

Newsletter No. 3 2022 from KMCH Support Group

Bromma September 16 2022

Hello, Namaste and Thashi Delek

From the school home

There has been a big change at the school home this spring/summer. Our two teachers Jagat Buda and Pema Kunchen, who have been with us since 2014 and 2017 respectively, have both married and thus chosen to quit the school home. Jagat Buda was a "higher class teacher" and a teacher even at the children's school. A position he also left. Pema Kunchen was a "lower class teacher" and teacher only at the school home. When he wasn't teaching, he was working on our tree planting project, TPP. Pema will remain in the village of Yangar where the school home is located and support the continued work with TPP.

Replacing Jagat Buda is Chime Dolma Lama. She's 21. She hails from the village of Tumkot north of the school home. She has studied at a school for Tibetan children in India. She is very proficient in both English and Tibetan. Knowledge that is important to our children. Chime will also teach at the children's school.

Replacing Pema is Tseten Dolma Lama. She is 24 years old and comes from the village of Chala southwest of the school home. She, too, has studied at a Tibetan school in India. When she's not teaching at the school home, she'll be working with TPP.

This year, there have been many children at school and at the school home who have been infected with chickenpox. When you live 8-10 in each room, it is difficult to prevent an infection. We lack space to isolate infected children from the healthy ones. For this, a special building is required. In connection with the epidemic, a team of doctors came to the health clinic at the children's school. They also made visits to the school home.

Below are our two new teachers in front of a group of children as well as pictures from the doctors' visits to the school home.



Last fall, 12 of our children graduated from grade 10. The largest number to date. They have now received the results of the test – SLC – that may entitle them to continue studying. All twelve passed the exam well. One of our students got the second-best result of everyone who wrote the exam in our school. A total of 39 children from KMCH have now graduated from grade 10, including 19 girls. If we only count the last three years, there are 28 of which 17 are girls.

In 2019, we increased the number of children in the school home by 20, from 47 to 67. In connection with this, the school in Yalwang has been involved in selecting children from the queue for KMCH. The school has a broader view of the situation in Humla than KMCH. This has meant, among other things, that several children have come from remote villages often raised in a Hindu context. It has been found that several of the children from remote villages have left the school home before graduating from grade 10. Many have been forced to quit school to participate in work on their families' farms. KMCH is now working together with the school to be able to more clearly motivate parents to let the children continue their education.

Nowadays, in many villages there is an opportunity to study until grades 2 and 3. At that age, it is important to live close to your family and not live in a school home far from home. Not accepting very young children from remote villages could be one of the changes. However, living in a school home is a prerequisite for most people who want to study up to grade 10.

Time at the school home does not only consist of play. There is a lot of work with, for example, laundry and on our kitchen gardens and in our greenhouses. The new lights make studying easier when it's dark outside. They can be used both in homework in the classroom and in bedrooms. When we have created a library, there may even be some time for reading other books than schoolbooks during dark evenings.



From pictures that we have received from the school home, it seems that the cultivation of vegetables has been very successful this year. It looks much better than in pictures we have received in previous years. We note this with pleasure. For this, we can thank our new chef, who has inspired and motivated our children to work methodically both on our kitchen gardens and in our greenhouses. Below are some examples.



Exhibition in Kathmandu

As we have informed in our previous newsletter, it is now clear that there will be an exhibition at the Taragaon Museum in Kathmandu about KMCH and Humla. It will run from January 23 to 29. It is primarily aimed at schoolchildren and several schools have already shown their interest.

Now we have a lot of work ahead of us to make this exhibition as appreciated as the one we had at Ekebyhov Castle last spring. It was a good start of the work when some of us met at Pär ´s home in Bäckland for a few days in early September.

The museum is an experience architecturally. Anyone who wants to see more is referred to www.taragaonmuseum.com.

Current information on politics and more in Nepal (Italo)

In Nepals upcoming national and regional election (november 20th) the parties are desperately seeking new ways and new allies to gain power. Old enemies can suddenly be the best of friends. We have just seen the same here in Sweden. Many

times, it is a pathetic show. For a poor and struggling country like Nepal it is especially important to have a stable government. After the last election the NCP, Nepal Communist Party and the Maoist party had an excellent opportunity to implement changes of the Nepalese society, changes that most Nepalis could benefit from. There was no lack of good ideas. But it was more important to fight for their own power positions. After three years of more or less chaos the Nepal Supreme Court ordered Prime minister Oli to resign. A new coalition with Nepali Congress, the Maoist party, a new Socialist party and two other small parties took over the government.

In Kathmandu, the new mayor is Balen Shah. He does not represent any of the big traditional parties, he did not have the big money behind him, he did not have the business contacts, he did not buy votes. He did not have any real party organisation behind him. And yet Balen Shah won a significant majority of the votes in Kathmandu. People were just fed up with the old corrupt gang, who has been running the show for so long.

Balen Shah is a symbol for something new. How he now will carry out his promises remains to be seen. He certainly has powerful enemies. Maybe his greatest strength is the big popular support he gained from the Kathmandu public.

Support KMCH and at the same time feel free to renew your membership or become a new member of KMCH Support Group. We are very grateful for all the contributions.

A membership costs SEK100. Payment can be made separately or together with a gift, but do not forget to let us know if you want to become a member. Enter your email address or postal address.

Support to KMCH Support Group can be paid to our bank on: BIC-SWEDSESS IBAN-SE57 8000 0832 7990 4500 6518, or by PayPal. We are very grateful for all contributions.

Greetings from the Board of Directors of

KMCH Support Group

by
Hans



Finishing with a picture of some apple trees, which, despite their youth, bear abundant fruit.

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