

## Role of Aggregator. Making BM Christian Material Widely Accessible

"I don't know that we have Christian books written in BM. Imported Bahasa Indonesia books are expensive and the language is not easy to understand," said Jenny when she saw books in BM on display during a Christian concert recently. "We have no choice but have to get books from Indonesia... Being confiscated a few times upon arrival. Most alarming one is probably the wrong teaching penetrating our churches through imported books. Popularity does not ensure sound teaching," a BM pastor from Klang Valley commented.

There are many Malaysian Christians who could write quality sound teaching books. But unlike English or Chinese Christian books, they aren't freely sold at bookstores. "We used to have books in BM...however we were frustrated when our books were confiscated. That drove us to become English books distributor instead," lament a Christian bookstore owner.

So, where can we get Christian books in BM?

"Our organization translates good Christian readings into small booklets, and priced them at a very minimal cost. But still we have readers from Sabah and Sarawak beyond our reach..." a publisher commented.

"We used to bring in BM books from West Malaysia to East Malaysia, but being confiscated at the port a few times made us turn into distribute English Christian books and CDs instead," said yet another distributor.

"I have written and translate some materials into BM, but so far I can print some hundreds of copies and market them in the city churches from my denomination only. I yet find a solution how to introduce them to Sarawak and West Malaysia," one writer cum self-publisher from Kota Kinabalu said.

Recently we attended a meeting on Christian literature for children. The excellent materials were distributed free of charge to churches. But they too, just like Wawasan Penabur, need the churches to be the hands and legs to distribute the materials widely.

How can the 65% of the total Christian population in Malaysia who are Bahasa-speakers gain access to Christian materials?

Wawasan Penabur plays the role of Barnabas in encouraging local publishers to pursue their vision in publishing. We attempt to enhance the publishing ministry through close fellowship among writers, translators, publishers and pastors.

A few words...

Dear friends,



It has been an exciting journey for Wawasan Penabur since the last Rakan Penabur Meeting. "Walk the talk," that's what we have been doing since Wawasan Penabur was set-up.

Through our aggregator role (with the help from BM Commission of NECF), we have linked readers and churches from Sabah to access Bahasa books from the publishers and writers in West Malaysia. Tens and hundreds of books being distributed through the forms we gave out.

And we have published 4 books under Wawasan Penabur :the **OBOR Remaja & OBOR Belia** series. They are available cheaply at RM 6.00 each.

Since mid-September, we have disseminated more than a thousand of our books to Sabah, Sarawak and Semenanjung; and the responses were very encouraging.

To keep all our Rakan update, we have also launched our website recently at <http://www.wawasanpenabur.org>.

Enjoy this issue and be challenged. We love to hear from you.

*Berita Rakan Penabur* is an electronic publication of Wawasan Penabur containing news and information about our work and new Christian resources in Bahasa Malaysia.

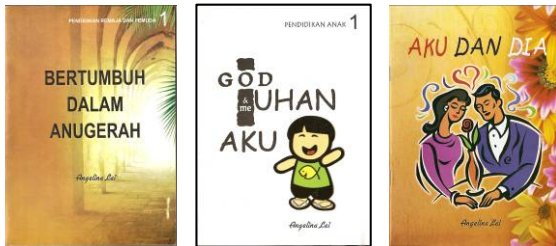
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## Resources

### New books from Wawasan Penabur



**OBOR Remaja** is a five-year integrated and systematic curriculum for youths (13-18 years). A total of 30 books have been planned for these 5-year discipleship materials. It had a successful track record in systematically teaching and challenging young people – using creative and practical methods – to grow their faith as disciples of Jesus Christ. Book 4 onwards is also suitable for adults. It is priced cheaply at **RM 6** each.



### 3 new books from Kuching...

Contact Angelina Lai at [al\\_rppl@yahoo.co.id](mailto:al_rppl@yahoo.co.id).

**Tuhan dan Aku.** 40 lessons for Sunday Schools. **RM 10.**

**Bertumbuh Dalam Anugerah.** 22 lessons ideal for one-to-one follow up or youth group study. **RM 6.**

**Aku dan Dia.** is written specifically for couples. **RM 5.**

One of our key roles is making new books known to Bahasa churches and also connecting readers and publishers. Consequently, we help writers and publishers who work in very challenging situation in making their work accessible to the readers.

Please pray along with us as we:

- inspire publishers in their role of publishing books to meet the ripen field.
- connect writers and translators to the publishers.
- aggregate books to meet the needs of the Bahasa churches.
- build interactive relationship with Bahasa churches in order to know their needs.
- produce books to meet the urgent needs of the younger generation.
- preserving and conserving the ministry of the written words through exciting days.

You can work along with us as partners by purchasing our books at low cost and bringing it to the interiors of East Malaysia if you are going on a mission trip. To reach the Bahasa churches scattered all over Malaysia, we need extra hands and feet!

## Facts and Figures

- Books from Indonesia are no longer easily accessible and available since late 1980-s.
- Because of limited supply, Indonesian books are more expensive than imported English and Chinese Christian books.
- Christians have no choice but to buy Indonesian books even though there are huge differences between the two languages.

**Therefore, we urge more people to write more BM books to meet the vast needs of the BM churches. More and more people are writing Christian books in BM. And if you are one of them, please contact us!!**

Wawasan Penabur's ministry is to provide quality Christian books in BM cheaply and widely. **How can you help?**

- Books to Sabah & Sarawak are heavily subsidized. You and your church could sponsor some books to our Bahasa-speaking brethren in the interior.
- A total of 30 books have been planned for OBOR Remaja/Belia. Each book requires funds for writing, translating, printing and distributing. You and your church could help fund this project.
- Books need to be brought directly to the readers especially in Sabah & Sarawak. You could help if you are on a business, holiday and mission trip to East Malaysia.
- You could share the news about Wawasan Penabur to others!

## Some Announcements

### ◆2nd Week of December

Small scale Wawasan Penabur Thanksgiving Dinner. Check our website for the date & venue.