



GREETINGS FROM NIGERIA

BULUS ALI

SUM-CRC
P.O. Box 261 Jos
Plateau State, Nigeria
E: bulusali@yahoo.co.uk

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LITERACY TRANSFORMS KUMBO COMMUNITY

Kumbo is a community in Donga Local Government Area in Taraba State of Nigeria. Like most communities in the rural areas, most of its inhabitants are peasant farmers. The majority of people in this community are Christians.

A good number of men are literate but most women are illiterate. As is the case in most rural areas, the girl is neglected when it comes to education. Most parents would rather spend the little money they have on educating the boys whom they believe will stay with the family than spend the money on the girl who will soon grow up and be married away from the family. The result of this is that the bulk of the women in Kumbo are illiterate.

About three years ago the Diaconal Ministry introduced this community to the diaconal literacy program. The womenfolk took the program by storm. An overwhelming majority of the participants in this program are women who never had the opportunity to go to formal school. After three years of literacy work, transformation is slowly beginning to take place. Now most of the participants can read and write.

A recent visit to the community impressed me greatly. One after another, women stood up to demonstrate their ability to read and write. They exude confidence as they tell the story of their newly acquired power.



They can read the Bible, and sing from the Hausa hymnbook. They can participate more actively in the life of the church and community. This also has influenced their businesses as it enables them to keep better records and move with confidence to places where their businesses take them.

Thank you for your partnership that makes this transformation possible.

Sincerely in the Lord,

*Bulus Ali,
Diaconal Ministry Nigeria*



CRWRC

CANADA: 3475 MAINWAY, PO BOX 5070, STN LCD 1, BURLINGTON, ON L7R 3Y8
USA: 2850 KALAMAZOO AVE., SE, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49560-0600
VISIT US AT WWW.CRWRC.ORG