2020 Report for HIMALAYAN DHALARONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

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1. Introduction

The Himalayan Dhalarong Primary school was founded by H. E Komang Tulku Rinpoche in 2008 and Christopher Carpenter of France and with the help of many kind supporters. This remote school has provided education to about 100 children until 2020. Some kids leave school early to help their families; some went to a monastery to become a monk or nun and some others were married too. Currently, there are now approximately 60 kids getting an education between Himalayan Dhalarong Primary school in Komang and Himalayan Komang hostel in KTM.

This year, with the leadership of school founder H.E Komang Tulku Rinpoche and Nyima Bhuti, our school ran very smoothly. We do not focus only on academic studies but also on extra activities like dance, music, talent and sports and different activities which our secondary students have learned in Kathmandu. It is extremely important that we continue with education about our culture and language.

Because of the Covid situation early in 2020, Tulku Lama decided it would be best to take all the children from the Hostel in Kathmandu (KTM) back to the village to be away from the virus. In late March before the lockdown began in KTM, we took all the students to the village. It was a difficult journey, as there was much snow and we slept outside many nights. Children and families were extremely happy to be reunited. After the school year finished in October, we returned to Kathmandu to avoid the cold winter months in the Dolpo. Because we did not have all teachers at the school this year, many of the students from the hostel helped with teaching the younger students and I (Nyima) helped the hostel students with their studies too.

2. Infrastructure

School building

We started our school early in the greenhouse but officially started the school session on 17/06/2020 (allowed by government) with a total student 31, teaching staff of 10 at the beginning of the year and after 2 months we had 5 permanent teachers. This year our school ran very smoothly with help of our kind supporters. We had 3 new students this year, 2 of which regularly and 1 that came sometimes. There were 31 students registered for school in 2020. We finished our school session on 11th of October. Winter school was scheduled to start on the 27th of November 2020.

Every Friday we did extracurricular activities like dance competitions, drawing competitions, handwriting competitions, debate, public speaking competitions. Once a month on a Friday was allocated for hiking and educational tours of places around village or to visit some historical places. The school building is comprised of 9 rooms: 6 which are used as classrooms, 1 for office, 1 for kitchen and 1 teachers' bedroom. Each class has its own room except for NURSERY AND KG which share a classroom.

The school building is good for now and the tin roof is working well so there are no worries of water in summer and snow in winter getting into the school. Our new school gate is very nice too.

This year with the help from Government, our ward chairman helped Komang School build 2 more rooms. Villagers built it and did a good job, and we are planning to shift our kitchen and teachers' room to new building. So, in 2021, nursery and KG will have their own classrooms. We are planning

to make the current teachers' room for the NURSERY class and the kitchen will become a hall room for prayers during rainy season and for other activities.

We would like to build small clinic in future. (medical?)

Toilets and bathrooms

The toilet and bathroom are working well. There are no problems with them.

Water tap

This year with the help of Christian, we built a water tank with cement, so it is working very well. The water tap is working very well, and students and teachers are happy with it.

Lights

The solar light that was installed by Peter Werth is not working as well as we would like. Sometime the battery gets low and the system is not stable. Peter is planning to improve the system in 2021.

School Compound

This year our school compound is in good condition and we wanted to plant some trees but were not able to do so this year. We plan to plant some tree in the coming years.

The school stairs are not in good condition and need to be fixed or replaced next year.

3. Staff

No (0) government teachers were present in 2020,

We had two (2) project teachers and one cook

- 1. Nyima Wangdue
- Pema Sangmo
 They both taught all subjects except Nepali and math

English, Health, English Grammar, Tibetan, Population, for all classes.

With the help of Nyima Wangdue sir, who knows school situation best, our class 12 students

Pema Lhamo, Pema Mingdi, Tsering Lhadron and me (Nyima Bhuti) taught in Komang school.

Pema Sangmo went to the village of Moe and taught school there. It is a small village with only 8 students.

This year the project teachers stayed for the entire session and taught full time. The teachers and school management committee (SMC) worked very well together because of their own students who taught and made the school programme and activities in our school.

4. School Management Committee (SMC)

The SMC comprises of 8 members:

- 1. Tulku lama (M)
- 2. Tenzin Tsewang (M)
- 3. Choekyap (M)
- 4. Phurwa Wangmo (F)
- 5. Karma Bhuti (F)
- 6. Tashi Bhuti (F)
- 7. Hari Kristna Darala (M)
- 8. Ward Chairman (M)

The SMC met 7 times this year. At the beginning and end of the year, H.E Komang Tulku Rinpoche shared the details about the financial situation of the school. He described the money that has been given to the school from all donors and the money that has spent for the school, including showing receipts.

At the same time (at the beginning, middle and end of the school year) Three meetings at the beginning, middle and end school year are large meetings which include the parents. During these meetings, HE Komang Tulku Rinpoche gives a report on the financial status of the school including news from the sponsor. The students receive their results and prizes. Speeches are made. The students perform dances and drama. The villagers provide a meal with their own money and by bringing along food to share.

This year after observing all the activities, I (Nyima Bhuti) requested all the teachers and SMC to take monthly test at:

MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, and HALF YEARLY EXAMNATION, FINAL EXAMINATION. We did 7 exams in all. it was helpful to improve the kid's education level.

The SMC looks after the school buildings by opening and closing it. They clean it and take care of school building, etc.

Meetings:

Parent and teacher meetings - 3 times a year

Teacher meetings - 7 times a year and with short impromptu meeting at any time.

Students and teachers meet twice a year.

5. Students

1. This year we had 31 students 2020.

Nursery – 6

Class KG - 4

Class 1-4

- Class 2 4
- Class 3 4
- Class 4 4
- Class 5 4

Total 31 students, 30 who come regularly and 1 that did not come regularly.

- 2. This year there are 4 students who are finishing primary level and coming to Kathmandu for secondary and higher-level education.
- 3. Our secondary level students from the Hostel continued their studies while in the Komang this year. So, the total number of students was 61.

4. NAME LIST OF SCHOOL'S STUDENTS

1. Nursery

There are (6) students:

- 1. Pema Yangdon (F)
- 2. Tsering Namgyal (M)
- 3. Sangmo (F)
- 4. Namkha Samdup (M)
- 5. Namkha Palden (M)
- 6. Tsedol (F)

2. Class KG

There are six (4) students:

- 1. Pema Choedon(F)
- 2. Kunsang Dhondup(M)
- 3. Nyima Sangmo(F)
- 4. Pema Choepal (M)

3. Class One

There are four (4) students

- 1. Pema Bhuti
- 2. Karma Wangmo
- 3. Tsering Namgyal
- 4. Kunsang

4. Class Two

There are four (4) students

- 1. Tsering Dhondup (M)
- 2. Youden (F)
- 3. Dawa Gurung (F)
- 4. Tsuldim Dorjee(M)

5. Class Three

There are three (4) students

- 1. Pema Dolma (F)
- 2. Pema Tsewang (M)
- 3. Tenzin Lhamo (F)
- 4. Lhamo Bhuti (F)

6. Class Four

There are (4) students

- 1. Pema Wangmo (F)
- 2. Pema Choepal (M)
- 3. Pema Sherap (M)

7. Class Five

There are four (4) students

- 1. Tsering Youtin (F)
- 2. Karma Yonten (M)
- 3. Dekyi wangmo (F)
- 4. Pema Gyaltsen (M)

This year with help of Nyima Bhuti, and the SMC we held sports days, which created so many happy moments for all the villagers and students. It happened over three days.

1st day Literacy competition

- The cup is a book which symbolizes education.
 - Drawing,
 - Speech
 - Handwriting
 - Reading
 - Quiz
 - Poem writing

The drawing topic is on NOW AND AFTER 10 YEARS OF KOMANG SCHOOL

It was so wonderful that 2 competitors - one wrote now-Komang school /10years - Komang university and other wrote Komang village with many tree and helicopter.

There were nice moments....

2nd day Sports competition

Football as cup...it symbolizes sports

- Relay race
- Frog jump
- Skipping
- Football
- Chair game
- Potato game
- Spoon game
- Local game called avi-geder
- Local game gogtsang-lagtsang

The man of the match is Tsering Dhondup from class 2

Lastly, there was a football game between the men of the village and the boys from hostel. This year the Hostel team won! The hostel girls cheered very loudly which helped the team win.

3rd day Culture competition

- Local shoes cup- because it is most traditional in our village and symbolize traditional as culture.
 - Sing a song
 - Dance
 - Cultures dress
 - Drama
 - Language speaking

On this day, most of the villagers came and we enjoyed it all together. During the drama competition, they showed importance of education.

After all the competitions, the cookhouse award was given to the overall winner. The Cookhouse cup is a Hoe which symbolizes the root occupation of Komang - farming.

And for the top student of the year the Cup is shaped like a knife, which symbolizes a sharp mind and intelligence.

6. School Schedule

The school children arrive at school at 8:00 AM. And they start morning prayers; morning exercise and morning reading paper and start daily classes. Each class take 45 min.

8:30AM – 9:00 AM (Morning activities) this year we have added (brain gym) which is an exercise learned from REED Nepal during the workshop in Dunai.

9:00AM - 10:50AM (Morning class)

10:50AM -11:00AM (morning Break)

11:00 AM - 12:15PM (Class)

12:15PM to 1PM (Lunch break)

1:00PM to 2:45PM (Afternoon Class)

2:45PM to 3:00PM (Break)

3:00 PM to 4:45PM (Class)

4:45PM to 5PM (evening pray)

Leave for home.

After 5:00PM, the village elders have classes for 1.5 to 2 hours. It is extremely useful and most people in Komang can write their name and count 1 to 50 in English now. So, it is good that they are getting chance to learn at school.

7. Winter school

Onward from the 27th of November, winter school started in the village, with all students sitting in the greenhouse. This year Lama Tengyal and Nyima Wangdue are the teachers. (Tulku requested lama Tengyal and Nyima Wangdue sir to stay in Dolpo during wintertime). They will teach children in

wintertime. The school runs from 8AM to 5PM. They will teach Tibetan language and handwriting of different languages.

8am - 9:30am (then they will take teatime and having rest till10:00) Then they continue 10:00am - 11:30am. (Then they took lunch break till 1:00pm) then they continue study 1:00pm - 2:40pm. (Then they took rest/break 20min) Then they continue study 3:00pm - 4:00pm (then they took 30min to pray and then went back to home) This year, our school will continue winter class for 3 months.

8. Hostel for Grade 5 students in Kathmandu

After class five from our school Himalayan Dhalarong Primary School, students join the Hostel in Kathmandu. And this year we have 4 new kids who are coming for secondary school. This will bring the total number of students at the hostel to 34.

During 2020, 4 of our students finished class 12; 3 of them are doing preparation for entrance course for medical and engineering. One of them will go back to Komang as a teacher for 2021.

THANK YOU ALL