

Newsletter No. 4 2022 from KMCH Support Group

Bromma December 20

2022

Hello, Namaste and Thashi Delek

From the school hostel

We currently have no special news from the school hostel. The autumn has been good, and all the children have been healthy and studied diligently both at school and the hostel. Soon it will be time for the children to walk home to their villages for winter holidays. They will return sometime in February/March when the snow and weather permit. We will get more details when the report from KMCH Nepal for the year 2022 comes in February next year.



Nowadays, the road to the school is not a path anymore but a car route

The recently started agricultural line at the school seems to have been a success. You can start to study agriculture already in grade 9. Twelve students are now in grade 9 and 34 in grade 10. Five students from KMCH are studying in the agricultural line.



Last year, many investments were completed. Above we see storage boxes to protect food from mice, etc. and a dough mixer to facilitate the work for the chef.

Report from a visit to the school hostel in Nepal. (Anders Olofsson)

In early October, a group from Umeå visited the school hostel in Yangar. Since the children were on holiday, we were received and welcomed by the director Lhapka and his family.

Although the weather was sometimes very rainy, it was a very successful stay. The last time anyone from Sweden visited the school hostel was in 2019, and since then a lot has happened.

It was impressive to see all the progress that the director, along with the staff and children at the hostel, has achieved. New greenhouses full of various vegetable gardens, improvement of storage and kitchen and new kitchen appliances. For example, they have acquired a dough kneader and pasta machine that is widely used because they eat a lot of pasta there.

The facilities for hygiene have also been significantly developed, which of course makes a big difference for the residents. They have improved toilets and built new showers that are heated by solar cells, one for girls and one for boys, and mounted water taps outside that provide washing facilities for even more people. At the end of the stay, the children came back from the holidays and on departure they entertained us with song and dance which was appreciated by everyone.

It's great to see that the money we contribute really makes a difference on the ground, and we are so grateful that we once again had the opportunity to visit the school hostel.



View of the school hostel. We see the two large houses where the children sleep, eat and study. In the background we see some warehouse buildings, the kitchen and the new greenhouse. On the far left is the shower house.

Our toilets as well as the first greenhouse are obscured behind shrubbery and houses.

Christmas market at Ekebyhov Castle on Ekerö

On Sunday, November 27, there was a Christmas market at Ekebyhov Castle. Eddy, who had carpentered birdhouses, Santa Claus, and Christmas angels, applied for a marketplace for KMCH. Crocheted and knitted products made by Kerstin and Lillemor were sold too.

It made a really good addition to KMCH. Many thanks to Eddy, Monica, Italo, Kerstin and others.



Italo and Kerstin in the sales team.

Exhibition at the Taragaon Museum in Kathmandu. (Italo)

As we 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 23 to 29 January.

During visits to Kathmandu, we have often asked young people what are their thoughts on Humla. From the answers, we have understood that their knowledge of Humla is often quite low. It's not really that strange. If we ask young people in Sweden, or anyone, about their knowledge of Sapmi (original inhabitants in the north of Sweden), the answers will probably be rather vague.

The idea was born to primarily make an exhibition aimed at school groups. So far, we have received the go-ahead from three schools and we are hoping for a few more school groups. In the different parts of the exhibition, visitors will meet, among other things, a photo exhibition that depicts how KMCH's school hostel grew and what a normal day looks like for the students at KMCH's school hostel.

We will also describe the culture of the area. That part writes Chembal and Sonam. The Living Tradition Museum has promised that we can borrow utility items from Humla. In addition, it will be a department where we discuss, among other things, climate change.

We will show Gustavs Nord's fine film from 2016 and also a slideshow, that photographer Jonathan Stenvall does. Most of the photographs are of Jonathan. He was with us to Humla 2019. He has since made several trips in Nepal's isolated areas.

Our idea is that the school groups will also meet young people from KMCH's school hostel, young people who are now studying in Kathmandu. We think that question and answer session will be very interesting for the visitors.

But of course we hope that many others will come and rejoice in KMCH's work in Humla.

The museum is an experience purely architecturally. See the museum's website, www.taragaonmuseum.com.

Up-to-date information on politics and more in Nepal (Italo)

On the twentieth of November there were parliamentary elections and elections to the parliaments of the seven provinces. The results show that the Nepal Congress and the Communist Party NCP-UML will also be the largest parties in the national parliament for the next five years. But neither party gets its own majority and again some kind of coalition government must be formed.

What that government will look like is uncertain. But just like here, old enemies can suddenly become best friends. However, the major newspapers are leaning towards Congress and the Maoist Party and a few other smaller parties continuing to govern. Then we will see if they are able to deal with the enormous problems plaguing Nepali society. It must be painful for young Nepalese to watch, year after year, the old corrupt guard cling to its positions of power.

But something interesting happened in this spring's local elections when Balen Shah challenged the old political establishment. Balen Shah had no political organization behind it. But he won the Kathmandu mayoral election with a reassuring majority. Kathmandu's population showed their displeasure with the old corrupt old men.

The parliamentary elections also showed that perhaps something new is afoot in Nepal. A newly formed party, the RSP, challenged the old parties. The party was formed last spring by Rabi Laminchane, a well-known media profile. The party won great successes, but could not threaten the two great colossi.

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

wishes the Board of Directors of

KMCH Support Group

by
Hans



Anders Olofsson from the Olofsson Family Foundation, which is KMCH's main sponsor, visited the school hostel with two friends last autumn. As usual, they received a stately reception with dancing and singing.

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