



PAHAD

Issue 14

December 2007

Newsletter

From the Chairperson



Much has already been written and talked about of the success of the Reunion and the Mela and my sincere thanks to all involved. I would here like to remind everyone that it was teamwork that made this possible. Similarly, the newsletters, too, have been a product of teamwork and I truly hope that this will continue even when there are changes in the team. Hikmat's editorial speaks eloquently of all that has transpired and all that is involved in the production of these newsletters and I request all PAHAD members to read it. On behalf of PAHAD I thank Hikmat and his team for their hard work and dedication and our best wishes go to the new team.

Dasain and Tihar have gone by but Christmas and the New Year are beckoning and my very best wishes to all our PAHAD friends and let me wish a more fruitful and peaceful 2008 to each and every one of us.

Jana Thapa

PAHAD Mela



PAHAD's third annual Mini Fun Fair was held on 10 February 2007, at the Malpi International College. It enjoyed an unusual pleasure of coinciding with the PestalozziWorld Reunion, and therefore had international participants in addition to PAHAD members, their families and friends, as well as PAHAD scholars, attending the event.

There were a lot of fun games for everyone, as well as stalls which sold clothes and delicious food items. The auction in particular, which was held in the afternoon, was a much enjoyed event, thanks to our international friends, who made it both enjoyable and successful. The fair concluded after the raffle draw, whose lucky winner became Ashok Gharti from Shangri-La Casino, bagging a cash prize of Rs. 10,000.

Overall, this event was a smashing success. Proceeds were donated to the Pestalozzi Children's Village Society (PCVS), Dehradun, during the course of the Reunion. PAHAD thanks the organising team headed by Mrs. Mishra Mila Rai as well as Major Maniprasad Rai and Major Mallal Gurung for their hard work. Thanks also to everyone involved, especially Malpi staff. Thank you so much!

PestalozziWorld Reunion 2007

This year's PestalozziWorld Reunion took place in Nagarkot from 8 to 11 February. It was hosted by the Nepal Pestalozzi Foundation, PAHAD, and among the participants were our friends from the Indian, Tibetan and Thai Foundations, as well as delegates from the POCT, UK and the newly setup Pestalozzi Asian Village in Dehradun, North India. The Reunion was an interesting mix of some forty-plus people, brought together by a common ideal inspired by a legendary man called Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi.

Eleven of this year's Reunion participants were alumni of the UK Pestalozzi Village and represented different generations – ranging from Akriti Dhungel (Nepali), who completed her International Baccalaureate (IB) last year, to senior alumni like Phuntsok Tashi (Tibetan) and Chaiyan Tippayosot (Thai), who were at the Village in the 1960s. Other alumni included Jantrawan Chongnonce (who safely qualifies as a veteran, having attended thirteen of these Reunions now), and three others from Thailand, one from India and three from Nepal. The remaining participants were PAHAD and other Foundation members, their students, friends and families, and also 9 POCT alumni from Nepal.

After a very successful Reunion in Thailand last year, our responsibilities and challenges in hosting the Reunion this year in Nepal were immense. Especially, when our Foundation Chairperson, Jana Thapa, made this offer in Thailand, the country was going through turbulent times, and we were not too sure if the situation would improve in time for the Reunion. Thankfully, peace and democracy were restored to our nation shortly afterward, and the political climate was favourable enough for us to go ahead with this Reunion in Nepal. We selected Nagarkot as venue, which is a famous hill station on the outskirts of Kathmandu. Our guests greatly enjoyed their time on the hill; the mountain scenery plus the sunrise and sunset views from there were spectacular, except that the wind was

perhaps a little too chilly for our friends, especially from Thailand and India!

It was PAHAD's good fortune to host this Reunion – our second organising experience since the last one we hosted in 2003. It was indeed a very rewarding experience, particularly when our guests felt that all the arrangements had been well made and that the meetings were successful. Apart from the usual social fun we experience at our Reunions – renewing old ties and forming new bonds –



our format also accommodates short business meetings. One highlight of this year's meeting was the comprehensive presentation on Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi by Joanna Nair, the Education Consultant from PestalozziWorld. In addition to her very knowledgeable talk, she also distributed copies of

valuable Pestalozzi literature for everyone to take home. Then we had the usual presentations by Country Foundations and an update on the Pestalozzi Asian Village, which at the time already had 75 children under its wings.

Mrs. Thapa facilitated the meetings as well as presenting a report on behalf of the Nepal Foundation, while Bhaba Thami spoke about POCT activities in Nepal. And as part of our Foundation's presentation, we requested Sir Richard Butler to launch the second issue of our annual magazine, GLIMPSE. This was in response to the overwhelming success of our previous issue, also launched by Sir Richard, in Thailand last year.

After the programme in Nagarkot, we took our guests to PAHAD's third annual fundraising fun fair at the Malpi International College. This event was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and our guests in particular made it a day for us to remember. They added life to our games and stalls, and later also auction, contributing much towards our fundraising.

The same evening, PAHAD hosted dinner at Café de Patan for all Reunion delegates, and the formal Reunion programme ended after a visit to Budhanilkantha School on the next morning, where

PestalozziWorld Reunion Continued

everyone had an opportunity to take a tour of the Pestalozzi Centre and see the students POCT is sponsoring there.

As always, we thank Sir Richard Butler, Lady Butler and PestalozziWorld Trustees for their tireless efforts as well as generous support to the Reunion. At the same time, our special thanks are also due to our Chairperson, Mrs. Thapa, and the organising team led by our Secretary and POCT Coordinator, Bhaba Bahadur Thami.



Reunion 2008
 For the interest of readers, the next **PestalozziWorld** Reunion will be held in June 2008 in Barr, near Zurich, Switzerland, the birthplace of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi. It will be hosted by **PestalozziWorld**.

PestalozziWorld

PCVS Scholarship

As in previous years, PAHAD helped in the pre-selection of candidates for the Pestalozzi Children's Village Society (PCVS) this year. Bhaba Thami was the coordinator. Of the 22 applicants short-listed, nine were successful – six girls and three boys. As of this year, there are 32 Nepali children at PCVS.

PAHAD members saw some of the PCVS scholars last summer, when they were home for a holiday. A fun day was had by all at Kathmandu Zoo.



POCT Scholarship

POCT is sponsoring 36 students at Budhanilkantha School. Seven of them were selected this year – one in grade 7, two in grade 8 and four in grade 9 – making a total of six students in each grade. However, no students were selected for grade 4 this year.

In Doti, where POCT has a parallel scholarship scheme, 10 students were selected this year. It has been decided to select nine students there every year. As of this year, there are 41 POCT-sponsored students in Doti.



AGM 2007

PAHAD Association held its eighth Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday, 3 November 2007. The venue for this event was generously provided by Malpi International College. 26 PAHAD members attended the meeting.

Committee Member Ambika Khadka facilitated the meeting. Chairperson Jana Thapa made a welcome speech, and Secretary Bhaba Thami presented a detailed report on the progress PAHAD had made in the past year. Treasurer Maniprasad Rai presented the Auditor's Report for the fiscal year 2063/64 BS, and proposed that Mr. Pradip Pandey be requested to become PAHAD's auditor for 2064/65 BS. This proposal was approved by the AGM. The floor was then opened for general discussion, where issues including PAHAD scholarship, PestalozziWorld Reunions and fundraising were discussed. At the end of the meeting, Kamala Pun, a newly co-opted Committee Member, proposed a vote of thanks to all individuals and organisations who had contributed to the success of the AGM as well as helping PAHAD in its endeavours.

Membership Update

The money raised from membership is one of the main sources of PAHAD's income. This is also a driving force which motivates our active members to carry out any productive venture. So, it is requested that each of us try to bring in as many members as possible so that we can raise more funds for the education of deserving children, and gather more ideas and more hands to continue doing what has been started and to start new projects.

PAHAD takes pleasure in welcoming the following new members who have joined the organisation since the last newsletter:

Hem Krishna Shrestha, Krishna Prasad Devkota, Savitra KC, Madhav Prakash Rai, Sachin Thapa, Captain Krishna Kumar Thapa, Krishna Dip Sigdel, Mr Mahendrasingh Thapa, Mrs Devikala Gurung, Capt Sunder Singh Gurung, Mr Bijendra Gurung, Rajesh Bhattarai

PAHAD's total membership to date stands at 145.

Glimpse II



The second edition of the PAHAD annual magazine, GLIMPSE, was launched by Sir Richard Butler during the Reunion in Nagarkot. Produced by the same team of editors – Rambabu Subedi, Hikmat Khadka and Bhaba Thami – the magazine was well-received and lived up to the first edition, which was also launched by Sir Richard Butler at the Thailand Reunion in 2006. The editorial board thanks all sponsors and contributors for their support.



Sir Richard Butler launching Glimpse II

PAHAD Scholarship

In April, we selected four new scholars as part of our ongoing scholarship programme. Their names are:

1. Kanchhimaya Tamang
2. Krishna Lama
3. Gyan Bahadur Thami
4. Pratik Bhattarai

In addition to the above, Nepal Investment Bank Ltd. has agreed to sponsor five scholars through PAHAD for up to grade 12. These scholars have already been selected and they are:

1. Dipesh Kandel
2. Pragesh Chaguthi
3. Silpa Nagarkoti
4. Sarita Ghising
5. Samrat Maharjan

Scholarship Selection 2065 BS

Scholarship selection for the year 2065 BS will take place during March-April 2008. Application forms can be obtained from PestalozziWorld/PAHAD Office, Maharajgunj, Chakrapath or by email.

PAHAD Scholars 2064*Kanchhimaya Tamang**Krishna Lama**Gyan Bdr Thami**Pratik Bhattarai**Dipesh Kandel**Pragesh Chaguthi**Silpa Nagarkoti**Sarita Ghising**Samrat Maharjan***Editor's Note***Four to Fourteen*

PAHAD was just three years old in 2003, when Bhaba and I joined efforts with the then Chairman, Major Maniprasad Rai, and became part of a wonderful team that was responsible for bringing out regular newsletters to keep our members in touch with the organisation's activities. Before that, Major Rai had produced three newsletters, largely by himself, and we were on board for the fourth edition. We told ourselves that as far as possible, we would produce these newsletters every three months. That year and in 2004, we did very well – we set internal deadlines for ourselves and we met them! Our backs ached and our computers crashed, but we did not give up. And even when television news channels were showing scenes of Saddam Hussein's open capture in Iraq, that wasn't interesting enough for us – we were engrossed in these newsletters, making sure that they were out on time. We put our hearts into the newsletters, and they became the passion of our lives.

We had a dynamic team, and we also grasped every opportunity we could to co-opt new editors in order to benefit from their talents. We benefited in every way from positive aspects of teamwork. After some time, however, Major Rai decided that Bhaba and I had grown capable enough to head the newsletter project by ourselves, therefore departing from the team at the same time he was handing over his chairmanship to Mrs. Thapa in 2004. Despite the pain of losing him, we took great satisfaction in learning that we had become capable, and under the wings of our new Chairperson, the newsletters continued to flourish.

However, in the years that followed, our newsletters became less frequent, varying from one to three editions a year. Perhaps as other priorities took over in our personal and professional lives, they got sidelined. But more importantly, we got involved in a more substantive project with Rambabu Subedi, and produced two editions of GLIMPSE, the annual PAHAD magazine as we called it, which required more effort and time than all the newsletters put together.

PAHAD is seven and a half years old now, and since we took over four years ago, we have grown from four to fourteen newsletter editions. I think this is no ordinary feat for a small organisation like PAHAD. But at the same time, the project must continue, and we feel it is time for us to handover to a new team who can take it further and add more dimensions to it. Perhaps four newsletters a year is still over-ambitious for us, and although two to three instead of that does not seem like a huge undertaking, it is a matter of commitment. The new team will have our support, but more importantly, dear readers, they will require your valuable contribution and feedback so that they can live by their commitment. I am sure they will need reassurance, just as we did, that their work is appreciated and useful so that they feel the urge to continue and continue to feel motivated. They will need the same support you gave us so that their positive interests are sustained in the years to come.

Thank you!

Hikmat Khadka