



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

July 2019

Praise the Lord the house plans are finished and approved!! After 6 months of praying and waiting we finally received all of the finished paperwork with all of the necessary permits. What an answer to prayer! Thank you all so very much for your prayers throughout this whole process. And as an added blessing the Lord brought us through with no exaggerated or “extra” fees.

We knew that the Lord was working, though we could not always see how. We have, however, since learned that His strong hand had removed workers who were impeding progress, protected us from exaggerated fees, and shielded us from errors in the engineer’s calculations that were quickly fixed. What a great and powerful God we serve!

The first phase has been completed, and we have already moved on to phase 2 - Preparations. We have already spoken to a friend, Sanu, who has experience in this area, and he is helping us to work out a cost estimation for the house and has already started to talk to workers that he knows, to have a potential crew ready if we choose to use them. Please pray for both us and Sanu as we work together to find the best way to precede and get a working knowledge of what supplies are available now and which ones appear to remain available for the foreseeable future.

We are excited beyond words to have reached this point but also wish to precede with wisdom and prudence, and would very much appreciate your prayers as we move forward to seeing this goal realized. We hope to be able to begin working within the next month, and our plan is to focus on the property wall first to add a measure of security to the rest of the work involved. After that we will focus on the house itself leveling the land and setting a good foundation so that the rest of the house can go up as quickly as possible.

We have also seen a couple more visitors come in to church, with one in particular coming back off and on. He is a friend of Laiju, one of the young men that was baptized, and he is following a very typical pattern: There enough to show interest, but not enough to generate pressure for a commitment - something which we never do, but is widely practiced in other churches here. The truth is that almost all of our people went through the same pattern until the Lord got hold of their hearts and they decided to come on a regular basis. This particular young man has some Bible knowledge and once belonged to the Adventist church in his community. Please pray with us that his heart will be open and attentive to the Lord’s working.

Concerning a church property, we had asked for wisdom and clarity as we looked at different possibilities. And we can say without reservation that the Lord has done exactly that. So far none of the properties brought to our attention had viable titles, meaning that they were either unclear as to who was the actual owner or they had never actually been registered and hence were still considered State property and unavailable to be resold. But, though we were disappointed, we are thankful for the Lord’s clear leading. We know that the right property will come to us at the right time and it will be clear when it does.

Thank you again for all of your support both financial and prayer wise as we continue laboring for our Lord here in São Tomé and Príncipe.

Your Servants for His Service,

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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AGRICULTURE

THE KOLA NUT



Kola is an extremely bitter fruit/nut that grows in pods on the Kola tree. It is also plays important roles in cultural rites throughout Western Africa.

Many São Tomeans in the interior will eat Kola in the morning because they say it staves off their hunger until the evening when they eat their 2nd meal of the day.



As an interesting point of trivia, Kola was one of the original ingredients in Coca-Cola, probably for its caffeine, but also leaving its mark on the name of soft drinks in general. Depending on what part of the U.S. you are from, you can get a Cola at just about any store or restaurant.



Growing in a pod that is similar to cocoa, the white and pink varieties all grow together.



Because of its high caffeine content Kola or Kola extract is often used as a “natural” ingredient in energy drinks and snacks.



LANGUAGE STUDIES

Accent Marks Pt. 5

-The Acute Accent Pt. 2-

VOCABULARY

Listen

THE ACUTE ACCENT “ ´ ” Part 2

Continuing with our study of the use of accent marks in Portuguese, in this article we are going to cover the 2nd purpose of the acute accent: (2) Indicating when an “open” pronunciation should be used.

As we mentioned in the last article, the acute accent can occur over any vowel, however, its affect on pronunciation is most readily seen when used over the “E” and the “O”. Check out the examples below:

vs.

Seu = masculine form of Your/Yours
Céu = Heaven

vs.

Avó = Grandmother
Avô = Grandfather
**the circumflex “ ^ “ will be in the next lesson*

In both examples the basic pronunciation of the words is the same but the acute accent creates a more open sound of the indicated syllable/word. You’re probably wondering:

“What exactly does an “open” sound mean in terms of pronunciation?”.

Good question, and putting it simply, it means you have to open your mouth up more. How? By rounding and widening the mouth more and dropping the tongue to the bottom, thereby creating a more “open” space for resonance.

To see this better let’s try some practical training.

Do this for me: Pretend you are at the doctor’s office and “open wide and say AHHHH!” -Don’t forget his hand is in your mouth and that popsicle stick is pushing your tongue down, so open big and tuck your tongue.



Now, while you are saying a doctor pleasing AHHHHH!, slowly close your mouth and raise your tongue to their normal position. But keep the AHHHHH! going the whole time.

Did you hear the change? Granted it is a bit exaggerated but it gives you an good idea of the difference an “open” sound can make. Try it with other vowels too. You will find that with some vowels there’s hardly any difference and others are just impossible to do because they are naturally closed.

English: Cola

Portuguese: Cola
[KAW-lah]
*’aw’ in law

Forro: Kola
[KAW-lah]
*’aw’ in law

Pronuciation Key:

~Say the syllables together smoothly

~Capitals indicate a stressed syllable