Zo Speakers Around the World Can Now Watch JESUS

The most translated film of all time is now available in its 2,000th translation: Zo, a language spoken by approximately 65,000 people globally, including refugee and immigrant communities in 28 U.S. cities.

Myanmar, where Zo is mainly spoken, is a primarily Buddhist country, and people report experiencing discrimination for their religious beliefs. Access to economic opportunities can be drastically limited. As a result, many of the Zo people are now scattered around the world. Jesus Film Project marked the JESUS film's debut in Zo by hosting screening events for local Zo refugees and immigrants in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia; and Fort Wayne, Indiana; all of which have large Zo communities.

Though a Zo translation of the Bible was completed in 2019, it hasn't been printed in Myanmar yet, and many of the Zo are unable to read. This translation of *JESUS* provides a way for Zo speakers to have access to the story of Jesus in their language in a format they can understand.

"Being able to release JESUS in Zo is the payoff of years of innovation and dedication," said Josh Newell, executive director of Jesus Film Project. "The most dignified thing that we can do is share the story of Jesus in a way that people can understand, and in a way that doesn't need any translation. We're excited for what the future holds as we continue to translate this life-changing story."

First released in 1979, JESUS gives an authentic portrayal of one of the most influential figures in human history. Since then, Jesus Film Project has partnered with thousands of translators, recording teams, voice actors and partners to make JESUS and other Jesus-centric videos available to everyone and everywhere in every language. JESUS has been seen by more than 10 billion people around the world and remains the only film to be dubbed into more than 2,000 languages. (Typical animated films are translated for 35-40 territories, while live-action blockbuster films are usually translated into just 12-15 languages.)

For more information about JESUS and Jesus Film Project, visit jesusfilm.org.

MEDIA NOTE: To request an interview, email <u>cru@guardian.agency</u>. For more information about *JESUS* and Jesus Film Project, including a list of *JESUS* translations, visit <u>the online newsroom</u>.