



Fondation Ashah Orphanage
Brigitte et Patrick Susse - 1195 Bursinel
www.ashah.ch

Newsletter December 2009

Dear Donators, dear Friends,

It is once again time to give you an account of the activities at the Ashah Orphanage during 2009

Our last visit to Kathmandu took place last October, in the presence of Brigitte and Patrick Susse, along with a couple of Swiss friends. We are happy to inform you that our orphanage is perfectly kept and that the health of our 19 children, both physical and psychological, is excellent.

Last year, we informed you that we did not plan to take any additional children in 2009. Nevertheless, one of our girls, Dikshita, has returned to live with her Mother who now receives a small pension from her ex husband and is now able to take care of her daughter. Naturally, we are following this situation closely and if the slightest problem should come to light, we would not hesitate for a second to take Dikshita back under our roof. This departure has allowed us to welcome a small boy in a needy situation upon a request from the Nepali social welfare. His name is Bikash Gurung, his father left 5 years ago and his mother is very sick, she cannot meet the needs of the whole family.



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As for the other children, their schooling is going well, with the exception of one, who seems to have more difficulty in spite of a lot of goodwill. We are planning to register this child in an art school taking into account his particular gift for drawing.

Our eldest has started his second year of business school and everything is going very well. He even plans to take a Masters to complete his professional training.

The eldest of our girls is preparing her end of school exam at the end of January 2010, and we have high hopes that she will succeed.

The youngest one will celebrate her 4th birthday on December 23rd of this year. She goes every morning to nursery school to learn amongst other things, the alphabet. She is a very bright child and like the other children, full of the joy of life. She's a little clown and when she decides to sing the Nepali national anthem at the top of her voice, silence reigns in order to appreciate the artist's performance ... she is what we endearingly call, a nut case!

On the whole, all of the children manage well when it comes to reading or writing English. On the contrary, compared to the previous year we have noticed little progress when speaking the language. In order to overcome this problem and to help them get over a certain apprehension when expressing themselves verbally, we have decided to hire a local English teacher who will teach at the orphanage 2 to 3 times a week. Indeed, it is key for the professional future of the children to have a good level of English. We hope to see significant progress during our next onsite visit.

Furthermore, as for each of our visits, we organize an outing with the children and share a traditional « family lunch». We rented a coach and took them outside of Kathmandu to visit a botanical garden. We then had lunch in a small local restaurant and visited Lakhputi Sherpa, founder of the orphanage, to enjoy a "giant" mid-afternoon snack.

We would like to thank all of the local members, Lakhputi Sherpa, Kundan Moktan and Raj Kumar, who give their time each day to manage our Foundation and to look after these adorable children in our name.



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Finally we'd like to join the children and our Nepali team, to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the precious help you have brought us for so many years.

Our commitment to help these children would not be possible without your ongoing loyalty, and we hope that this will continue far into the future. Thanks to your support we can give these small beings a normal childhood, without it, they would be on the streets.

We wish you very Happy Christmas season and a 2010 filled with happiness.

Once again, our warm-hearted thanks for your help,

Ashah Orphanage
The Committee

Bursinel, December 2009