

PYGMY REPORT - NOVEMBER 2025

WHEN GOD PREPARES THE GROUND FOR SOWING THE SEEDS...

(Way Alege)

Teaching the Word of God among the Pygmies has been the most difficult endeavour. Apart from the humanitarian organizations, different groups of people are investing in ministry towards the Pygmies. However, it is always hard for their staff to accept living among them. This approach remains unique for our staff, who not only share the Word but their daily lives as in a typical African village. This Anthropological approach gives our staff an opportunity to in-depth understanding about what make people hate living among or with the Pygmies. Among many factors are their nomad life, alcoholism, poor hygiene, poverty, violence, theft and many others.

Alcoholism can make the Pygmies violent. This is the case with the Pygmies of Ataloholu who are known to be the most violent in the area. In fact at the beginning, some people were not very happy that they were beneficiaries of settlement. However, we had no choice as we mentioned in one of our reports that the women from this camp are among the most prolific in the areas but their children are exposed to premature death (though the situation has improved significantly).

As far as the spiritual transformation of the Pygmies is concerned, it has been our prayers that



rapid transformation should occur. But we have come to the conclusion that it is not easy to understand God's ways. For instance, in the last four months, we have seen God working in a particular way. The major event is the breaking of the Pygmies into three different groups: First is the group composed of those who willingly decided to go back to Shaurimoya, Ataloholu and Kangakolo despite the poor security in the area. Having mastered the art of living in the forest since their childhood, it is rather easy for them to hide in case of danger. Though we did not like this breaking in the beginning, we have come to appreciate it because it is saving our properties from land grabbers. But the negative aspect is that they expect regular visit from the staff even if security is not guaranteed in the area.

Among those who have gone back to Ataloholu is **Adjoint**, one of the most violent Pygmies, but



a good farmer and fisherman. When not drunk, he cares for his family. His wife Dorica had already received and loves Jesus as mentioned in one of our reports. Other Pygmies also testify about how her lifestyle is unique. However, she is unable to live at Komanda because of the behaviour of her husband.

Second is the group composed of addicted alcoholic men and women who are not willing to farm or live in Komanda.

They sell their labor on a daily basis to timber loggers and end up spending their earnings on alcohol. They navigate between Komanda and places where there is timber logging.

Third is the group composed of those who have decided to live with the staff everywhere they go. They are right now in Komanda. Among them is another small sub-group of two men, one young man (not in the photo) and 5 women who love Jesus, join in prayers and the Bible study. It is amazing that one of the two ladies came to Robert and told him that she was feeling spiritually low and needed some times in prayers with him. This unexpected move is surprising compared to those days when the same lady would be among those who would actively invoke “Isumba”, the god of the forest.

This change has positively impacted the lives of ladies who are training to weave baskets. As a result, echoes of change of behaviour are being heard throughout Komanda compared to year 2022 when we first settled in Komanda.



In addition, the staff has gained credibility in the milieu. This is noticeable through the change of attitude of people towards the Pygmies. There is less discrimination in the neighborhood as well as in one of the hospitals.

This has brought positive results in the last 4 months. The team led by **Robert** was able to share the Word to a total number of 211 people (91 men and 120 women) in the neighborhood and at the hospital. Out of the 211, 4 gave their lives to Jesus and 2 will be baptized soon.

Skills Training ceremony with Samaritan Purse

In our April-September report, I mentioned that our vision sharing with Samaritan’s Purse led to sparking the Skills Training project. In November 13th, the Pygmy ladies were training to weave baskets when invited in a ceremony. We are thankful that they were able to come back with additional materials to reinforce the project.



Meeting with Bankoko Assembly elders



As mentioned in the October report, I was invited by the elders for vision sharing session at Bankoko Brethren Assembly on the 12th November.. The meeting went very well and the elders unanimously agreed to pray for the ministry, build the spiritual capacity of the staff and expand the ministry through evangelism to

the Brethren churches where the ministry towards the Pygmies was started by early Brethren missionaries. From **9th to 14th December**, I will be speaking about the ministry among the Pygmies for 2 hours in the evenings.

Education

At the beginning of this year we received a total of 132 students among whom there were



approximately 30 Pygmy children. However, with the dry season approaching, the number of drops among the Pygmy children is increasing because of fishing activities. In this season, river beds decrease, fishing becomes not only a means for survival but an occasion to meet with different relatives. Despite no guarantee for security, it is very difficult to restrain children from going fishing.

Also, as food is becoming scarce, it is always difficult to maintain the Pygmy children who are not living on the camp at Komanda with staff. This is not the case for those who live with staff because children under 5 and up to 12, are offered two meals a day. This practice has reduced malnutrition and death cases among children as well as maintaining others at school.

Praise God for:

- improvement in Shalom's health. Shalom is feeling much better (even though still some slight pain) and is now back in Komanda
- the successful meeting with elders in Bankoko church
- answered prayer for secure plot of land which we are able to lease and start planting vegetables to help with the food situation in Komanda

Pray for:

- the workshop that is to take place from **9th to 15th December**
- **A good harvest** from seeds planted in recently leased land near Komanda
- **wisdom and discernment**, that God will keep us walking in his will as we plan to team with Bankoko church
- **Bankoko** church because we feel that it is God's timing for them to be involved with the work and outreach in Komanda
- **Shalom's** total healing
- Way's **eldest brother** who is in his third week of coma and is on & off with oxygen
- **Spiritual revival** the Pygmies
- **completion of fencing** around the entire property to help with security



- **safety of the properties** of our staff. There are thieves who have been breaking into staff houses when they are mainly at school. The most recent victim is the head teacher who had many small items, including clothes, stolen.



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