

The absence of the FCRA certificate and Indian bureaucracy

Without this special FCRA certificate (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) from the Indian Government, no money transfers can be made to India for charitable projects like our school. At the end of 2021, our partner organization Lungnak Youth Association applied for the extension of this FCRA certificate, but nothing happened for eight months. Inquiries remained unanswered. What weighed more heavily, however, was that all funds in



the account in Delhi had been frozen. As a result, our teachers, cooks and staff in Raru and Jammu have not been paid since October 2021. It speaks for all of them that nobody resigned during this time and this gives another proof of the inner connection and solidarity among the whole team. We tried everything possible, even wrote a letter to the Indian Prime Minister. With smaller transfers, we had been able to bridge the emergency situation to some extent. At the beginning of September, we got the redemptive news that the certificate had been extended for another five years.

© 2022 - Bernd Balaschus
Nibelungenstr. 40, 72768 Reutlingen
07121 - 678 505 mail: info@shambhala.de

How You can support the school project

- **Membership of Shambhala e.V.**
(annual fee from € 60,-)
- **Sponsoring of a Zanskari child** monthly 20,-
- **Contributions and one time donations**

Due to the non-profit status of Shambhala e.V. we can issue deductible receipts for all donations.

Account no:

Kreissparkasse Reutlingen

IBAN:

DE79 6405 0000 0000 0195 34

SWIFT: SOLADES1REU

Thank You for Your valuable support!



Shambhala e.V.



Please support us further!

This year, Jamyang Ling was able to return to normal school operations, all corona measures had been lifted by the Indian Government. As in the year before, teachers arrived by helicopter from Leh at the end of February and our school was opened punctually on March 1st. What makes us particularly happy: The entire teaching staff is back! Continuity is such a value in these turbulent times.



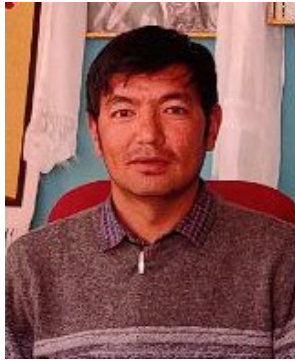
Since it was still quite cold in March this year, the very little ones only started school 4 weeks later. This year there was a special ritual introduced by our teachers and everyone was welcomed individually. This is just one of many new and creative ideas of our new headmaster Stanzin Lobzang, who will tell us his own story later.

Our new headmaster in JLMS

Stanzin Lobzang started as principal on March 1st in Jamyang Ling. He isn't just an ordinary „headmaster“, as Lobzang is a former student!

He wrote to us:

„I was born and raised in a small family at Testa, having six members including my ailing father whose health remained not well throughout his life despite he earned our family living as a horseman and my mother who is a pious home maker, always busy in looking after the yaks and flock of sheep which yield sufficient dairy product to keep the butter lamp burning all the time at our small prayer room. I am the youngest among my two brothers and the only sister who remained illiterate, helping our parents in household chores until she got married. Since everyone in the village kept many livestock children are bound to scale the nearby mountains everyday with sheep and goats and I was one among them who spent most of life's school ages phase with lambs and calves. There was a time when I hardly remember any mountains apex uncapped of snow and could never thought of my life beyond that mountains until we saw some white foreigners passing through my village who gave us some



cookies and pencil. The first and only foreign word I got to know was "bonbon" then, whenever some strangers passed through the village, we used to run after them and said „bonbon“ and some of them used to gift us cookies and chocolates.

Occasionally, I used to go to a Government school at my village, I left this school with 3rd standard certificate in my hand to enroll in JLMS where I failed to crack the nursery examination and I was admitted in Lower Kindergarten class on 2nd of March 2000.

I believe that day as a turning point of my life because I was old enough to sense the feeling of being failure. Later on I did succeed in impressing Tsering Sangpo - Headmaster then, with my colourful academic result at the very 1st term examination and he granted me double promotion the same year. (I started to laugh loud when I see that notice in my office) Apart from nurturing my mind at school during these days, the wonderful hostel atmosphere has trained me to bear the harshness of cold and hot alike, I learned to live independent myself, without being dependent too much to others. I earned my expenses through



being skilled in trekking during my higher secondary, colleges and university life, following "EARN WHILE YOU LEARN" formula. I never had to face that much difficulties at Youth Hostel and KNIT school rather I enjoyed my studies with same mates to the fullest. I pursued my master in Arts (English Literature) meanwhile I got an offer to work as a teacher cum hostel supervisor at Ichar in Zanskar. From that day I started loving teaching job and went on to pursue B. Ed courses through University of Jammu. I had long in mind to come back to Jamyang Ling as here left foot prints of my childhood are in every corner of school and hostel. Even after staying two years as a teacher I feel more like a child here, thinking of my tibetan teacher whose dedication and knowledge were unmatched“.

A very special visit

From August 11th to 14th, H.H. the Dalai Lama visited Zanskar and gave numerous teachings. All of Zanskar was, of course, on its way to meet him. All our teachers also rushed to Padum with their classes to participate and receive his blessing.



annual meeting 2023
26. March 26th, 2023 in
Nibelungenstr. 40, 72768 Reutlingen

