



LÊVÊ LETTERS

From São Tomé & Príncipe

Special Note of Explanation

“LÊVÊ LÊVÊ” is a phrase used on São Tomé to represent the way of life or rather the philosophy that governs life here on the island.

LÊVÊ is a Forro word, which is the main dialect of São Tomé. The word means “light” or “easy”.

Literally the phrase means “light, light” or “easy, easy”, but it would be best stated in English as “easy going” or “take it easy”.

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Dear Praying Friends and Family

October 2018

We just finished our Prime Minister election campaign the last of September and things are returning back to normal. São Tomé’s governmental elections happen every 4 years and they are usually quite a “to-do”. The two things that the people here on the island really get excited about are 1) Soccer and 2) Politics. We praise the Lord though, that São Tomé is a lot different than most of Africa, when it comes to politics, mostly because of their laid back life-style. Yes they get excited and animated and even break out in shouting fights, but violence, though not unheard of, is not the norm.

This year, however, there were a lot of undercurrents, which some were afraid would boil over before the end. Our current Prime Minister is a self proclaimed muslim, and certain steps had been taken during his time in office, both politically and religiously, that left a lot of São Tomeans very concerned. No one was sure what the end result would be, but many were bathing the whole process in prayer and the Lord’s restraining hand was evident bringing everything to a peaceful conclusion. The end results were that, even though the current Prime Minister remains in power, his party lost its majority standing and therefore its power to make changes without opposition, which in and of itself is a blessing.

Moving on to ministry news, the church continues to stand firm. The flyers have been made up, printed and are being distributed. We haven’t had any new visitors yet but we are praying. We also looked at another potential church site in Ototó, right at the beginning of the town limits, but the Lord’s hand was not in it. We really are very thankful for your prayers for wisdom as we tread these waters. Our desire is that the Lord would be our clear guide in these matters even with the house project in the works, but it has to be all of Him.

Speaking of the house, things have been frustratingly slow as of late. Looking on the positive side of things, however, the Lord did direct us to a man within the public works sector who is, himself, a recognized architect and who has the connections and contacts necessary to get the job done. Yet while all of these things are definite advantages, they have not helped in light of the recent challenges. Even the brick making had to be put on hold because we do not know how long this process is going to take and we have no secure location to store the bricks as we make them on site. And rather risk them being stolen while we wait, it was decided that the best route was to simply be patient.

Where has all the hold up been coming from? Electricity!! Due to various reasons namely politics, low fuel, and broken generators, the whole country has been going through a bit of an electrical crisis with frequent and prolonged outages ranging from 24 to 72 hours. The past two or three weeks we have been averaging about 4 - 5 hours of electricity per day - not always at one time either. Everyone has been affected from your average citizen to major businesses to government buildings and even the hospitals. And because the design and engineering aspects of the house blueprints have to be done on computer, it has presented a major delay in getting everything done. We have been in constant contact with the architect and we know that he is working on things, often during the middle of the night when the electricity happens to be on, but it has still been a great difficulty. We would greatly appreciate your prayers in this matter, not just for us and our house plans, but for the country as a whole, that the electric situation would stabilize.

Thank you again for your faithful prayers and support as we continue pressing forward here on São Tomé and Príncipe.

Your Servants for His Service,

Doug + Amanda Claypool

The Claypools
Doug, Amanda, Morgan, Kaitlyn and Sean



THE CLAYPOOLS

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MISSION STATEMENT

Primary Objective:

Indigenous Church
Planting

Accomplished By:

- Leading People to Christ
- Discipleship
- Training of Local Pastors & Church Leaders

Methods Used:

- English Classes
- Bible Studies
- Gospel Literature
- Children’s Clubs
- Any means by which God gives us an open door to reach our people

End Goal:

To see strong, grounded, missions minded churches that are self-governing, self-propagating and self-supporting, established throughout the islands, able to grow and perpetuate themselves regardless of the presence of a missionary or outside help.



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FLORA & FAUNA

BUTTERFLIES & MOTHS



Honestly we are not even sure if this one is a butterfly but it is still pretty neat looking.

VOCABULARY

Listen

English: Bread

Portuguese: Pão
[POWn]

Forro: Mpon
[MPOHn]

LANGUAGE STUDIES

Accent Marks Pt. 2 The Tilde → ~

The tilde is a rather interesting accent mark. It appears in different languages, but is probably best known in its Spanish form "ñ" - Señor. Portuguese also uses the tilde but in an entirely different way than Spanish.

- First off it is never placed over a consonant, only over the vowels "a" and "o".

- Secondly it always indicates when a nasal sound should be used in speaking. Remember, in the last issue, we talked about using the back of the tongue to make the nasal sound? Now you can really put that into practice.

ÃO - The most common usage is "ão", but it is also used with "õe" and "ã"

Hold your nose closed and say the word "pound". Now hold your nose and only say the vowel parts: "oun". That should give you an idea of how it sounds.

Now try saying these words: - saint, -no, -bread

Holding your nose is good to get the idea but of course you can't go around like that every day. Now try the same sounds lifting the back of your tongue for the nasal. If you've forgotten how, slowly say the words "song" and "bang" to refresh your memory and do the same thing that you do for the "n" in those words.

ÕE -

OIN in Coin - will give you a good idea of how this sounds. The end is a lot tighter like the "n" in "sing" so you need to lift the back of your tongue just a little bit higher

Practice using this word: -he/she puts

Ã -

This one is only used in a couple of places and really has nothing similar in English. Say only the UN in Sung and it will give you an idea. (don't forget to lift the back of your tongue)

Practice using these words: -apple **The "ç" sounds just like an "s"***

-orphan girl

-orphan boy (pronounced just like 'orphan', but change the last sound to match the "ão" or the "ã")

Double click on the vocabulary words to hear them pronounced