Multilingual Adventures on Wikia
By Yatta (User:Yatalu) — July 13, 2016
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Job Title: Community Volunteer ~ Dutch (NL) Helper
Start Date @ Wikia: July 13, 2011 // Helper since Sep, 2013

FANDOMS:

- Wikia Language Brigade
- Dutch Community Central
- Historie Wiki (manga)
- Japanese *Love Live!* Wiki
- Role Play Wiki
- Hvetshran Wikis
Localizing as IVT

What and how do Staff / Helpers localize?
WHO ARE WE?

● International team
  ○ Staff: DE, ES, JA, PT, ZH, RU, FR…
  ○ Helpers: DE, ES, FI, FR, IT, JA, KO, NL, PL, RU, VI, …

● Characteristics
  ○ Bilingual (or multilingual!)
  ○ Work to help & develop the Wikia community of our language
WHAT DO WE TRANSLATE?

- Public side
  - Central community
  - Regular wikis
- Internally
  - Wikia interface
  - Related: apps, ...

- But: not all we do is translating!

*Disclaimer: from Yatalu’s experience*
PUBLIC SIDE

Community Central:

- Staff blogs (technical and other)
- Help pages
- Forum announcements
PUBLIC SIDE

Regular wikis:
- Articles (from EN version)
- Templates, …
- Aside from translating: redesign, user support, enabling features or extensions, coding, CSS, …

Wiki choice:
- trending topics
- inactive wikis with “potential”
Q: "Why?"
A: Because it does make a difference.
INTERNALLY

● What we translate
  ○ Wikia interface: website, new features, ...
  ○ Apps (e.g. Lyrically)

● How we translate
  ○ Crowdin!
INTERNALLY

● Questions?

Crowdin Q&A: send to Lucho Valenzuela
  ● [http://www.wikia.com/wiki/Special:Contact](http://www.wikia.com/wiki/Special:Contact) (put his name in the title!), OR
  ● directly via his e-mail [lucho@wikia-inc.com](mailto:lucho@wikia-inc.com)
What is the Wikia Language Brigade (WLB) and how can they help?
WIKIA LANGUAGE BRIGADE

- URL: http://wlb.wikia.com/

- The Wikia Language Brigade (WLB) is…
  - … a team of Wikians (“Brigadiers”) who do translations and language corrections in the languages they know, at request of other Wikians.
WLB: HOW IT CAME TO BE

- July 2011: Yatalu joined Wikia to make hvetshran.wikia.com

- Feb 2013: “founding craze”
- But: soon inactive (´・ω・´)
- Inner Yatalu: “Don’t others have this problem too?”
- July 2013: made the WLB!

- July 2016: 300+ members who speak ~60 languages
WLB: HOW CAN WE HELP

● What do we do?
  ○ Translations: Translate:Requests
  ○ Corrections: Correct:Requests

● What to request?
  ○ Wikia articles, templates, ...
  ○ Source material (sites, tweets, …)
  ○ UI of dev.wikia or other scripts
  ○ Global user profiles
LET’S MAKE A REQUEST

- E.g.: a game review (Japanese) for Setsuna Wiki
What can you do?

Challenges & adventures on wikis where you do not speak the language
SHARING THOUGHTS

- You should have a group (→cards!)
- Each group gets 1 question to discuss together
- Decide on a group leader (with e.g. rock-paper-scissors) to present at the end
- After 5~10m, each group shares their thoughts with everyone
Q1

“If your wiki has another language as source, how would you get (early) access to source material? Would you wait until translations are out? Do these translations have to be official?”
Q2

“If your wiki’s theme is officially released in another language, is it good/beneficial to have an in-house translator? Is it manageable or what difficulties could you encounter?”
Q3

“Can Google Translate be a useful tool when trying to help out a wiki where you don’t speak the language? What should it (not) be used for? What (dis)advantages does it have?”
Q4

“If you find a baby wiki on a topic that you’re really passionate about, but where you can’t speak the language: is adoption an option? What are the pros to adopting the wiki, and what problems may arise?”
Q5

“What would advantages/difficulties be of non-English editors working on an English wiki? What would advantages and difficulties be of working on a wiki in one’s own language?”
The End

Thank you for your time ヾ(°ワ°)ノ