chikwawa.*



*I, Maxwell, encouraged the survivors with the Word of God and giving them Sena Bibles.*

# CHEWA LITERACY PROJECT

I hired motor cycles and bicycles to reach the classes from bus stations because of the lack of a car. I visited a few literacy classes in Chikwawa. I found out that many classes were operating even where there were floods hitting the whole district. The challenge remained that learning and teaching materials were carried away by floods. Some books were torn apart because of the waters. Thankfully, I had some Chichewa primers with me. So, I helped them use these primers. The Sena primers were all damaged by floods. It is my prayer to reprint them. Some Sena Bibles distributed last year were damaged too.

The students and teachers depend upon farming to get their daily food. The floods carried away all their crops in their fields. They did not harvest anything. They are trying to prepare their fields again to replant fields, but they do not have seeds.

Some of the literacy students faced the disaster of cyclones Ana and Gombe. During this time of hardship, we managed to open fourteen new classes within six months. I had opportunities to visit the eight new classes.

This is the Dumba 1 literacy class. They do not have a board. The teacher is writing on the ground and the students are surrounding him to read what he is writing on the ground. The class consists of 40 students.

I prefer to divide into four classes. It is because the village is too big. The village was divided into four villages, so each village needs a class. Next year or in the near future we will have four literacy classes at the same village because it is big. One teacher cannot manage to teach them all.



*Pastor Mnesa, who is the teacher, is teaching his students under the tree. He is writing using the ground as a board.*



*Esther Harold*

This is a new class at the Ngondo literacy class Chambuluka centre. The class is using primers only, without boards, chalk, and dusters.

Esther Harold is the only Muslim student in the Chikwawa classes. It is so wonderful to see a Muslim lady attend the Bible Basic Literacy class. She always comes first to the class. She is a good example to her fellow students. She is working very hard in the class.



*This is the Desha literacy class. A student is reading from a piece of iron sheet hanging on the wall.*

# MACUA AND PORTUGUESE LITERACY PROJECTS

I had plans to reach the eastern side of Mozambique for many years. Finally, God opened the doors for me to reach the place. I had an opportunity to go to Nampula, Mozambique. The CAPRO Missions has missionaries in Nampula City. I have been communicating with the missionaries for a long time. Our friendship has spanned a long time now. I've known this couple since they were here in Malawi as missionaries. Their purpose is to train people to plant churches in different areas in Nampula Province and other provinces in Mozambique.

This is my first visit to Nampula, Mozambique. Many people did not know that they have this primer. Most of them were so excited to see this primer in their language. Therefore, I have found a lost primer again.

## Makhuwa /Macua Primer

The Makhuwa /Macua primer is one of the lost but found primers. It was constructed in 1997 by Rev. Robert Rice. It has been found and is ready for use after 25 years. The Makhuwa people were so excited to hear about and see the electronic Makhuwa primer. We did local printing of 10 copies of the Makhuwa Primer Book 1. The Makhuwa language is one of the major languages spoken in the Nampula Province. There are 6,372,000 Makhuwa / Macua speakers in this province. The students were dancing to show their happiness when they saw the copies of the Makhuwa primer.

After the training, some students were asking us about the primers in their languages. The training was organized by CAPRO Missions. The CAPRO missions are training church leaders to do church planting in Mozambique.

The class started on June 20<sup>th</sup> and finished on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022. It was a very big class. I had 47 students. One student did not finish the course because her son got sick and went to the hospital and was admitted there. Another one of her children was sick also. So she did not finish the course. Therefore 45 students finished the course.

I really thank Chancy Gondwe, Director of the Muliko Literacy Project, who accompanied me on the journey to Nampula, Mozambique. He helped me teach the students.



*This is a class in Nampula City.*



This lady is one of the students who participated in the workshop in Nampula City. The lady travelled 540 Kilometers from her town to attend the training. She told us that a literacy program was her burden all these years. To have this training was her answer from God. During the training, she asked for primers to take home with her.



*This is the group picture of the graduated students in Nampula City, Mozambique.*

## **THE PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE PROGRAM**

Portuguese is the official language used in the government of Mozambique and is a language of communication. In our context, it is taught in post-literacy. We faced challenges finding the funds necessary to print the materials we have produced in large quantities. Thanks to the support of Literacy & Evangelism International (LEI) in Tulsa, we have access to these materials on their website for free download. We are happy that we could download the primer while we were in Nampula, Mozambique, to start with.

I want to thank God for his great grace to me and Literacy Evangelism Malawi. I had a car which the church bought for me. I was using this car to travel to visit the literacy classes. The car was getting old. It was giving me a lot of problems when I did my visitations. I really appreciate God through Rev. Carey Jo Johnston for her hard work and raising funds for the ministry vehicle. Finally, I bought a vehicle for the ministry. I tried to buy a Nissan X-Trail, but the car I planned was already sold by the time I got the funds. Therefore, I managed to buy a Toyota Noah. It has eight seats including the driver.

The vehicle will help the ministry a lot. It will help me visit literacy classes. It will also help me to carry materials like primers, boxes of chalk, dusters and Bibles to the literacy classes.



*A Vehicle for the ministry.*

Languages	Number of trained master facilitators	Number of Literacy teachers	Total
Chewa	1	19	20
Sena	1	13	14
Macua	2	43	45
Total	4	75	79

**Table 2: Learners' participation in courses.**

Languages	Number of classes	Number of learners	Observations
Chewa	105	960	Literacy classes opened by the government are not taken into account.
Sena	146	1504	Literacy classes opened by the government are not taken into account.
Macua	44	440	These are classes opened by CAPRO Mission
Total	295	2904	

**Table 3: Financial Report**

Amount	Financing Structure	Purpose of the funding	Observations
\$1,209	Supporter	My personal support	I need prayers and God's intervention for my personal support. I do get \$100 per month which is very difficult for me to survive.
\$7,178.25	Literacy and Evangelism International	Air ticket and printing of Sena, Macua and Portuguese Primers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5575.26 for printing of Sena, Macua and Portuguese primers.</li> <li>• 1,602.99 for air ticket to Nampula</li> </ul>
\$4, 500	LEI- CANADA	Purchasing a Ministry vehicle	Pray for service, insurance, certificate

			of fitness, and tire funds for the vehicle.
--	--	--	---

**CONCLUSION:**

According to what I have seen during this time in my ministry, I find that there is hidden treasure. Literacy is a tool to open and vindicate the truth about the Word of God. Indeed, learning to read and write in local languages is very important to people in our communities here in Malawi. It is also an easy way to communicate the Gospel to the non-Christians around us.