

The Daily Bridge

The Daily Newspaper of SACYN Conference 2010

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Pokhara, Nepal

Exposé

Youth for Fun & Learning!!!

19th May 2010, Pokhara: The highlight of the second day of the conference proved to be the Exposure Visits which gave the different gupsup groups an opportunity to know each other and also to experience the important humanitarian activities in the region along with the sights of Pokhara. The Daily Bridge team has tried to provide a perspective on the experiences of the delegates who went for the visits, in their own words.

***It opened my eyes to some harsh realities**

Chris Hoskins

Tuesday was exposure day. My gupsup group went to visit an HIV clinic and a local university campus.

Both visits were interesting, although, we did not have enough time at either place to really go in depth with the people there – our bus had some navigational issues!

The clinic was a place where Christ's compassion was clearly on show, the staff there giving the best care they could with what little resources they have – although the resources are becoming more plentiful as more NGO's and INGO's hear about the work there and support it.

There were 2 young children at the clinic – I'm unsure if they were patients or children of staff. One of them to really took to our friend Sehrish John, giving some nice cuddles and laughing away!

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Medical Mission with a focus on leprosy - Sarah Valentine

On the 17th of May after the bible study the SACYN had planned exposure visits. The delegates were divided into 25 groups and at least three groups were assigned two places to visit. My group the Eagles visited the green pasture hospital located at the heart of Pokhara at Hariokharka the word literally means green fields. This hospital was established in 1957 for leprosy patients. It is a visionary missionary hospital, with training facilities for the doctors. The layout of the hospital is an inspiration from Psalm 23 with the lush green fields and corn plantations, hence the patients are lead by the grace of the Lord to Green Pastures where they receive tender loving care.

While we were waiting for the tour to formally commence I got a chance to learn more about the history and the incidence of leprosy, I spoke to the volunteer doctors from Finland and England, who are mostly fresh graduates sent on a mission to revive the lives of these patients. They were kind enough to elaborate the causes of leprosy and the management

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It opened... Cont. from page 1

At the university, we spent some time in their natural history museum – learning a little about local and worldwide species.

We also had a talk from one of the faculty members, which was most helpful in helping us to understand the context in which the university teaches and as a result guides their approach to teaching and nurturing students.

It was a really interesting day for me especially. In Scotland, my homeland, we have no health clinics where funding is difficult to find – so the HIV clinic really opened my eyes to some harsh realities.

It was also interesting comparing the university campus to where I studied, Edinburgh University, both are beautiful campuses, both are looking to give and get the best from their students.

But the University here seemed more relaxed; it had a much less stressful atmosphere about it!

I am most grateful for the chance to see some of the reality of life in Nepal beyond the tourist façade so many westerners see when they come here, thank you for making that possible and for sharing the experience with me.

(Chris is from Scotland and loves photography)

Cultural Night Flashback: Sanjay and Pradip

After all the hammering through the day, explosion of the exposure visits and cooling at the pool, the young people enjoyed the luxurious buffet which was obviously the reason for many young people landing up at Room No. 1131. Yes you guessed it right, that's the room of Dr. Carol (India's contribution to South Asian Youth Health).



Well, after the dinner, the real youthy session began for which, all the young wait for and love to perform, learn and come together forgetting borders, enmity and the political situation or even the tensions of the cricket loving countries.

The programme began with friends from Bhutan, who warmed hearts with lovely dance and singing followed by the mostly hospitable and amazing people of Nepal, who started by singing the National Anthem helping all the young people to get connected to the land of their own and the land we are in now.

They inspired all the young people to dance to their tunes and then came the beautiful and handsome people from Bangladesh, though nervous when started but eventually had the crowds dancing in the aisles.

Keeping in tempo with the mood, the church groups from Kerala in India struck up the beat of their traditional snake boat song, which suddenly came to life with delegates from every country forming a snake boat at the edge of the stage and swaying in rhythm with the song.

Finally it was the time for the real happening thing, the dance of the neighbours, the dance of joy, the dance of friendship, coming together of India and Pakistan breaking all barriers and notions proclaiming unity and friendship.

The session ended with every young person leaving the hall believing no borders or barriers are too great to be broken, and nothing can stop them from coming together as one people.



Mirasubha...!!!

The two lovers only they but know...
At the airport only some but know...
At Fulbari the president got to know...
Back at home God only knows!!!

Sam Ponniah

**Come..!
Contribute...
This space is for you....
Bring in your news...
Thoughts.....
Memories.... Snaps....
Expectations..... Fun....
and
Many more.....
key in your
entries and fly in
to
anilalmjose@gmail.com**

Bijoy Caught in the Act!!

A little birdie reports that a bunch of youth delegates from across South Asia literally brought the foundations of the hotel down by dancing and singing songs used in our Christian worship.

Sources say that this 'underground activity' happened well past midnight in a little pond that has never had people splash around and enjoy in the way that it happened last night.

The hotel staff may have been miffed but the group swelled from 4-5 to nearly 20-25. Unconfirmed reports suggest that trouble makers included Bijoy among others indulging in this underground activity.

These individuals and all others with them have been 'charged' by local authorities with violating pool usage norms.

Work is a verb

Jacob Issac

Work means, literally, to exert oneself." Work is hard. Its demanding, frustrating, stressful, complicated, challenging, even exhausting. Its heavy lifting, for the body and mind. No wonder a lot of people don't like to



do it or would rather rationalize why they didn't do it, can't do it or won't do it.

Who wouldn't rather than point a remote at the TV?

We live in a world that has named and rationalized virtually every shortcoming. They are not lazy, they must be under-challenged, distraction prone or decision averse.



Heard on the Street

Girl, you need to get a boyfriend soon. You need somebody to carry all your bags

(Conversation overheard during delegates shopping expedition in Town)

An apple a day keeps the Carol away!!!

(A delegate revisiting an old phrase.)

I am upset (*hits stomach*)... I am really upset!!

(Thimira from Sri Lanka to Dr. Carol)

Fish is very good, don't eat it... Chicken is excellent don't touch it... The best way to avoid food poisoning is avoiding eating..."

(Kasta on mitigating sickness)

What did Jakes speak on?

Youth Mahouts..!

Whom did he address?

Everybody but us..!

(Sheela- Not the Jakes' one!)

NASRUDDIN in NEPAL

Phil Simpson

On age

Mulla Nasrudin, celebrating his birthday was asked: "Don't you hate growing old, Mulla?" "Oh, NO," said Nasrudin. "If I wasn't growing old I'd be dead!."

On travel



a drowsy Mulla asked a passerby "where am I?" "You are near the market & mosque" "Never mine the details" said Nasrudin "What country am I in?"

On sermons

Mulla, what did you think of the sermon?" "Oh, It was OK" said Nasrudin, "Only he passed 3 really good places where he could have stopped."

On mission

A mosque committee member called on Mulla. "I'm here for your annual contribution to converting-the-heathen fund. Last year you gave a rupee." "WHAT! Nasruddin responded "Haven't you converted them all yet?"

On self help books

"This book," said the salesman, "will do half your work." "Fine, I will take two of them" said Mulla Nasrudin "then I won't need to work at all"



Glimpses of the Second Day



Medical... cont from Page 1

of the disease, which has been endemic to Nepal, however the number of cases have decreased in the last couple of decades as a result of the joint efforts of the organizations like Tear fund, German relief association, WHO, sasacama and unicef.

It is a communicable disease common in the immune-compromised. It usually appears first on the head and neck region followed by the elbows and the lower extremities of the lower limbs. The disease has to be nipped in the bud as soon as the earliest signs reveal themselves as its course is consuming and life threatening. Along with the basic medical treatment there is regular physiotherapy and a orthopaedics department usually aimed for patients who have either sustained an injury or compression of the spinal cord. Such patients have very restricted movements. There are about 80 patients, it is a 82 bed facility out of which 50 beds are assigned to dermatology. The poor patients are provided with free medicines. We were given a guided tour of the hospital during which we got a chance to actually talk to the patients and spend time with them.

One particular case had been suffering from leprosy for eight years. He was a pastor at a local church. On talking to him I discovered that he is on the road to betterment and that he is now a witness to Christ amongst the non believers in the surrounding areas.

The Christian staff and the patients gather for devotion and worship every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday. The most interesting thing that caught my attention was the distribution of the Gideon's bible in the hospital to the patients regardless of them being Christians or non Christians, hence an immense step towards spreading Christianity in Nepal and comforting the lepers who have been cast out of the normal society due to their communicable ailment.

In the end I pray to God to give me courage and support to follow suit and help out the downcast individuals of Pakistan. And make the youth aware of the stigma of such a disease and the issues faced by the patients. May God help me be a witness of the Gospel.

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