

KYITSEL-LING AT SIKKIM to SAVE TIBET'S NEW GENERATION (STNG)

In 2005 a tour of master Tibetan thangka artists was brought to the United States, and one of them, Tseten Dorjee is a true model of compassionate living. Together with his family, they have created a small non-profit in Sikkim called Save Tibet's New Generation (STNG).

Sikkim is a small Himalayan State lying in the North east of India. It is the second smallest state in India. It is barely 7,096 sq km in size yet has an elevation ranging from 300m to 8585m above sea level. The people are mostly of surrounding nomadic Tibetans, steeped in poverty and illiteracy, leading unbelievably harsh lives.

STNG is providing school fees, medicine and clothing to 25 very needy children in the area. These children are scattered in various rural and far-flung areas, which are illiterate and nomadic. The Indian government provides school fees for education, but attendance is irregular and unsatisfactory. For these children to attend school regularly and create support for education at home there must be a center to ensure they, and hundreds more, can attend school and have access to proper reference materials, computers and trained teachers.

Much like Clement Town, the Sikkim Project will offer quality educational opportunities to children in need. Traditional family bonds in Tibetan communities are strong, but there are situations where elderly Tibetans are alone and uncared for. Our plan includes housing and care for these elders, so they can have companionship and laughter in their lives. In turn, the elders can transmit traditional values to the children. - a mutually beneficial generational wrap around!

Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town has already touched the lives of hundreds of children in need and will impact thousands more. Kyitsel-ling, Sikkim has the potential to change the lives of many truly underprivileged and needy children in a remote area.

Tseten Dorjee is an experienced Tibetan thangka teacher, and is on faculty at Naropa University, Boulder, CO. He has developed the Sikkim Art Program, and has worked with many Western students.

KYITSELING, CLEMENT TOWN :

KYITSEL-LING means "a place for growing up in happiness" - a name given by H.H. The Dalai Lama to the center built in Dehra Dun, India in 1997.

Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town, is a boarding hostel and educational resource for needy Tibetan children.

Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town, is supported by Tibetans in exile, and has grown from 40 children to serving over 120 children annually.

TCEF is excited to celebrate its tenth year of service to Tibetan children's education by launching Kyitsel-ling, the Sikkim project. We believe this is a worthy endeavor and invite you to join this undertaking.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution towards this cause.

STNG is a registered charitable society dedicated to working for the education of needy Tibetan children. Sikkim provides an opportunity to create another Kyitsel-ling where there is real need.

BREATH, BEND, BLOOM ... YOGA BLOOM

CORAWEN

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CHARITABLE GIVING:

The Feathered Pipe Foundation and the Tibetan Children's fund (TCEF/STNG) are building a hostel for the children of itinerant Tibetans ... Tibet is in the forefront of current events with the recent demonstrations in China and Lhasa. The ongoing infiltration of Chinese immigrants into the TAR (Tibet Autonomous region) is taking away the identity of the Tibetan people, and the freedom to practice and study traditional Tibetan culture is being lost. Since July 1996, over 6,000 Chinese have flooded into Lhasa alone, and now 2 of every 3 people is Han Chinese, the Tibetan language is not taught to the youth, and the sacred Potala Palace is surrounded by an amusement park.

Much like the world over, many Tibetan children would rather play on a Gameboy or X-Box, than learn to paint a thangka, or chant the prayers and offerings to the Buddha. Our school and hostel will provide both an academic and a cultural education to these young minds.

Many children in Sikkim are scattered in rural areas, coming from nomadic families who are often illiterate. TCEF/STNG provides school fees, medicine and clothing to 25 needy children and 14 homeless elders. The Sikkim Project will help to support their education and provide proper materials, computers and trained staff. Our plan includes housing and care for the children and elders, so they can share traditional Tibetan values.

For over 10 years, our Kyitsel-ling school in Clement Town has touched the lives of hundreds of children in need, and will continue to impact thousands more. The Sikkim Project has the potential to change the lives of many truly underprivileged and needy people in a remote area. We are visiting potential sites for the hostel and school while we are in Gantok.

"...the Tibetan exile community one of the success stories among refugee groups in recent decades. But no less important, perhaps, it has offered a possibility to many others on a planet where there are, by some counts, as many as 33 million official and unofficial refugees. By showing how Tibet can exist internally, in spirit and imagination, even if it is barely visible on the map, the Dalai Lama has been suggesting to Palestinians, Kurds and Uighurs that they can maintain a cultural community even if they have lost their territory. Communities can be linked not by common soil so much as by common ground, a common foundation"

- Pico Iyer

http://featheredpipe.com/foundation/Childrens_Fund.php

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