

Albert-Schweitzer-Schule helps schools in Nepal-Himalaya after severe earthquake

After a very serious earthquake in Nepal in 2015 students from Albert-Schweitzer-Schule donated 8.500€ in cooperation with "Kinderhilfe Nepal." The donation has been used specifically for the reconstruction of the Thangka-Paiting-School in the 3,000 meter high village of Lukla in the Himalayan region which has been almost totally destroyed.

At Thangka-Painting-School for boys the children learn beyond the general education, the art of Thangka painting to earn enough money later to pay for their maintenance. At the same time this education helps to keep the Tibetan Buddhist culture of their country. A few weeks ago normal teaching could be resumed after the reconstruction of the school.

The official inauguration took place during a grand opening ceremony. The extremely precarious location of the school (no roads, only footpaths and trails) makes it difficult and dangerous for pupils to arrive at school.

Some took upon them a march of several hours in order to participate in the opening ceremony. To the delight of the organizers and in spite of this hard and long route a great number of locals came to the opening ceremony.

From the "Aktion kleiner Prinz" Maria Mussaeus and Dr. Michael Quinckardt and as a representative of "Kinderhilfe Nepal e.V" Monika Lucht participated as guests of honor. The journey from Kathmandu proved very adventurous. The most dangerous airport in the world in Lukla was closed because of bad weather conditions. After 6 hours of waiting it was decided to fly by helicopter to Lukla, where the group landed outside the official airport. After 8 hours delay the group were very surprised but also happy that they all landed alive.

With many acceptance speeches, dancing and singing parts the opening ceremony was fascinating. The donations from Germany, especially from Albert-Schweitzer-Schule, were especially mentioned and the new school building has now been completed and is earthquake resistant. Some buildings had not been rebuilt or restored yet and people had to sleep in tents between piles of rubble.

Nepal will need many years to rebuild the country.

Thanks to everybody for his donation, also in the name of many Nepalese parents.

(Monika Lucht, 30.06.2016)

(translated by Can Tekin, July 2016)