

# Ruthie's Newsletter

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## Greetings from Dakar!

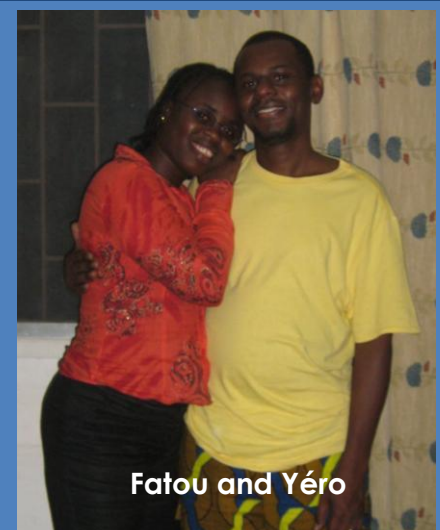
Thank you for all your prayers and encouragement over the last few months. David and I arrived in Dakar on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, and have enjoyed our first two months here. Orientation has been going well so far, and has included some fun trips – checking out the coffee shops in Dakar, taking a boat to Gorée Island, (formerly the last stop in Africa for slave ships), and visiting some SIL colleagues in Thiès, a town about two hours from the centre of Dakar. We have also been reading about Senegalese culture, observing translation checking sessions, and starting to learn Wolof.



**Fun public transport in Thiès!**

We have been taking Wolof lessons with a really good teacher who is great at explaining things clearly. We started off by learning greetings and how to negotiate a taxi fare, both of which are essentials for daily life here in Dakar! More recently we have learnt how to talk about our families, how to ask questions, and how to describe what we are doing, or what we did in the past. I am really enjoying learning a new language, but finding it hard to remember everything! David has stopped Wolof lessons now, as he recently moved down to Ziguinchor, where he will be focusing on learning Karon instead.

The highlight of our time here so far has been getting to know Fatou and Yéro, a recently married Senegalese couple. They have been helping us settle in to life here in Dakar, answering lots of our questions about culture, and teaching us to cook Senegalese food! It has been a real joy to get to know them, and they have made us feel very welcome here. We really appreciate their friendship, and are looking forward to getting to know them more over the coming months.



**Fatou and Yéro**

## Partnership

It would be great if you could partner with me over the coming months by praying for the following:

- Praise God for such an enjoyable start to life here in Dakar. Praise Him that daily life here has been more manageable and less stressful than I expected, and that David and I feel like we are settling in well.
- Praise God for Fatou and Yéro, for the blessing it has been to get to know them, for their friendship, and for their patience in explaining things to us! Please pray that our friendship with them would continue to grow over the coming months, and that we would be able to encourage each other and grow together in our faith.
- Praise God that learning Wolof has been a positive experience so far. Please pray for perseverance and patience as I try to take in all the new words and grammatical rules that we are learning. Please pray too that I would have the courage to actually speak Wolof to people outside of the classroom!
- Please pray for David and I over the coming months with him living in Ziguinchor, and then moving on to the Gambia. It is hard to get used to not seeing each other every day. Please pray for good communication while he is away, and that the Lord would continue to teach us many things in preparation for marriage.
- Finally, please pray that I would be able to fix my eyes on Jesus each day, and that I would grow in love for Him.

Over the past year I have been greatly encouraged by your interest in the work of Wycliffe, and by your prayers and financial support. If you would like more information about what I get up to over the coming months, or would like to partner with me financially, please email me on:

[ruth\\_jones@wycliffe.org](mailto:ruth_jones@wycliffe.org)

I would also love to be kept up to date with news from home, so feel free to drop me a wee line every so often! If you would rather receive future prayer letters by email, or not at all, please don't hesitate to let me know.

My postal address in Senegal is:

SIL  
B.P. 2075  
18524 Dakar  
SENEGAL  
West Africa

(If you do happen to send me a letter, please make sure it is sent airmail, as surface mail can take months to arrive! Also, please write the '7' with a wee line through it, or it may be confused with a '1'!)

My Skype name is [ruthie.jones2](#) – feel free to call!

Other useful addresses:

Home address:  
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*Thank you for all your prayers and support.  
With love in Christ,  
Ruth Jones*