Vleuten, 21-2-2015

Annual Report 2015

Dear friends,
In 2015, the HNGF has been involved in two projects:
The Karmapa Center for Education (KCE) and the young monks of the Boudhanath Monastery (the latter have also been sponsored by the HNGF in 2014).

The KCE is a school under construction in Kalimpong, northern India.
It will provide primary and secondary education for boys and girls from the (impoverished) area. Education will be offered for free. In addition to the basic program will also focus on foreign languages, sports, music and Buddhist teachings. The building is still not finished and more information about the project will follow soon, when more details are known about the precise details.

In December Mirjam Bezemer has visited Bodhgaya, India. There she discussed the situation of the young monks at the monastery Boudhanath with our local contact, Namgyal Lodoe .. He said that the boys who attend there are unable to return to Nepal. The repairs to the monastery, after the damaging earthquake of 2015, are still on-going. In addition, there was still talk of a blockade at the border between Nepal and India, making living costs rise sharply because of scarcity and a inflation (in the meantime the blockade has been lifted). They have been be housed provisionally until summer 2016 in a friendly monastery in Main Path, India. However, there are no amenities, beds or bedding. He also made the request to the HNGF to finance an English language teacher. Once the guys are 'settled' on Main Path the English lessons would be a good addition to their daily education. During this time, many Tibetan Buddhist monasteries have contact with Westerners and the ability to speak English is important for the contact with the West.
In addition, many children leave the monastery to lead a civilian life, and they will benefit from a good basic education, including the English lessons. At the end of December 2015 the HNGF had exactly enough money in the bank to finance the necessary beds in Main Path. Besides it looks as if for 2016 the total amount of money donated on a monthly basis will be sufficient to cover the requested English teacher for one lesson per day. We are pleased to make this last possible and hope that the boys will do well in the Main Path.

Furthermore, we were able to purchase a banner in 2015 (thanks to a donation) through which we can create a beautifully designed presentation. Our presence at several events in 2015, has yielded more than 50 additional enquiries!

We want to thank you again very much for your support and trust. Slowly the actions of the HNGF increase more towards the main goal: to support education and training in the Himalayan region. We hope you us also want to continue to support us in 2016, thanks in advance for this!

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