

The corona situation

With great pleasure we can again inform everyone that the children and employees of our CWA Children's Home are all in great health!

Four months of heavy lockdown restrictions were ended by easing some of them some time ago. This, though, was followed by a heavy increase in the number of corona-infections and a retightening of the lockdown. Coming from India, the virus continues to spread and has now also reached remote places in Nepal. Bijay, our manager at the Home, told us that beds in intensive care units of hospitals are currently all occupied and that patients are being strictly rejected.

Online Education

All schools have been closed since the beginning of the lockdown on March 24th. The school our kids attend now offers online teaching instead of group classes. Unfortunately, the number of computers and laptops that we have available at the Children's Home falls far short to the number needed to provide one for each online class. As a result of that, the children in lower grades follow the online teachings on mobile phones of our members of staff! Amazingly, the internet connections are seldom interrupted.

During a heavy thunderstorm last week, however, two of our routers were destroyed and now the children in the upper levels have to follow the lessons on cell phones too. Despite the lockdown, our employees are doing their best to quickly replace the routers we lost.

Since our staff cannot be present in the classes all the time, the children's attention span is sometimes fairly short. Yet, they work hard on their extensive homework and we hope they will be able to 'go through and digest' as much teaching material as possible.

Bijay informed us that online exams are being planned in Nepal, to be executed soon. It is, however, still unclear how such exams will be realized.



Consequences of the rainy season

This year the monsoon hit Nepal even harder than in previous years. There have been numerous landslides and floods with multiple victims. Many connecting roads that serve as lifelines for supplying the population with necessary goods in less or more remote areas, were destroyed.

In mid-July it rained so hard that our emergency room was flooded, just a day after food and school supplies had been replenished and delivered to the Home. Resulting from the Nepali fear that corona viruses can survive on surfaces for up to 72 hours, the storing of these supplies in our secure storage areas had been postponed. The unexpected flooding then destroyed the food supplies.



The children helped with draining and cleaning the emergency room. Most of the food supplies were lost, but some of the school supplies could be cleaned, dried and rescued for later use.



The heavy rains caused a large landslide above our hostel, that also accommodates a small guesthouse cum restaurant. The road was blocked, and debris and muddy water flooded the garden and the ground floor rooms.



The four teenagers who will continue to live in the hostel during their college years, helped with shoveling and cleaning. P.S., only two days after this landslide did a bulldozer come to clear the street!

Servicing our Home

Despite the lockdown and flooding, the supply of food and necessities to the children and employees continues to be secure. The lost supplies will, in good time, be replenished. Thanks to our greenhouses lots of healthy vegetables are available to the children.

At the beginning of the rainy season, the children again enthusiastically helped planting rice in the fields.



Plowing and watering is boys' and men's work.

Planting rice plants is the work of the girls and women. And it's a lot of fun to wallow in the muddy water and wash oneself in the stream after hard work.

When no classes need to be attended, the boys help by cutting green fodder [for the cows] in the forest. Afterwards they carry it to the barn.



In the kitchen: the girls learn how to prepare a delicious afternoon snack like e.g. these "hot sandwiches".

Our trip to Nepal

Due to the corona pandemic, we have not been able to realize our long-planned one-year stay in the Home. Due to current developments with respect to the virus, it looks nearly impossible for us to touch down in Nepal in the coming months.

So, at the beginning of next year we very much hope to see the children again and to continue the work in situ.

We would at this point also like to take the opportunity to thank all sponsors for supporting the CWA Children's Home. It is through your regular donations and the special events that you organize --such as small benefit concerts, fundraising campaigns during birthday parties, at weddings and on anniversaries—that we can ensure a safe home for the CWA children during these difficult times – many, many thanks!

Please stay healthy, calm and confident in these distressing times

With regards

Barbara and Peter



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