



TAPRIZA NGO

ANNUAL REPORT 2008
10 Years Tapriza School



Students of the Tapriza School singing traditional songs

TAPRIZA SCHOOL & PROJECTS IN DOLPO – NEPAL

ACTIVITIES IN DOLPO, NEPAL 2008



Students performing Nepalese dance



Students performing Tibetan dance

TAPRIZA SCHOOL IN NEPAL, NEWS

This year once more many children were seeking admission thanks to the continuingly good reputation of the Tapriza School. In spring 2008 30 new students were enrolled at the Tapriza School increasing the total number of students to 165. In winter 2008/2009 the tenth grade again went to Kathmandu to prepare the students for the most important exams so far. During the winter schooling the students practiced with mock exams for the SLC (School Leaving Certificate) they then attended in March 2009. These exams determine the further academic or job-related career of the students, then only students with good results gain admission to the best schools and get the chance to obtain state scholarships. We are awaiting the results eagerly.

Driving forces running the school

The Education office of the district honoured Semduk Lama, who since the very beginnings has worked relentlessly for the Tapriza School and our additional projects in the region of Dolpo, for his management abilities and his social work. Since a few years the teacher Ramchandra Budha shares the burden of the administrative work with Semduk Lama. Besides teaching regular lessons, he does the bookkeeping and reporting and takes on the responsibilities of the school manager, when Semduk Lama is absent. In 2008 a new laptop, which will be used at the school and in Kathmandu, was bought for the school manager to ease the administrative work. So far a lithograph made the work of the teacher, for example the copying of homework or exam papers less time-consuming. For 2009 the purchase of a printer is planned.

A new school system

This year the Tapriza School received the official permission of the Nepalese government to teach up to Class 9. The delegates of the Education office guaranteed that their evaluation and their visit at the 10-year jubilee celebrations were exceedingly positive and therefore nothing stands in the way of obtaining the permission for Class 10 in the next year. As they tell us, it will be the first such permission ever given in the Tibetan speaking part of Dolpo! Accordingly, the salary of an additional teacher will be paid for by the government. This process could however be delayed because after the change of government there are plans to restructure the entire school system.



Mask dances at the Mendrup Ritual



Dance of the protectors

10 years Tapriza and Mendrup ritual

As already described in our newsletter in January, the 10-year jubilee was celebrated grandly at the school. Some of the Swiss board members travelled to Dolpo and could be present at the inauguration of the multipurpose building, at the dance and song performances, the prize and award distributions. With pleasure we forward the thanks of the students and parents to our members and donors. Our students could participate in another important event this year, in the Mendrup ritual in Ringmo, which lasts for 10 days and is performed in the Thasung Tsholing monastery every 12 years. Besides the blessing of medicine, which is bestowed with power, various mask dances were performed. For the first time our students additionally showed traditional dances and songs – much to the enjoyment of the audience.

Building problems and solutions

In 2008 a second storey was supposed to be built on the western wing of the schools building and contain three additional class rooms. The construction work had already begun as after heavy rainfall and an earthquake a load-bearing wall collapsed. Luckily no one was close by at the time of the accident. The walls had to be pulled down and rebuilt from scratch. The school committee decided to make the best out of the necessity and seize the opportunity to extend the building. Now the rooms in the ground floor will also be bigger and lighter with more space for the growing number of students. Whilst the construction is going on, the multipurpose building is used according to its name – as a classroom, bedroom and room for events.

Keeping the environment clean

The necessity of keeping the school and its surrounding clean is discussed continually. Within the bedrooms of the students a new rule was introduced with success in 2008. In every bedroom the students take turns in having the responsibility for keeping the area clean. Now the rooms are tidy. The school compound is harder to control, especially during the season for picking Yartsa Gumbu. The school has put up information boards to try and counteract the heaps of garbage left behind by traders and pickers. Now the school also charges a camping fee, in return the students clean the area regularly.



Kalsang Hombar shrine in Ringmo



Examining the shrine

TAPRIZA PROJECTS

Kalsang Hombar shrine, Ringmo

In spring 2008 a local team of experts examined the Kalsang Hombar Chörten together with the construction specialists Urs Furger and René Brunner of the Tapriza board. The year beforehand the building committee found out that load-bearing beams were rotten and the entire shrine could collapse at any time. Jointly provisions to support the structure were discussed and a solution that satisfied everyone was decided on. So the works could finally be continued. In autumn the villagers and workers renovated the shrine and prevented a valuable element of Dolpo's cultural heritage from decay. Now solely the precious murals need to be restored.

Language lessons at the monastery in Hurikot

The monastery in Hurikot received its final touch in 2008. The murals were completed and statues, furniture and instruments acquired. Presently six young novices are living at the monastery to receive a religious education. The abbot strongly supports the Tibetan education of all children in Hurikot. Additionally to attending the government school in Kaigaun 32 students visit the monastery for two hours every morning before the regular school starts and are taught in Tibetan and English.

Monrisosum monastery, Kalibon

The outside of the monastery building was completed in spring 2008. Since then the villagers have collected enough wood to finish the construction of the interior. Pillars have been erected and carved, floorboards cut into shape to construct a second floor inside the building. This should be completed in 2009. The further interior fitting will be taken in hand, when a suitable lama is found to run the monastery who can coordinate the works.



Hurikot: Abbot with guests from Switzerland



Kalibon monastery

ACTIVITIES IN SWITZERLAND 2008



Marietta Kind
Alexandra Rozkosny
Christiane Vögeli
Franziska Dörig

The women of the Tapriza board



Alexandra Rozkosny
Sasa Holenstein

The cook and the graphic designer

TAPRIZA NGO SWITZERLAND

In 2008 the Tapriza NGO had 181 members (of which 42 supported a class) and 79 donors. The NGO would like to express thanks for the continuous support. The 10th general assembly was held on the 4th of July 2008 in Zürich and attended by 18 members eligible to vote and guests. In addition to the regular agenda items and the presentation of the newest developments of the Tapriza School and other projects, Ursina Müller showed pictures from the recent visit of the Tapriza board to Dolpo and of the 10-year jubilee celebrations at the Tapriza School.

EXTRAORDINARY DONATIONS

The celebration of the 10-year jubilee of the Tapriza NGO in Switzerland gave us a profit of 1'500 CHF. We would like to express our gratitude to the Quartiertreff Hirslanden, all sponsors and other dedicated contributors.

Happy and sad events accompanied the Tapriza in this year. On the occasion of the fiftieth birthday of Marianne Ritter and her subsequent death 5'755 CHF were collected for the Tapriza NGO. In memory of Walter Schaufelberger 5'980 CHF were donated to us. We would like to thank the families and condole.

We would like to express wholehearted thanks for all the donations contributed in the year 2008 and the large faith put into our organisation. In the following we would like to name some donors:

CHF	3'000.-	Aline Andrea Rutz Stiftung
CHF	3'000.-	Tibet Unterstützung Lichtenstein
CHF	3'000.-	Ben and Agnes Seleski
CHF	2'000.-	Ursula Rutz
CHF	1'000.-	Hamasil Stiftung
CHF	1'000.-	Dr. Stefanie Wolfensberger
CHF	1'000.-	Elisabeth Buhofer
CHF	600.-	Gustav and Germaine Karrer

THE 10-YEAR JUBILEE CELEBRATION IN ZÜRICH



Loten Namling sings Tibetan ballads

The 10-year jubilee of the Tapriza School and NGO was celebrated grandly in Switzerland with an abundant Indian dinner cooked by our board member Alexandra Rozkosny and a Tibetan concert of the singer Loten Namling. At the same time pictures of 10 years Tapriza School and Projects were shown. We would like to thank Alexandra, Loten and all of the helpers.

NGO ACCOUNTS 2008 (1.1.-31.12.08)

Income	2007	2008	Budget 2009
Contributions of members	9'100.00	9'600.00	9'000
Contributions of class sponsors	15'356.00	14'412.00	14'000
Donations	6'151.00	10'460.00	7'000
Donations (extraordinary)	15'864.91	27'137.00	12'000
Donations for projects	20'495.00	0.00	1'200
Sales revenue (lectures, postcards, CDs)	2'167.00	1'707.25	700
Capital gain	481.72	52.57	100
TOTAL INCOME	69'615.63	63'368.82	44'000
Costs			
Office material, equipment & computer	1'210.35	403.70	1'200
Office, infrastructure & homepage server	3'160.60	3'174.50	3'200
Administrative costs	6'193.25	5'416.45	6'000
Mailing expenses	1'090.09	1'622.97	1'400
Telecommunication & email	169.45	129.85	200
Brochures, photos, CDs, printed matters	1'549.25	3'475.75	3'000
General assembly, occasions	578.40	249.00	400
capital expenditure	416.70	1'245.53	600
TOTAL COSTS CH	14'368.09	15'717.75	16'000
Transfers to the Tapriza School Nepal	47'905.60	*44'722.60	*40'000
Nepal, office and school material from CH	610.00	2'058.00	600
TASHI D various projects	902.60	112.00	5'800
TASHI D projects financed by donation	19'542.00	9'612.00	1'200
Bank charges for transfers toNepal	103.85	52.05	100
Telecommunication with Nepal	361.40	132.70	200
TOTAL COSTS NEPAL	69'425.45	56'689.35	47'900
COSTS CH/NEPAL TOTAL	83'793.54	72'407.10	63'900
Operating results	-14'177.91	-9'038.28	-19'900

*1\$ – rate 1.17 CHF

BALANCE PER 31.DEZEMBER 2008

Assets	2007	2008
Cash office	1'008.50	1'251.75
Postal cheque account balance	3'091.57	12'770.25
Bank balance	42'834.30	33'467.71
Withholding tax balance	51.06	69.44
Accruals	9612.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	56'597.43	47'559.15
Liabilities		
NGO capital	70'775.34	56'597.43
Operating results	-14'177.91	-9'038.28
TOTAL LIABILITIES	56'597.43	47'559.15

IN US \$ EXPENDITURES SCHOOL IN NEPAL

Costs (for operating school)	2008	Budget 2009
Salaries	51'778	52'611
Food	24'163	24'770
Books	2'950	2'986
School uniform, blankets, jackets, sowing machine	776	811
Hygiene and medicine	350	676
Energy, solar panels, batteries	58	2'869
Cultural programs, nature study, sports	1'462	1'094
Teachers advanced training	-	811
Kitchen	77	203
Travel costs (Dunai, Kathmandu)	1'625	1'926
Tranportation costs (porters, animals)	4'671	5'946
Transportation costs Kathmandu	1'113	885
Guests (NGO-meeting, official visitors, parents, trekkers)	326	412
Kathmandu rent, office, maintenance	2'047	3'263
Communication with CH/USA (tel., email, photos, post, film)	732	703
Official revision Nepal and other expenditures	532	399
Other expenditures, reserves for emergencies	-	405
Reserves bank deposit, exchange rate	63	81
Winterschool in Kathmandu for senoir secondary	4'939	4'159
TOTAL SCHOOL OPERATING COSTS	97'662	105'010

Costs: Building and Infratructure

Schoolhouse: building, maintenance, toilets, drinking water	240	5'240
Furniture and repairs	1'095	1'149
Multipurpose building: construction, material, labour	1'468	946
Three hospital rooms on the other side of the river	214	0
Three new class rooms and extension of school yard	16'411	11'560
TOTAL BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS	19'428	18'895
TOTAL COSTS TAPRIZA SCHOOL	117'090	123'905

INCOME SCHOOL IN NEPAL IN US \$

Income	2008	Budget 2009
Contributions of parents	20'747	20'891
Teachers salaries from the Nepali government	18'750	19'654
School uniforms	365	270
Donations from local organisations and visitors	1'225	1'014
Donations of education office, VDC, buffer zone committee	1'836	5'947
Income from sales of products/sublease Kathmandu	308	95
Share parents: winterschool in Kathmandu for senior secondary	1'976	1'232
Interest on bank accounts	34	0
TOTAL INCOME TAPRIZA SCHOOL	45'241	49'103
Contributions Tapriza NGO Switzerland	41'005	33'120
Contributions Friends of Dolpa und AHF, USA	24'953	33'120
TOTAL INCOME FROM ABROAD	65'958	66'240
Bank balance and cash office in Nepal, early this year	15'522	8'562
TOTAL INCOME AND BALANCE	126'721	123'905

OUR GRADUATE'S VISION OF THEIR FUTURE

In March the first students of the Tapriza School will receive their SLCs (School Leaving Certificate) after finishing Class 10. We are excited and asked them, what their visions of their future are. All of them want to continue their education in a way, which will be profitable for Dolpo. The following career aspirations were mentioned: nurse, hotel manager and tourist guide, social worker, journalist, ranger and environmentalist in the Shey Phoksumdo national park, computer specialist, geographer, electrician and solar technician. At the same time some of them are awaited eagerly at home to help with work on the farms or get married.

All of them hope to receive high grades in their final exams, because they are in need of scholarships to be able to go for further education. Their families live from agriculture or trade and do not have the means to support them financially. With high marks the chances are good to get a scholarship, especially because they live in a very remote and economically weak area of Nepal. At the moment our board is discussing, if and how we could support and accompany our students in their further studies.

"I would like to become a nurse, because in our area there is no good health care and it takes many days to walk to the closest hospital. I would like to return to my remote village, develop the region and open a small hospital (...) My parents could barely support me in my education, without the Tapriza School and the help of the Tapriza NGO and Friends of Dolpa my schooling would not have been possible. (...) My parents think that educating a girl is pointless, because she will move into a different household (of the husband) and do field and house work there. I do not agree and am eager to continue my education."

Sherab Sangmo Lama, Class 10, 17 years

Marietta Kind and the Tapriza Team