

Opening the Door



*Empowering people;
making a radical
difference to lives.*

You could be a literacy specialist

Wycliffe has a concern for those who are without the Scriptures – but translating the Scriptures is not in itself enough. People need to be able to read and write so that they can use the translated Scriptures. The work of Bible translation and the work of literacy

go hand in hand. People who learn to read and write so that they can read the Bible also find a whole new world of opportunity opening up. Literacy work means giving people new opportunities so that their lives can change for the better.

What does a literacy worker do?

Literacy involves much more than just teaching people to read and write. It means the organisation of literacy programmes, training literacy teachers, producing materials for people to read and a whole lot more.

The literacy worker is always a facilitator who works in partnership with the local community, helping them learn new skills and take more control of their lives.

Learning to read and write makes a radical difference to communities. Lives change significantly when people can

- read the Bible for themselves
- avoid being cheated by unscrupulous traders

- read books which will help them look after their families better or grow better crops.
- assert their rights more effectively.

“I get very excited about literacy. It opens up a whole new world to people and there's so much potential for us to make a difference.”

Liz Thompson, Tanzania



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Qualifications

You would normally already have a degree or similar level qualification. You would be a committed Christian and part of an active Christian fellowship. You would be open to working with Wycliffe for 2 years or more.

Training

Training is offered through the European Training Programme (ETP).

First you will gain a broad understanding of what language work is and pick up a comprehensive toolkit of language learning and cultural adaptation tools through the *Language and Culture Acquisition* course.

Then you will be trained for the project you'll be doing, through a specific literacy track on the 11-week *Assignment Related Training* course.

For further information about the European Training Programme go to www.eurotp.org/uk

The opportunities

Much literacy work is done at village level – this involves living in a village, learning the language, and helping the community to get a literacy programme started.

Activities at this level range from the development of culturally relevant materials to running training workshops.

Or you could be part of a regional team offering training to people from a number of language groups. This is a key strategy for empowering many communities over a wide area.

As an increasing number of countries opt for bilingual education in the school system, there are new opportunities to promote literacy in both mother-tongue and national languages.

Establishing a bilingual education programme involves working with regional and local education officials to ensure their support. Materials have to be designed and regular training given to teachers so that they learn new methods.

What skills would you need?

Someone who works in literacy needs to be able to motivate, mobilise and organise others. Managing systems and people are also key elements of the job. However, as a team player you should possess a heart to see people succeed; and – crucially – be prepared to learn from those you serve.

If you relate well to different kinds of people, and believe in offering vital training to others who need it, we would like to talk to you.

Contact us on 01494 682256 or at recruitment_uk@wycliffe.org

Or complete the enquiry form at www.wycliffe.org.uk/literacy

Finance

Costs vary depending on where in the world you are working. We will help you draw up a budget for your particular situation.

Wycliffe positions are not salaried. Wycliffe personnel trust God to meet their needs through a team of prayer and financial partners: mission is done in partnership with the local sending church, and in

reliance on God who says he will provide all our needs according to his riches in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4.19).



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