

# NCEF GYAN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEPALESE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

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**gyan:** *n.* knowledge acquired  
by direct perception

## A new NCEF board and committees appointed for the year 2006-2007.

NCEF had its annual board meeting on June 9, 2006 to elect the new board. Amrit Pant, Atul Pokharel, Hesky Fisher, Inku Subedi, John Perry, Olivier Kamanda, Omprakash Gnawali, and Steven Lustig were elected to the board with a one-year term. *(More detail on next page)*

## Budget for the year 2006/2007

On June 30, 2006, NCEF approved a budget of NRs. 4,37,800.00 for our Nepal operation. This amount is expected to cover all the expenses in Nepal for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Hesky sent the budget approval letter to CE, which was submitted to the Social Welfare Council (SWC). The money has not been transferred to CE's bank account because CE has not yet submitted to NCEF the approval letter from SWC. The authorization (from SWC) must be obtained every year.

## Kathmandu volunteers organize an awareness class for children

On May 27, Kathmandu volunteers organized an awareness class on "child sex abuse" in collaboration with trainees of other organizations that are also working in the field of education and health. The event lasted for three hours. *(More detail on following pages)*

## A wish for a quick recovery

In Nepalgunj, our area coordinator Ms. Apsara Khanal had an accident in early June. She came to Kathmandu for medical examination. There was a great support shown by CE volunteers in Kathmandu. NCEF wishes for her quick recovery.

## Limitation of NCEF work.

NCEF was forced to discontinue help to Prasamsa P., a NCEF sponsored student in Patan. Prasamsa had been living in an orphanage after her parents abandoned her. But in mid-June, her mother appeared in the orphanage to take her daughter with her. Concerned about the mother's inability to support Prasamsa, the orphanage denied handing over the child. Later this issue took a sharper turn when it reached the District Administration Office, Police and Social Welfare Council. Although the first two concurred with the orphanage's concerns, the SWC ruled that, as Patan volunteer Mr. Suresh Devkota writes, if a child's parents want to take away their child, they should be allowed.

Prasamsa was given to her mother in the presence of district police. Reportedly, she has been forced to discontinue schooling and has been living on the streets, beside her mother, begging!

The incident is a clear example of the limitations that NCEF has to grapple with. Prasamsa's story is a sample of the bitter reality of child welfare issues in Nepal.

## NEWSLETTER'S ANNIVERSARY

*The first issue of the NCEF monthly newsletter was published on June, 2005. This issue marks the anniversary of our newsletter. We greatly appreciate any comments, suggestions and ideas, which can be emailed to [chhitij@nepalchildren.org](mailto:chhitij@nepalchildren.org)*

## GETTING INVOLVED

### Why?

- To make a lasting difference in the lives of children.
- To be a part of an exciting team of interesting and dedicated volunteers.
- To put your spare time, no matter how little, to good use.

### How?

- **Join** our announcements list!
- Help fundraise money for NCEF scholarships.
- Help with the administrative aspects of NCEF.
- Take part in discussions to ensure NCEF is increasingly effective.
- Help expand NCEF to new areas in Nepal
- Become a field volunteer in Nepal.
- Help lead NCEF by running for a position on the Board or Executive Committee.

# A new board and new committees formed for the year 2006-2007

NCEF had its annual board meeting on June 9, 2006 to elect the new board.

**Following are the elected members of the new board:**



Amrit Pant



Atul Pokharel



Hesky Fisher



Inku Subedi



John Perry



Olivier Kamanda



Omprakash Gnawali



Steven Lustig

**Following are the members of the Executive Committee:**

*Chief Executive Officer:* Omprakash Gnawali

*Treasurer:* Hesky Fisher

*Secretary:* Steven Lustig

**Following are the members of the Fundraising Committee:**

*Chairperson:* Atul Pokharel

*Media and Publicity Chair:* Chhitij Bashyal

*Donor Relations Manager:* Inku Subedi

*Event Coordinator:* Olivier Kamanda

*Officers:* Amrit Pant and Anurodh Pokharel

For more information about the members of the committees and the board, visit the following website:

[www.nepalchildren.org/about.html](http://www.nepalchildren.org/about.html)

# Exploring a world outside the classroom: A Library Visit.

On May 20, Kathmandu volunteers organized a small, but special event for NCEF sponsored children in Kathmandu. Six students, along with some parents and CE volunteers, visited the Nepal Japan Children's Library (NJCL).

The students were happy to get a break from sitting in a classroom and explore the library, which had organized many interactive programs for children on that day. Among such programs was a T.V. show for kids. Along with the sixty other library-visiting children, the NCEF children found the program very entertaining and educational.

After an hour of digital entertainment, the children were soon lost in a different world – the world of books. Soon they were busy adventuring through storybooks, which they can seldom afford to do.

While some were completely occupied with reading books, some were immersed in yet another world – the world of art. Exploring their creativity and artistic talents, students participated in an art program.

While the children were enjoying library's programs, the CE volunteers met with some of the children's parents. The volunteers answered questions and concerns that parents presented at the meeting. One of the concerns was about paying children's admission fee. Because of the political situation in Nepal, volunteers had experienced difficulty with money transactions with the bank. Another topic discussed was regarding health camp for children. However, Dr. Maheshwor Kafle, a physician and the CEO of CE, who was also attending the event, examined the children and took care of the problem right away.

With such success of this program, volunteers are encouraged to organize similar events, which not only plant a deep interest in obtaining education, but also in exploring beyond one's classroom.

## ABOUT NCEF

*NCEF is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop the potential of disadvantaged Nepalese children through education. Need-based scholarships are provided to deserving students who would otherwise be unable to attend school. Our social workers in Nepal meet regularly with the selected children and their parents to assist in each child's development. We dedicate our resources to each NCEF child until they complete high school (twelfth grade).*

2006 FUNDRAISING METER

\$13,213

## MAKING DONATIONS

### □ Online:

[www.nepalchildren.org/donation.html](http://www.nepalchildren.org/donation.html)

### □ Checks:

#### Make checks payable to:

Nepalese Children Education Fund or NCEF

#### Mailing address:

Nepalese Children's Education Fund

P.O. Box 380061

Cambridge, MA 02238-0061

#### Questions?

Website: [www.nepalchildren.org](http://www.nepalchildren.org)

Email: [contact@nepalchildren.org](mailto:contact@nepalchildren.org)

THANK YOU!

## SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

To subscribe or unsubscribe the newsletter, please send a request email to [subscribe@nepalchildren.org](mailto:subscribe@nepalchildren.org)

## NCEF PAMPHLET

Share information about NCEF with your friends with [this printable pamphlet](#).

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