

Ekerö in Oktober 2012

Newsletter No. 4, 2012

Hello, Tashi Delek and Namaste

We hope that the summer has been good and that the weather has been satisfactory for those who only have a few weeks for recreation. Four-fifths of the Board of the Support Group travelled some weeks in July in the Balkan states. There we met the heat that has covered southern Europe almost all summer. Then it was nice to spend a few days in the Albanian mountains.

In Sweden we have not worked so hard for KMCH during the summer. We have unfortunately not made any progress regarding Facebook and the new homepage. We hope to be able to start the work with these projects as soon as possible.

In Humla they have on the contrary worked hard. Chembal has been there all summer and in particular worked with our new hostel building. We have had contact once in July when he was in Simikot, the main town of Humla, on short visits to read e-mails etc. He arrived in Kathmandu on 30 August and departed to the United States on September 14. He will stay there for two months. He is invited by the friend in New York who paid for his trip to Sweden in 2010. He will also meet with a friend in Colorado and he will show a photo exhibition about Humla and KMCH in Seattle. We have no more information today. Chembal will leave a report on his visit in USA later this year.

Chembal has sent a "Progress Report for 2012" regarding the activities so far this year and a Financial Report for the first eight months. Below you can read some information from the Progress Report

Latest news about the children in KMCH

Chembal has in the Progress Report written that our children, as usual, have achieved very good results at school. In Nepal they have a practice to rank the children in different contexts in a way that we are not used to do in Sweden. The children from KMCH are generally ranked high in their respective classes. Best student among students in class 7 was a boy from the KMCH. They have also done very well in other activities organized within and/or outside school such as quiz, debate, health-care projects, poetry competitions, etc.

Sechu Dolma Lama from the KMCH won first prize in a poetry contest among students in class 5. The title of the poem is "Mother". The translation from Nepali to English could be better, but the spirit of the poem is easily understood. This is the version we got.

Sechu Dolma Lama gets her prize for the poem by the Chairman of the School Board.



"MOTHER"

In the world why all the things can find but Mother can't find.
How give us love and grown up by the crossing the many difficulty and struggle.
How give us honest love mother, for all of us.
All the sadness bear by yourself and all the happiness give us.
You keep us nine month into your body.
You keep us in the bottom of hearts always.
You sent us to school for the education and the bright future of us.
You are teaching us very good words, activities and talking us very sweet words.
You are giving us very delicious foods and nice clothes instead of you wear yourself.
Because of your kindness love we have very good heart for the other peoples.

Nice, beautiful and worth considering is my opinion.

Our impressions when we visited Yangar last year was that the children were very happy to be in the hostel and that they were awake and candid. Chembals report reinforces us in this sense. Many parents in Humla want their children to come to KMCH. Now there live 35 children in the hostel. I do not understand how they fit all, but they are not used to have as much own space as we. Below you can see the current distribution of boys and girls and in which classes they go.

KMCH Number of students in hostel 2012:

P. N	Boys	Girls	Grade	Total
1	0	2	U.K.G	2
2	2	8	1	10
3	3	2	2	5
4	2	6	3	8
5	2	1	4	3
6	2	1	5	3
7	2	1	6	3
8	1	0	7	1
Total	14	21	Seven	35

A new teacher to KMCH

Chhukel Lama who along with Paljor Lama and Chembal Lama founded KMCH in Kathmandu year 2007 has now ended up with us. He has married and moved to a village named Yari near the Tibetan border. He has also left his work as a teacher at the children's school. His wife runs a small shop which imports products from Tibet. Chhukel needs to work in this shop as well as in the farm. This is what we know now. We assume that he will continue as a member of the Board of KMCH and later perhaps be able to start adult education in his village if we can get money for that. We'll see.

Chhukel has been replaced by Topden Lama from the village Chala. He has gone 12 years in Dharamsala Tibetan School in India.

The new hostel building

The construction of the new hostel building has been going on all summer on time when the labor force could be free from their work in the farms. The hostel was not ready when Chembal left Yangar in the end of August. The monsoon has time to time prevented the work. Chembal expects that the children will move to the new building this autumn.

The area in which the new hostel is built lies barely 100 m above the village Yangar, around 3000 m above sea level, but on the way to the school. The children thus have a slightly shorter route to school but will live longer from the village. The new road between Tibet and Simikot will pass just below the new hostel. The current “road” goes through the village of Yangar and is sometimes just around one meter wide. The children use the rudiment of the new road that already exists on their way to the school.

In this beautifully situated group of houses is the hostel today. The children will soon move



to this house (*as it looked earlier this summer*). We will in a later newsletter show a more up-to-date photo of the building.



From the new hostel we have a wonderful view over the mountains. We also have a plane surface for the children to play on. In the long run, it can provide more space to

accommodate more children and become a place for studies, handicraft and adult education. Additionally, there are already eco-toilets and the water supply is slightly better than at the current location. It is possible with reasonably simple means to improve the washing and shower facilities so that it in the future perhaps will attract tourists. We have already got a sponsor for a new greenhouse. We do not know now how far this construction has progressed.

The construction is made entirely without machinery. Below are some pictures of the construction. The building material is mainly stones dug up in connection with the preparation of the ground and/or collected from the surrounding area. The wood is cut and prepared in the forest and then carried on horse backs to the construction site.



We will have more information about the activities in Humla later when we have got more photos and information from Chembal. We'll see if he will be able to send a report and tell us how things are going on in the USA. It would be nice if we could get a support group in the United States as well.

With greetings from the Board of KMCH Support Group
by
Hans Alm

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