

Newsletter No. 1 2022 from KMCH Support Group

Bromma Mars 22 2022

Hello, Namaste and Thashi Delek

From the school home

We start by quoting KMCH Nepal Chairman Chembal Lama's introduction to his Progress Report for 2021.

“Once children and young people are given the opportunity to access quality education, skills and meaningful employment, the potential for Nepal’s development can be truly unlocked,” stated Faris H. Hadad-Zervos, World Bank Country Manager for Nepal.

When we mention education, it weaves a simple picture in our minds of a students learning and a teacher teaching, but education is beyond the classical paper-pencil-black board theory. It has evolved into the giant wheel that has many spokes such as personality management, time management, competing beyond boundaries etc. We strived hard to propagate our age old theory to impart quality education to the students who seek excellence in their pursuit for an indomitable career.

In these New Year we pledged to educate more girl child and give more opportunity, So that no girls are left out of school. This is not an easy task because girl’s in our society face immense challenges. Mainly due to the lack of support from their families and the displeasing attitude of the society towards a school going girl child.

We have a long way to go and further hope to tap into areas where girl need our support. One of areas we can help is to give them quality education. I am extremely grateful to our supporters, staff and donors for the role they have played in enabling us (KMCH) to become the voice of impoverished girl in the Humla. We look forward to receive these continuous supports to ensure to eradicate illiterate rate of girl’s to its fullest.

I would like to acknowledge all the supporters, donors and friends of KMCH without whose support outcomes and performance would not have been possible. It was only with their encouragement and support that KMCH establishes a benchmark for people of Humla. We will continue to strive for the vision and enable girls to become active agents of social and economic change.

CHEMBAL LAMA

Words that have been said before, but that can be repeated.

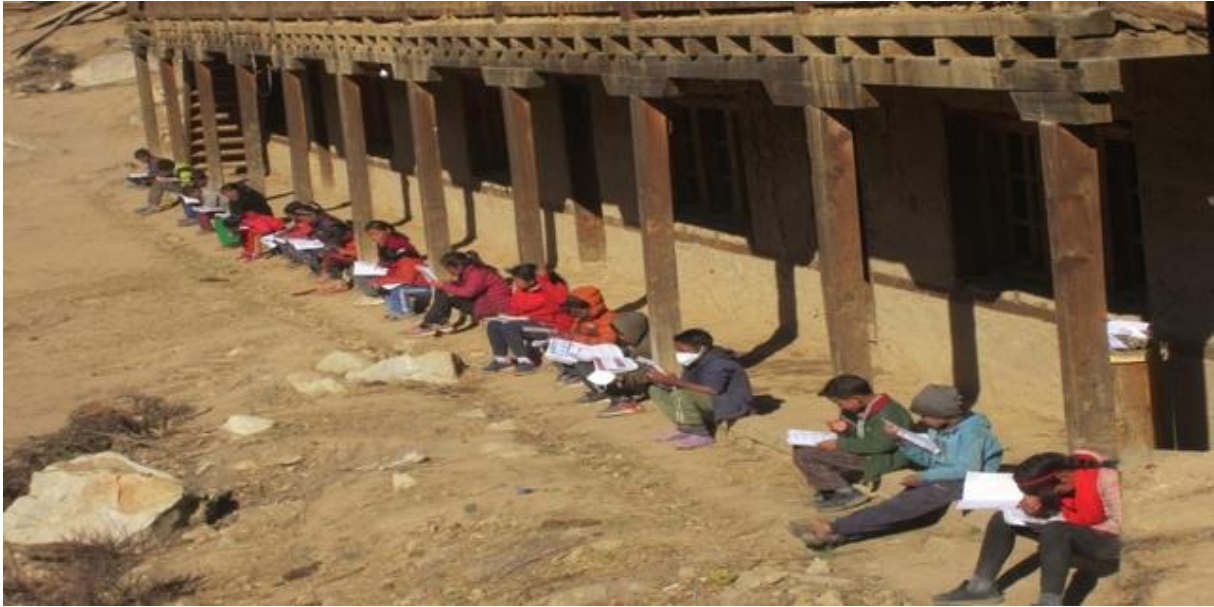


On the way to school in snow weather at the beginning of December. Later, a bit into 2022, it became extremely difficult to move between villages. The reports from KMCH Nepal we usually get early in February. This year they were delayed for a month, because a lot of snow made it difficult to walk from the school home to Simikot from where it is possible to send some of the documentation that is needed for the reports.

Our children and students

In 2021, there were 67 children living at the school home, 36 girls and 31 boys. A certain advantage for girls, which reflects our ambition to support girls' education. However, in other years there has been a greater proportion of girls than in 2021. The choice of new children to KMCH has for some years now been made together with the head of the school in Yalbang. The choice of children is made regarding to several parameters where gender is one. However, the ambition of KMCH is clear.

Of the 67 children who lived at the school home in 2020, 8 graduated from class 10. They wrote their SLC (School Leaving Certificate) exams in spring 2021 with results that entitle them to continue studying. They have also chosen to do so. With these 8, there will be a total of 27 children from KMCH, who have so far completed class 10, all have passed their tests and chosen to continue studying. So far, thanks to the Olofsson Family Foundation, everyone has been able to receive financial support to varying degrees to facilitate and/or enable further studies. In 2021, 10 graduated from class 10. Let's hope they do well in their SLC-tests this spring.



Studies take place mainly in daylight. Thanks to bedside lamps, the studies can now more easily continue after dark.

There are now two who are studying to become agronomists. It should be an appropriate training in an agricultural district like Humla. Most study in Kathmandu, but Simikot and Surkhet are other places that offer studies above class 10. Most of them study with a focus on "business", "science" and "engineering". We hope that these orientations can also lead to jobs in Humla in the future.

Previously, the children at the school home were all from the local area and of Tibetan descent. Since a few years there have also lived children of Indian descent from the southern part of Humla. This means that children from both Buddhist and Hindu traditions live there. It is probably good to have such a mixture because even if the caste system is prohibited by law, it still affects the relationships between and within different ethnic groups. People of Tibetan descent are considered casteless, i.e. they are the lowest in rank. According to what was said during our visit in 2019, it does not create any problems with children from different religions at the school home. A rough calculation of the names of the children indicates that about 20 are not of Tibetan descent.

Investments during 2021

In 2021, there were many months without children at the school home. Then they focused on different investments. We have mentioned it in previous newsletters. Now these are ready and in use. Children have bedside lamps so they can read regardless of daylight, a new larger greenhouse increases the proportion of vegetables in the diet, new fences protect our fruit trees, warehouse boxes protect our dry goods from mouse infestations, our chef now has access to a dough mixer and our woodcutter has a chainsaw. Cooking for about 70 people without reasonable mechanical help is not easy. All important investments for both children and employees.

During the year, the children have been able to wash themselves in solar-heated hot water, which is much appreciated. A lot has happened since we camped in the area in 2011, which was then almost virgin land. However, it can be even better.



Not only face masks and hand sanitizer were used as coronaprevention.



Distribution of clothes and shoes takes place regularly.

Presentation and lecture about KMCH at Ekebyhov Castle on Ekerö.

On Sunday 24 April, we will show an exhibition and give a talk about KMCH at Ekebyhov Castle. The café at the castle opens at noon and closes at 4 p.m. The lecture starts at 2 p.m. The exhibition can be seen between noon and 4 p.m.

Annual meeting in KMCH Support Group.

Our plan is to hold KMCH Support Group's annual meeting at Ekebyhov Castle on the same day as the exhibition and lecture on KMCH, i.e. on Sunday, April 24. The annual meeting will start when the castle closes at 16:00. The annual meeting will be both analogue and digital. We will get back to you for more details in the invitation to the annual meeting. It will also be available on our website www.kmchumla.se.

Current information on politics and more in Nepal (Italo)

As in Sweden, Nepal is in an election year. In Nepal, there are three different elections. Local elections, provincial elections and elections to the Nepali Parliament.

The elections are divided into three phases. Local elections will now take place on May 13. The other election days have not yet been decided.

The big issue for Nepal in recent months has been about MCC, the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Through the MCC, Nepal can receive \$500 million in grants from the United States. The money will go towards the expansion of the electricity grid and the renovation of roads. But the parties have not agreed. Critics say the U.S. has too much power over the project and see it as a threat to Nepal's self-determination. Other voices do not share this view at all and consider the project to be an important help on the road to a more stable society.

Parliament has now voted to accept the offer, with some additions that it says will ensure that the project is controlled by Nepal.

An equally big topic is the Nepal Communist Party and how they have acted in parliament since September. In protest against the speaker of the parliament the party has completely obstructed the parliamentary work. I have watched recordings from the Parliament and it is sad to see NCP Members leaving their seats, chanting slogans and making the duties of Parliament impossible. And this happens every time Parliament gathers for debates and discussions.



Play outside the school home far from the politicians' squabbles

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



Photo

to: Jonathan Stenvall

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