



Haverdal July 2 2016

Hello, Tashi Delek, Namaste

News from the School home.

We have no new pictures and news from the school home in this newsletter. Chembal would have been in Humla with a group at the beginning of May. Bad weather did, however, that they not could fly to Simikot. The flight was canceled for a couple of weeks. It is uncommon to have as much cloud in May, but the weather in Humla was both last winter and this spring, very rare. There was little snow in the winter and the rains early spring did not occur so Chembal fears a crop failure in Humla. Now the school home thankfully has water so it is enough even for the greenhouse and our two kitchen gardens. This we did not have had last spring.

Chembal had to cancel the trip to Humla and take the group to another place in Nepal, which worked fine.

At the school home I think they are working with the new kitchen and other investments we sent money for. Primarily for the reparation of a water tank in the mountains from where the water to the school home is coming.

Chembal has been invited to the United States and Canada. He went there in early June and will be back in Nepal by the end of June. We hope that this visit will result in some sponsors. So far, no money has come from there.



Hooray for Sonam and Gangshar

Our two pupils, who in April took the national test, as all students who finishes class 10 in Nepal must do if they want to continue their studies. Both passed the test so they are now eligible to continue their studies.

As we told you in the last newsletter Sonam wants to become a nurse (study period 3 years) and Gangshar wants to become teacher in science (study period 2 years). We have got help from other organizations to finance their studies, which will take place in Kathmandu.

We would like to thank **The Society for Street Children in Nepal** who will finance Sonams studies and **Family Olofssons Foundation for Community Development**, which will finance Gangshars studies. It is not impossible that Gangshar will study in a school, we got contact with via the Association **Nepal Education**. Thank you all for this support.

I repeat that both Sonam and Gangshar has been in KMCH since its start. It feels like we now have reached an intermediate goal in our efforts to support some of the poor children from Humla in their studies.

The current political situation in Nepal. *(Anton continues to educate us in Nepal's history and politics. This time with brand new information.)*

In some newsletters I have written about the situation in southern Nepal and the protests triggered by the dissatisfaction regarding the changes of the Nepalese Constitution that shook the country. This time I will update you about the development since then. As usual, the Nepalese domestic politics is extremely messy, with lots of parties, ethnic groups, castes and alliances that constantly change shape and color. The timing is purely coincidental good: now *(in early June)* the Nepalese Parliament is to debate the national budget as the ruling coalition of parties has put forward.

Let's reverse the tape. After years of protracted attempts to rewrite the Nepali Constitution the Nepalese Parliament in 2015 finally agreed on a new Constitution, with a federal Division of the country as the most controversial change. Dissatisfaction with how this classification was carried out, as well as the lack of political representation triggered violent protests among the Madeshi people in the South of the country. At the same time a blockade of the transport routes between Nepal and India began, which had a disastrous impact on the Nepalese economy. The protests have since then been reduced and the trade between India and Nepal has resumed.

Some sort of calm and order has returned after the earthquakes, the political turmoil and a near enough economic isolation in 2015. Nepal is today governed by a loose coalition led by CPN-UML (the Nepalese Communist Party), with Prime minister K. P. Oli in the lead. Government is supported by the Maoist party UCPN-Maoists and a few small parties. The largest party in Parliament, as well as the leading opposition party, is the National Congress with 196 seats.

In May the Parliament tried to agree on a new State budget. In early May the coalition between the Maoist parties was going to crack as a result of a conflict around the Prime Minister. An attempt to replace the Prime Minister K. P. Oli with the leader of the UCPN-Maoists was made. Then, what can be seen as an attempt to a palace coup, resulted in a fuzzy agreement between the parties in the coalition to continue working together for a better Nepal. Just around three weeks later, once again voices from UCPN were heard that Prime minister Oli should be replaced by one of his coalition partners. During the ongoing budget debate, demonstrations in southern Nepal started again under the guidance of an Alliance of Madeshi-parties. To complicate it further a round of local elections in which the corresponding municipal Government should be chosen. Furthermore, still the majority of the aid to rebuild the country has still not managed to be of any use. Peace and order prevail in the country, according to the Nepalese definition.

Why is it this messy? The 601 seats in the country's Parliament are divided among 31 parties. These include 8 Maoist/Communist/Socialist parties, 5 parties that have Therai or Madeshi in their name and a many small parties with sometimes only one seat. In the Swedish Parliament we have 8 parties that have problems to get to function. We can imagine what would have happened if 23 more parties had seats in Parliament. In addition, Nepal currently has over 30 departments with often overlapping areas of responsibility. Since 1991, the country has had 22 Prime Ministers. High appointments, and the opportunities that come with them, are moved around in an exclusive circle: as an example, a man named Ram Sharan has been minister of finance at 7 separate occasions.

A writer named Niranjana Dixit describes in the Kathmandu Post how a political industry have emerged in Kathmandu, a way to ensure loyalty from employees and opponents to distribute titles and political power. With them come high salaries and pensions. Niranjana Dixit argues that the cost of pensions to over 230 000 old lawyers, members of Parliament and political administrators represents 7% of the country's income. This is a gigantic sum for a poor country.

The political administration is a major employer in which appointment policy has become an industry. A fractured political landscape makes the country very hard to govern. But the biggest concern is that this is a perfect breeding ground for corruption. The question is how many millions of dollars of international aid which will disappear into this black hole of bureaucracy before it trickles down to those who actually need it.

We present KMCH in Falun on Saturday October 1.

Saturday October 1 we will be in Falun to inform about KMCH. If you are in the area save the date. Further details about this event can later be found on the website and in the next newsletter.

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!

Trip to Humla

In October, part of the Board of Directors of KMCH SG and some members will go to Humla to meet the children and to follow up this year's investments.

If there is anyone who would like to visit the School home and travel around in Humla and perhaps even visit Kailash and Lake Manasarovar in Tibet some time, this can be arranged by Chembal.

Greetings from the Board of KMCH SG

by

Hans

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