

CHRISTMAS 2019



Nepali Family Inc

Thresh the Mountains (Isaiah 41:15)



EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY - Orphans often don't know their birth date so every few months we have one for everyone!

Over twenty years, the support and encouragement provided by Nepali Family for the most unprivileged children and young people of Tansen and its surrounds have resulted in encouraging outcomes. Almost all of the children we, (that is you), have supported in education and training are working in safe and interesting professions and most are active in Christian life. Even those with the least promising beginnings have made surprising progress. Particularly our commitment to training girls in skills leading to financial independence if their lives are affected by marital or other disasters has borne fruit. Safety for our least educated, and excellence for those most capable, remains an achievable objective.

This has had required very considerable financial support. Things are getting much more difficult and costs in Nepal rise savagely. To support our current commitment of training and support to an independent life for about 160 young people with social, health and financial disabilities has required an annual donor budget approaching AUD\$200,000. At present we can maintain our commitments, but we now have no reserves for later in the year to pay school and college fees, and accommodation charges.

In a country where there is no social welfare, financial support, or truly free education, children cannot thrive. We love to get them back on track. Disasters are referred for our care weekly. We are being as careful as possible but still need some solid injection of funds.

Please consider making a generous contribution to the lives of these abandoned, blind, disabled, orphaned, chronically ill and other underprivileged young people. We have already had to cut down on some of the social activities we have provided to our children as a result of rising costs. With your help we can be sure to support every needy child we hear about and lead them to a New Life.



Hostel helper Indra finds some Australian shoes for Sujol. All the children benefitted from the thirteen boxes of clothes, shoes, books and toys flown in free by Cathay Pacific with help from United Mission to Nepal. Most items had been donated. And a few were bought, mostly at sale prices. All the young folk went away happy with something.



Dreadfully abused and locked in an outhouse, 12 year old Deena is no longer terrified and can talk a little. She is able to walk slowly and gets lots of help from the other Silom hostel children. Anne is one of her favourites. With good reason, she is rather cautious of men.



With your support, we would like to be able to increase scholarships in nursing, teacher training and commercial skills. We want to continue to expand support for disadvantaged young people by developing training courses in a range of skills to give our children, especially girls, financial security.

Development of the Education and Training Building in cooperation with blind and disabled groups to give basic skills training, can provide livelihoods in cutting and tailoring, hairdressing, manual and engineering skills, cooking and housekeeping and potentially lead to successful careers in Nepal.

Pictured above with Anne, are eight of our successful graduates with jobs and qualifications in bookkeeping, law, child care, and agriculture. Seated fourth from the right is Laxmi, who has just finished her Bachelor of Business degree and has been accepted as cadet in a bank. Twelve years ago Laxmi's mother, abandoned with three hungry children and gathering firewood to make a living, came crying to us to help her hungry children. They still live in a one-room mudbrick house with no plumbing but Laxmi's plan is to build her Mummy a new house. Her brother is currently doing well at school and her disabled sister, second from left, is making a successful career as a popular child care worker in Silom.

Seated on the floor is Rifleman Bijay Shrestha on leave from the 5th Gurkha Regiment who we put through a recruitment course last year. With his pay he is now able to help his parents and support his sister who is applying to study nursing.

Meanwhile Arjun has been appointed a member of our in-country Committee which is about to seek charitable status. His job is to care for the new training centre and act as our social welfare worker. A newly donated gift of a motor cycle enables him to travel around the region in his caring role.

Govinda, extreme left, who has been working in Malaysia for several years has returned home and has taken responsibility for the family farm, which was purchased for them almost twenty years ago by our organisation. Recently married, he and his charming wife are raising vegetables, goats and chickens while he travels with his two wheel tractor to till the land of other farmers.

Angela, third from right, is proving a great house mother at Silom. With your support we sent her on a government-sponsored course to care for children with special needs, which she recently passed. Silom House is going well, currently housing twenty-four children, including three with quite severe disabilities. Angela's great news is that she has finally managed to prove her citizenship status in Nepal and has a Nagarita (or ID card). This enables her to attend educational institutions and own property in Nepal.

Meanwhile in the hill town of Chhahara, Pastor Indra and his wife Sumitra continue to administer our rural support programme for 27 orphans on small-rented parcels of land to become self-sufficient. We have a long way to go. At least we can keep the children in school as there is little work for the uneducated. We are starting to put together a mutual group to grow and sell selected farm products and to run a boarding hostel in Chhahara for agriculture students.



TIME FOR A SWIM—A jungle elephant ride and swimming weekend were a great prize for some of our older primary children who have worked very hard over the last 6 months at school. They spotted a crocodile as they crossed the river on elephants. As usual the boys did the serious swimming while the girls tended to more social activity.

EXCELLENT NEWS

The formation of a Registered Charitable Association in Nepal to help manage our work is in clear sight now that we are coming to grips with government constraints on financial assistance to young people in Nepal. We believe that many decisions could well be made locally with supervision from Australia.

RESCUES

While in Nepal in October, Anne and I helped to relocate three sisters (ages 16, 19 and 20) who ran away from the home of their uncle and aunt and came to us for help. They reported being treated as slaves by the cousins and of being unable to attend school regularly. They appeared very stressed and looked uncared for. We arranged a mediation meeting of the family to try and remedy the situation. However the girls were resolute and would not go back to the family home. They stayed in our accommodation for over a week and then were settled comfortably in a room in the house of Tul and Cheena, our ex house parents.

Recently, Cheena, who is a very caring person, had also taken into their home an abandoned family of a mother and two young daughters with tuberculosis. This family has been through a terrible time. One of the girls is an assault victim, which occurred while mum was at work. At their previous home, neighbours had threatened violence if a complaint about this assault was made to police. We met the family and they appear to be settling well at Tul and Cheena's house.

OTHER NEWS

In the Peace Hostel, Sanjay and Rosie are caring for eight teenage boys who are about to take their Year Ten School Certificate exams. We would certainly like to help them find careers when the results come out in about May. Most of them will need occupational training. Niraj, a Tai Kwon Do expert, and two others are hoping to join the forces.

THANK YOU

All in all, things go well. The young people are progressing in spite of a range of systematic challenges. They are attending education and moving towards finding careers within their capacities. Girls who have been held back from school are very vulnerable, especially as they are often pushed into poor marriages that break down leaving them and the children destitute, without any social welfare (there is no Centrelink in Nepal). Once married, girls are not welcome back to their parents homes to live. Our firm commitment is to support girls to undertake training within their capabilities so that they always have marketable skills to be independent.

We understand that with so many horrific situations all over the world, it is hard to help everyone, but we ask that you please make a special case for Nepal, where so many are kept in near slavery by the privileged.

Anne and Digby Hoyal

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