



The Pope and the Window

Every Sunday, at noon, Pope Francis appears at the Papal apartment “window,” known as the “Pope’s Window” in the Vatican City for the Angelus and to greet the people. It is from here the Pope usually, address the people on various issues, prays for special needs gives message of peace to the world and delivers his blessings. Most of the people who come to see the Pope usually gets a glimpse of him, at this Window.



It is quite coincidental that the Pope receives another “window” from a group of children from Nepal. This window popularly known as the “Peacock Window from Baktapur,” is a cultural heritage of Nepal and a worthy souvenir for the visitors who come to the city of Baktapur in Kathmandu valley. Unlike the Pope’s own Window, the Peacock window is a beautiful wooden carving with an image of a Peacock at the centre. The Peacock Window was sent to Pope Francis, by the Special Children of Bhagwati School, at Kavre District as a gratitude for his contribution for rebuilding their activity center at the school, which was destroyed by the 2015 earthquake.



Nepal Jesuit Social Institute which has been involved in rebuilding the schools after the earthquake in remote villagers of Nepal had already been working for the Special Children’s support in more than 6 schools. On May 2nd 2019 the double story building with all the training equipment and study materials, the Activity Centre at Bhagwati School, was inaugurated and handed over. As the remark goes, it stood as first of its kind of a Centre

for the Special children, since very often they are left marginalized by rather superstitious village folks in the remote Nepal. This project was funded by The Dicastery for Promoting the Integral Human Development, through Caritas Italy, bringing Pope's Special care to the socially vulnerable and intellectually challenged, Special Children in Nepal.



Rev. Mons Segundo Tejado Muñoz, the chief guest and representative from the Vatican, delivered the blessing from Pope Francis at the occasion of the inauguration. The local community and the well-wishers were bewildered by such a loving gesture from Pope Francis. In response and gratitude for the generosity and love

for these children, they signed a Peacock window and sent it with Rev. Mons. Segundo. The local community is ever grateful to Mons. Segundo for safely carrying the gift to Pope all the way from Nepal and presenting it him on their behalf. NJSI feels proud and grace filled in being partner with the Pope's Mission of care of the Human beings who are particularly vulnerable and also share this special joy in gratitude with Beppe Pedron and Teresa Sassu, from Caritas Italy, who both were the background forces for the construction of the Centre.



The new center has become an attraction in the neighborhood as it has emerged a model for the schools that has inclusive education of special children in Nepal. Moreover, the new house has brought in bright smiles and clean environment to the special children.

Anybody can open a window and look outside, but very few people see the brethren far out in the country side waving at you in gratitude for seeing them with the eyes of love and care. Pope Francis is one such persons. Now he has a beautiful window through which he sees the Special Children of Nepal in a little remote village, waving at him, "Viva Il Papa!"



Xavier Marg the New History

As we were having a cup of early morning coffee at the Jesuit residence in Tipling, a village 200km North West of Kathmandu, we heard the sound of a motorbike moving around. "I feel so consoled when I hear that. I feel that I am no more cut off from the rest of the world." commented Fr. Mike Parent, SJ, the Canadian Jesuit living there for the last couple of years. It was on 13th July 2019, the day the handing over ceremony of the, first ever Road to Tipling was to be held at 8.30 am. Now there is an assurance of social security associated with the possibility of future development in all the sectors in that remote village. Tipling has seen a new dawn.

Thanks to Xavier Network and the caring donors, whom the people of Tipling do not even know for sure, for trusting the crazy Jesuits in Nepal to let their money be spent on a project like this. But today we make history together.

Nepal Jesuit Social Institute's idea of making this road came merely from the fact of how expensive it would be for any earthquake reconstruction activities be conducted in Ruby Vally Rural municipality, of which Tipling is central, by carrying things on Ponies or helicopters. What we wanted was sustainability and cost-effective intervention, and no doubt, a road is the foremost of all the sustainable development activities. We are not exaggerating to say that about 9 people have bought transport equipment including trucks, pick up vans and tractors in Tipling in the past couple of months. At least five or six sacks of potatoes travelled with us back to Kathmandu as a gift from the village. There it goes, I have seen these village type bio-fertilized tasty potatoes last year being stored for long and finally end up as food for cows, having no means of selling it out. The school has cement and iron roads in the foundation now, so are the houses that are coming up now. Whenever there is a vehicle returning from Tipling we do have a sick man or women travelling with us to the city for better medical facility, the travel is faster than the ponies and cheaper than the helicopters.



“Xavier Marg,” means the Path of Xavier, the name coined by Fr. Roy Sebastian, SJ, the director, was unanimously approved by the Jesuits and the Local people for two reasons; Francis Xavier is the patron of Nepal Mission and Xavier Network gave the fund and support. The 27km road that goes nearly 4000 mtrs high through the Himalayas should carry the name of the Saint who literally did network between the Europe and Asia sacrificing himself for bringing God’s people together. “Xavier Marg” is also an iconic representation of the motto of Nepal Jesuit Social Institute; “Reaching the Unreached.” And it is a worthy name to be addressed from the “Roof of the world” The local government gave a simple statement permission without much fuss. In fact, we felt that not many first believed that the project is going to happen, as the terrain was steep cliff and high altitude with rocks all over. Moreover, the Tyangra pass which had no footrest for an excavator wouldn’t be crossed without blasting the rocks, an impossible thing to do with a shoe string budget of 3.5 crores Nepali Rupees while the government estimate showed nothing less than 7 crores for the same work. There were no contractors who would do the work for less than 5 crores any way. So we were wondering how far we can go with our budget. Then it was Fr. Joesph Pulickal of Kokotta province who proposed the idea that we buy the excavator and convinced the management committee that we save taxes and avoid the daily rent amount of the machine even when we are not working. The then Region Superior, Fr. Boniface Tigga, SJ after the consult, granted the necessary permission to go ahead with purchasing the JCB 220LC excavator used for the Road construction.

We had to face several challenges mainly during the winter season, the place would be covered with snow for at least 3 months, and the landslides during the monsoon.



On 13th July, a very precise handover ceremony of the road was conducted at Tipling itself. The program lasted for one hour. Reverend Bishop Paul Simick, NJS Superior, Fr. Amrit Rai, chairman of Ruby valley Rural Municipality ward no.1 and 2 Mr. Min Ghale and Mr. Pemba Gale respectively, inaugurated the road officially through cutting the ribbon.



NJSI also conducted a felicitation Program on 20th July at NJSI National office at Kathmandu in order to honor the real heroes of the road construction. In the program, Fr Roy, Director of NJSI presented a short video on the construction of the road. Along with that he shared the experiences on behalf of NJSI team, the challenges faced during the implementation phase. Keeping the main motive of the program, Fr. Roy honored 9 distinguished people who had contributed immensely to accomplish the road, namely, JCB operator Mr. Pradip Basnet, who was not only an excavator operator but also a mechanic and would work from 6 am in the morning till about 8pm in the night. He received a life time achievement award from NJSI and the JCB representative naming him as the Outstanding JCB 220LC Operator.

Along with him was his helpers Lo Tamang, Falam Tamang and Shiva Subedi, while Man Bahadur Tamang and Kho Bahadur Tamang cleared the sites. Kailash Thapa and Dipendra Tamang were the transport coordinators.

The function was graced by the presence of Bishop Paul Simick, Former Local Development Officer (LDO) of Dhadhing, Bhagone Aryal. Vice chairman of Ruby Valley Rurla municipality, Beena Ghale, Chairman of Ruby Valley Rural Municipality ward no.1, Min Ghale, and Manager of MAW Earth Movers Pvt.Ltd (JCB), Yam Gurung and finally the whole religious communities in Kathmandu valley and the well-wishers of NJSI.

HIGHLIGHTS

Students Exposure Program at “Tarumtra”



NJSI had organized international exposure program at Patna, India, “Tarumitra” to 7 Government schools of different districts namely, Dongden Devi Secondary School from Tipling, Shree Maha Laxmi Secondary School, Shree Path Pradasak Secondary School from Lalitpur, Shree Bhagawati Secondary School and Shree Azad Secondary School from Lalitpur, Shree Saraswati School from Sindhupalchowk and Shree Bachala Devi Secondary School from Dhading.

In previous year, NJSI had helped these schools to establish “Eco club” in the notion of “Save Our Planet”. This has encourage the schools and the students to build up insight knowledge regarding the ecological issues.



Adieu to the volunteers who helped NJSI in Every way Possible



Godfrey from Spain



Juli Jeswani from India



Layout and blessing ceremony of “Kavre Regional Center” at Pachkhal Municipality, Kavre. Fr. Amrit blessed the land and layout.



On 11th April the interns studying MSW (Master’s in Social Work) at Loyala, Thiruvananthapuram, joined NJSI as an intern for a month. They actively participated in the activities of NJSI for a month

Staff Resource Development Program at Chandagiri



Handover of Shree Tulasi Basic and Shree Bhuwaneshowri Basic Schools



Kavre



Sindhuli

Scholastics visit to NJSI



Nine scholastics from India joined NJSI from 20th to 24th May for their exposure program. The scholastics were dispersed in different districts: Kavre, Ramechhap and Sindhupalchowk inorder to explore the work of NJSI.

NJSI INTERVENTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Kavre

Construction of classrooms at Shree Bhuwaneshwori Basic School



Students performing the dance

The MOU was signed on 24th January 2019 among National Reconstruction Authority, Central Level Planning Implementation Unit and NJSI for the construction of the Shree Bhuwaneshwori Basic School. This school is located at Mahabharat Rural Municipality, ward no.5 which is one of the difficult terrains of Kavre district. Within six months of hardship NJSI was able to complete the construction and handed over to the school management committee on 2nd June.

Perhaps the government has built two classrooms for the students which is not enough for them so to fulfill their requirements NJSI built four more classrooms for them. Along with the building NJSI supported with the furniture ; 25 sets of desk and bench, 4 sets of chairs, 4 white boards, 4 tables, 10 Cushions, 4 ECD tables. The school management committee and the students were very happy to receive the newly constructed buildings, they were thankful to the donor "Xavier Network" and NJSI for implementing the project.

Construction of Kavre Regional Center at Kavre



For upcoming days, NJSI will be more focusing on training programs so for that NJSI is having substantial planning to construct a "Regional center" at Pachkhal Rural Municipality, Kavre.

This Regional center will be functioning as a training center where people from different districts will appear to learn the skills as per their need such as agriculture training, computer training, beautician training, mason training, tailoring training and many more.

On 6th June the stone laying ceremony was conducted, Fr. Amrit blessed the land and the foundation. The work has been started and expected to complete within a year.

At present, a model farm has been set up. Once it is ready, we will be organizing agricultural training program to the people of different districts.

A Multipurpose hall for women at Roshi



“Indrawati Mahila Bikash Samuha” is a women group belongs to a “Tamang Community”, consisting of 30 women at Katunjeysesi, Roshi Rural Municipality, and ward no.7.

This women group was in action since past 15 years, perhaps they didn't have a proper place to conduct any meetings or could do any official works. They use to conduct the meetings on a barren land, if it rains then they had to cancelled it, sometimes they had to sit in some member's house which was not quite convenient . So a women center has been a need for them. As per their requirement NJSI has built a women center with the financial help of “Xavier Network” consisting of one big hall and one office room.

The construction has been completed, on 5th July the center was handed over to the respective authority. Some official members of the local body were present which includes Roshi Rural Municipality chairman, Dal Mahadhur Lama. And some representatives from local Government bodies.

Now the women will be using the center for multi-purpose. They can use it for their meetings, regulating training pro-grams or for any other programs and the meetings of the community.

Lalitpur

PDC program at Shree Bhaleshowri Secondary School



Students participating in the activities



Organizing a “Personal Development Camp” has helped the students in a distinct ways. The prime intention of conducting this program is to focus on Government school going students who are ignorant about their access towards their luminous future. So, NJSI target is to help them to become farsighted so that they could choose their own path in a wise manner.

The program comprises assorted activities along with some information regarding the scholar-ship programs, Child Rights and critical thinking exercises. After completing 6 PDC in different Government schools of different district, this is the 7th PDC conducted at Shree Baleshowri Secondary School. Altogether, 52 students from class 8 and 9 participated in the program. The donor of this program is “Xavier Network”. The school management committee and the students seems very ecstatic towards the program and appealed for further guidance as well.

Completion of 3 months computer training Program at Kamal Niwas



Interns taking classes



Graduation Ceremony

This time NJSI itself initiated to conduct computer training program at the central office, Kamal Niwas. The course was 3 month long program which comprises basic and advanced courses where the students learned Microsoft package, Photoshop, InDesign, video editing.

The participant's didn't have an access to computer facility before so this computer training program had be-come a golden opportunity for them. It has helped them a lot, now they have built the confidence enough to compete in the outer world. Along with the computer training, we have provided English proficiency classes and some personality development classes as well. The donor of this project is "Xavier Network". We have more plans to do related to this computer training programs in future.

On 1st July, a short graduation ceremony was conducted in Kamal Niwas itself where four of them got graduated. Fr. Roy gave the certificates to each participants and gave them best wishes for their endeavor. The students were really happy and appreciative towards NJSI for giving them an opportunity to gain the knowledge.

In patnership with CJ Sisters of Lubhu for Livelihood Support to women



In collaboration with CJ sister at Lubhu, NJSI has started the tailoring training program from 10th May. Implement part is done by the CJ sisters where they have hired one resource person who is assisting the women for the training program. This program is funded by "Missio Achen".

NJSI has provided 15 tailoring machines. It is a 6 months course, now 3 more months are left. There are altogether 14 participants who are coming regularly to attain 3hrs the training program each day. Though the women come from different background like some of them are house wives, some have completed their twelfth standard but their motive is to learn the skills which would help in their livelihood.

In Collaboration with St. Annes for Computer and Office Management Training



In collaboration of St. Anne's sisters of Godawari, NJSI is regulating Computer training pro-gram. The implementation part is done by the sisters and the donor of this program is "Xavier Network".

This is the fourth batch, where all the 15 participants are girls. The participants are doing their studies, some have finished their 10th standard, and some are studying in their bachelors thus, in their leisure period they have joined the computer classes. They had learned the computer subject in their school time but only theoretical part, no practical so they are taking this as their felicitous opportunity to develop themselves.

Along with the computer classes they are learning spoken English, office management approaches.

The main motive of conducting this classes are to make people proficient enough to match up in this globalization world.

The classes have been started from 1st June and will be continuing for six months.

2nd Batch Computer training Program at Kamal Niwas



After completion of 1st batch of computer training program, NJSI has started 2nd batch from 2nd of August in Kamal Niwas. This time NJSI has started 300 hrs. of intensive computer training program with the package of spoken English, personality development and office management courses.

Altogether there are 16 participants who are residing in Kamal Niwas. NJSI will be providing accommodation, food services for all the 16 participants for a month.

This training program is financed by Xavier Network. The participants are from different districts; Kavre, Dhadhing, Dailekh. They have taken this training program as a hope to evolve themselves in confident way.

Sindhupalchowk

Distribution of Furniture in 4 different schools of Sindhupalchowk



**Shree Kyablungthan
Basiac School**



**Shree Seti Devi Basic
School**



**Shree Bhimsen Basic
School**



**Shree Bhumeswori
Basic School**

NJSI has been fulfilling the standard of the government schools through various activities such as construction of classrooms, training programs to teachers, awareness program on some informative knowledge on different topics to the students. Similarly, this time NJSI equipped four different schools of Sindhupalchowk with furniture as per their need.

In Shree Kyablungthan Basic School which is located at Jugal Rural Municipality ward no. 3, 30 sets of desk and bench for the students. Along with that, 9 chairs, 3 tables and 2 cupboards for the staff room. Similarly in Shree Bhimsen Secondary School which is located at Jugal Rural Municipality ward no. 2, 4 ECD tables, 36 sets of desk and bench. Likewise 76 sets of desk and bench, 4 chairs, 1 table and 1 office table in Seti Devi Secondary School and finally in Bhumeswori Secondary School which is located at Barabise Rural Municipality, 12 sets of desk and bench, 4 chairs, 4 tables and 1 cupboard was made available to them.

The school management committee of all four schools were very happy to receive the furniture and expressed their gratitude towards NJSI and the donor "Xavier Network".

Shelters construction on the verge of Completion



The shelter construction project that is going on at Helambhu-4, Sindhupalchowk is on the verge of completion, out of 73 beneficiaries, 64 of them have received their third installment after completing their houses. Now the Government has decided to give certificates to the people who have completed their houses. Within two months we are expecting to complete all the houses and provide the certificates to the respective beneficiaries.

Out of 73 beneficiaries 4 are left to construct the house and receive the second tranche and 9 of them are left to receive third installment.

Women Center: A Protection for the Women Group



Through the financial support from “Missio Achen”, one more center has been added up in Sindhupalchowk and this time it is for shree Jaya Bageshowri women’s group consisting of 450 members. The center is located at Helambhu Rural Municipality ward 4, Mahankal, Sindhupalchowk. The design of the center is as same as other centers that NJSI has been building till now, consisting of one big hall with office room and a toilet facility.

On 4th August, the women’s center was handed over, in the presence of some representatives from Local Government. After the handover and inauguration program of the center, medical camp was conducted on the same day. Altogether, 120 people came for the checkup.



Dhading

A step towards build-up for the Chepang Community



While doing the appraisal for this year, we found one school named “Shree Robang Basic School” in Dhading district which was in devastating situation after the earthquake of 2015. It is located at Rorang Rural Municipality ward no. 6. Fortunately, from this year the place got the access of road, before they was no road. The students studying in the school belong to a “Chepang community”. This is one of the ethnic and most deprived communities of Nepal. Seeing the absolute committal of the school, NJSI determined to construct concrete 2 storey building with four classrooms with the financial help from “Xavier Network”.

The construction of the building has been started, on 26th June stone laying ceremony was conducted in the presence of school management committee, one representative from Rorang Rural Municipality, Maniraj Gurung, students and their parents.

Once the construction gets over NJSI will be centralized in developing the education approaches of the students in this school. The total number of the students is 104, it runs till class 5 from ECD. As monsoon is here and the newly road has been obstructed with landslides, materials are not able to transport in the site so for time being the construction is at halt.



After heavy rain, road got obstructed due to landslide

Dolakha

Encouraging the women to step Forward



NJSI is supporting “Jaldevi Swastha Ama Samuha”, one of the women’s group of Sindhupalchowk. This women group belongs to lower caste which means they are considered as inferior group of the society.

They have been deprived from many opportunities which the main stream people would easily reach to. These women are illiterate, they are limiting themselves within the house chores but then at least they initiated to form a group where they come together to share their problems, happiness in their own terms. So, in order to

motivate them and sustain their group, NJSI has built a center with the financial support from Xavier Network, where they can use it for multipurpose. They can use the center not only for the women but for the community itself. They can conduct their meetings, any welfare programs, training programs etc.

Once the center is handed over, NJSI itself will provide different training programs like tailoring training, soap making, agriculture training according to their need and interest. This would help them to become independent, later in future they could start up their own business.

Sustaining the women through a Multipurpose Center



Similarly, another women center is coming up at Melung Rural Municipality, ward no. 3, Dolakha district. The construction is completed, now painting work is left, as soon as it gets over this center will also be handed over to the respective authority.

This women center is for the “Kalidevi Mahila Samuha” which belongs to most deprived groups of Nepal. They are considered as lower caste people. So, in order to support them and lift their standard, NJSI supported with a women center. This women group is really looking forward to use the center for assorted activities. They have acknowledged NJSI and the donor “Xavier Network” for supporting them.

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Please send your donations to the bank account given below:

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