

# ACTIVITY REPORT '19



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Dear Friends,

We ended 2019 satisfied that we had maintained our annual obligations and were also able to carry out many new projects. Once again you responded to our appeals and we were able to count on your generosity, involvement and friendship. Many thanks to you all!

## ONGOING PROJECTS

We support these projects in cooperation with the “Amici delle Missionarie dell’Immacolata”:

- **BANGLADESH – KALISHA**: support for the school;
- **GUINEA BISSAU – MANSOA**: support for a nutrition centre for twins;



- **GUINEA BISSAU – BISSAU**: maintenance of means of transport for the Sisters and purchase of petrol;
- **PAPUA NUOVA GUINEA – WATULUMA**: study and work scholarships for young people;
- **PAPUA NUOVA GUINEA – PORT MORESBY**: contribution for the education of young people;
- **PAPUA NUOVA GUINEA – VANIMO**: support for a social assistance centre for children;
- **BRASILE – MACAPÁ**: support for a ...?.. centre for children from the favelas after school hours;
- **INDIA – MUMBAI**: support for the Vimala Dermatological Centre, a hospital for the treatment of leprosy;
- **ITALIA – SESTO SAN GIOVANNI**: support to the “Step by Step together” Association, which supports school motivation in pre-adolescents through various activities.

These projects are for two centres run by the “Sisters of the Destitute”:

- **INDIA – JEEVANDHARA**: contribution to the centre for physically disabled little girls;
- **INDIA – KERA KURD**: contribution for the centre for mentally disturbed women.

We continue to support these projects to assist Tibetan refugees in various refugee camps in India:

- **BYLAKUPPE – TSO JHE HOSPITAL**: maintenance of maternity/delivery ward and contribution for tuberculosis patients’ wing and dental centre;
- **VARIOUS REFUGEE CAMPS**: aid for canteens of 6 schools and 1 monastery;
- **VARIOUS REFUGEE CAMPS**: contribution for 5 old people’s homes;
- **DHARAMSALA**: payment of lodgings rents for 3 elderly nuns, a deaf and dumb girl and a widow with 3 children, one of whom is severely disabled;
- **DEHRADUN**: financial support for the Ngoenga school for children with special needs.

## ONE SHOT PROJECTS

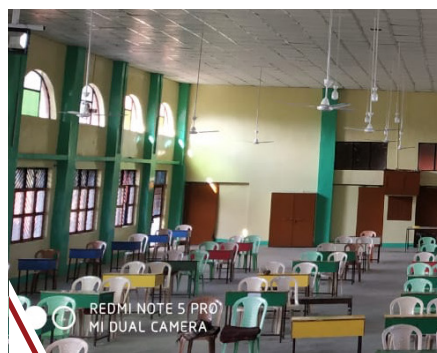
- **INDIA – MUNDGOD**: the new living quarters for the medical staff of the hospital were completed and inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Tibet on 20 December, 6 new flats for as many families. Heartfelt thanks to the **Italian Buddhist’ Union** which financed the project and was present at the inauguration;



- **INDIA – CHENNAI**: purchase of gifts for the children in the slums of Chennai to celebrate the New Year;
- **INDIA – DHARAMSALA**: thanks to the “Nel Nome della Donna” trust we were able to install new bathrooms and build a laundry room for the CHTS girls’ school (College for Higher Tibetan Studies) at Sarah Village;



- **INDIA – DEHRADUN**: another phase was completed this year in the modernization of the school in Ngoenga with the consolidation of another two buildings: the nurse’s room and the garage, with lodgings above for the staff, and overhaul of the electrical system in the canteen, kitchen and another two buildings for staff lodgings (many thanks to the **Arpe Foundation** in Zurich for financing these works). We also completed building a support wall for the escarpment behind the kitchen (for this we send heartfelt thanks to the **GAB foundation** in Lugano which financed the project);
- **INDIA – DEHRADUN**: thanks to an anonymous donor we purchased chairs for the waiting room at the small hospital in Dejikiling;
- **INDIA – CLEMENT TOWN**: we had two projects this year in Clement Town, one was the purchase of a generator for the school, and another, which is still under completion, the modernization of the old people’s home;
- **INDIA – PAONTA**: In the small refugee camp at Paonta three projects were completed, the first, thanks to financing by the now faithful **fondazione Ambrosoli** in Lugano, was the renovation of the roof of the school canteen, with new windows and painting of all inside walls; the second was tiling of the courtyard and boundary wall of the monastery (warmest thanks to the





Bertarelli Foundation in Geneva); the third, paving around the water tank These two projects were indispensable in order to keep snakes out;

- **INDIA - BYLAKUPPE E GURUPURA:** in both these refugee camps we built new water wells, since the old ones had collapsed due to flooding by monsoons. At the inauguration of the new well at Gurupura the entire population of the camp came to thank us, thanks that we convey to **Vandoeuvres Municipality**, which financed the project;



- **INDIA - BYLAKUPPE:** The **Ambrosoli Foundation** sponsored la construction of a new school canteen in the CST school at the Lugsung camp, it will be completed at the beginning of 2020;
- **INDIA - BYLAKUPPE:** At the Tso Jhe hospital a campaign was started to vaccinate young girls for papilloma virus. In 2019 we were able to vaccinate 190 girls but there are still many more waiting to be vaccinated! We stress once again how important this prevention campaign is for young girls who cannot afford regular gynaecological check-ups;



- **SECULAR ETHICS:** we accepted financing this project, which the Dalai Lama holds very dear. It means financing courses which enable the teachers to teach the subject correctly. Secular Ethics is ethics that goes beyond religions and can even surpass religion, with the aim of creating greater social peace;
- **INDIA - MUNDGOD:** Construction of a new facility for the school kitchen.

## MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Medical emergencies continue to financially ruin many Tibetan families. In agreement with the Ministry of Health of the Tibetan Government in Dharamsala, starting this year we have created a fund for these emergencies so that we can deal with the most serious and urgent cases, which will be considered case by case by mutual agreement.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

- For the *third year* running, the Trust “Nel Nome della Donna” financed scholarships for:
- 50 Tibetan girls who are studying at college;
  - 2 young Tibetane girls who are studying at the Faculty of Medicine;
  - 5 disabled Indian girls who want to continue studying after XII grade.

## SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsorships continue: with a small annual contribution (less than a coffee a day), we can sponsor the studies of an Indian child or help a Tibetan child or grandparent. This year’s story is the story of K. and V. Their father is an alcoholic and if he works he spends all his money on drink, their mother couldn’t stand the situation and left, leaving the two children with her sister Her sister also has two children and her husband left her. She works at a kiln making bricks, earns less than 2 Swiss francs a day and lives with 4 children, her husband’s sister who is blind and her mother-in-law who, fortunately, works. When she realized that K. had the first symptoms of leprosy she took him to Vimala Hospital and from that moment life became a little less bitter: V. and their little cousin were accepted at Vimala boarding school, K’s leprosy was treated successfully and he is studying in a Jesuit school where he can also have full board, and all the other three children found someone to sponsor them. Starting this year we are suggesting a **new form of sponsorship**, which is just as important. The Tibetan Ministry of Health has created a form of medical insurance called TMS (Tibetan Medical System). With a small sum annually for a family, any member of that family is afforded assistance in case of illness via reimbursement of medical expenses up to 1 lakh (about € 1240/SF 1350). The majority of Tibetan families cannot afford even that sum. So, with the same amount that would help a child to study, we offer you also the possibility of sponsoring four Tibetan families by making them a gift of TMS.

## PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2020

- **INDIA - MUNDGOD:** the school in Mundgod, which has 600 pupils, is in a very bad state, many of the buildings are decrepit, many still have an asbestos roof, and only a few have been rennovated. A generous private sponsor took the problem to heart and offered to finance the reconstruction of the physics, chemistry and biology laboratories and the library for 465 pupils in 2020;
  - **INDIA - MUNDGOD E BYLAKUPPE** they have requested financing for the purchase of two school buses to take the children to school;
  - **INDIA - MAINPAT:** the school, which has 64 pupils and 11 teachers, has requested financing to cover the building with a sheet metal roof and rennovate the class rooms. We have already found a generous financer;
  - **INDIA - BYLAKUPPE:** the Tso Jhe hospital needs a coat of paint and various renovation jobs;
  - **INDIA - DEJIKILING:** the Tibetan Home Foundation has a school in Mansoori (90 boys and 71 girls) and has asked us for aid to modernize the library;
  - **INDIA - GURUPURA:** the school, with 160 pupils and 20 teachers and staff, needs an inverter to avoid electricity cuts during lessons, and also new desks and chairs;
  - **BRASILE - SAN PAOLO:** we have been asked for financing to open and maintain a photo and comics workshop for children from the favelas after school. A generous sponsor has offered to cover the costs of this project for this year, many thanks!
  - **INDIA - ODISHA:** the school in Lobsering, with 66 pupils and 8 teachers, urgently needs to build a drainage system for the water around the school buildings, to avoid the heavy monsoon rains damaging the playing field, the sports field and the floors in the classrooms;
  - **INDIA - CHANDRAGIRI:** the school, which has 107 pupils and 18 teachers, needs a new gas cooker, a new gas cylinder and various other kitchen tools.
- These are the projects that we have been asked to finance up to now, but as we write many others are arriving... and only with your generous aid will we be able to carry them out.

*We wish to thank the Trust “Nel Nome della Donna”, the Italian Buddhists Union, the G. & G. Ambrosoli foundation, the GAB Charity Foundation, the Arpe foundation the Bertarelli foundation, the Municipality of Vandoeuvres, all those who although donating generously wish to remain anonymous, and all those who through your purchases and your generous responses to our appeals via social media, and your gifts, make it possible for us to complete our projects.*  
*Thanks to you all everything is possible!*

If you wish to help us carry out our projects and participate in our work please contact  
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**FOR DONATIONS:** **Corner Bank - Lugano**, IBAN CHF: CH97 0849 0000 2712 1000 1  
IBAN EURO: CH59 0849 0000 2712 1000 6 - Swift: CBLUCH22  
**UBI banca - Milano**, IBAN: IT14 E0311 10164 60000 00099 190 - Swift: BLOPIT22