

**NCPD**

Network for Children, Prisoners and Dependents

NEWSLETTER

Year- III

Vol. 3

NCPD Member Organizations

Access to Justice & Advocacy of Rights (AJAR)Contact: Rabindra Bhattarai, Phone: 4439869/
4429124

e-mail: ajar@htp.com.np or bhrabindra@htp.com.np

**Nepal Children's Organisation (NCO)
Child Protection Home (CPH)**Contact: Bal Krishna Dangol, Phone: 4411202, 4471400
e-mail: lionsayshi@yahoo.com or lokendra4@yahoo.com**Nepal Child Welfare Foundation (NCWF)**Contact: Khem Thapa, Phone: 071-524005, Bhairahawa
e-mail: nepalchild_btw@wlink.com.np or
ncwftm@wlink.com.np**Parizat Nestling Home (PNH)**Contact: Singh B. Moktan, Phone: 4439983
e-mail: sbmoktan@mail.com.np**Prisoners Assistance Mission (PAM)**Contact: Ram Prasad Niraula, Phone: 4274146
e-mail: pam@ccsl.com.np**Prisoners Assistance Nepal (PA-Nepal)**Contact: Indira Rana Magar, Phone: 2092218, 4364896
e-mail: ranamagar@yahoo.com**Sahara Group Nepal**Contact: Bhanu Bhakta Dhakal, Phone: 4437885
e-mail: sahara@wlink.com.np**SETU Nepal, Mid Way Nepal**Contact: Sangya Karkee, Phone: 4354879
e-mail: setunepal@wlink.com.np**Star Children**Contact: Ramesh Acharya, Phone: 061-520924, Pokhara
e-mail: starchildren@fewanet.com.np**Underprivileged Children's Educational
Programme (UCEP)**Contact: Bhupendra Gurung, Phone: 6630388, 6635135
e-mail: ucep@vianet.com.np**Victim Support & Rehabilitation Program
(VSRP/PF Nepal)**Contact: Dinesh Neupane, Phone: 4432650
e-mail: chhc.me@wlink.com.np

ABOUT The NEWSLETTER

The Network for Children, Prisoners and Dependents (NCPD) is here with yet another edition of newsletter. We feel proud to say that the previous editions were appreciated by several organizations, institutions, and departments. This edition is aimed at disseminating new activities, current strengths of NCPD member organizations and their on-going activities.

NCPD since its establishment in 2001 has been working wholeheartedly to demonstrate a true spirit of networking. In this edition of newsletter you will come across information on the progress of member organizations along with individual opinions regarding the NCPD as a network.

It may seem like a simple job but collecting those information, writing into columns, editing, lay out design etc were made possible by active participation of our member organizations. NCPD secretariat appreciates the contribution extended by the members. NCPD further extends sincere gratitude to ICRI- International and ICRI Nepal for continued technical and financial support.



The International Child Resource Institute - Nepal &
the Network for Children Prisoners and Dependents (NCPD)

hereby acknowledges with sincere gratitude the generous contribution of

Rotary International Matching Grant 50879

that provided "Equipments and Supplies" for 13 NCPD Member Organization
working with impoverished prisoners and children of prisoners in Nepal

To Rotary International, Rotary Oakland,
Rotary Kantipur and Rotarian Manohar Das Mool

**HOW TO CONTACT NCPD:**

Dhirendra Lamsal
Facilitator

Phone: 554113 Bakhundole, Lalitpur

Address:

PO Box 2594 Kathmandu, Nepal

E-mail: ncpd@htp.com.np

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हाम्रो पाला



चुटकिला

१. एकादेशमा दुई जना घमण्डी विद्वानहरू थिए । तिनीहरू जहिले पनि एकआपसमा आफू ठूलो विद्वान भनेर भगडा गरिरहन्थे । एक दिन एउटाले अर्को विद्वानलाई मुख बनाउँछु भनेछ । “मैले कापीमा एउटा सुगा बनाएको थिए त्यो त उडेर गएछ ।” अर्काले भनेछ- “मैले पनि स्याउ बनाएको थिएँ तिम्रो सुगाले पो खाइदिएछ ।”

२. एक दिन छोरा विरामी भएर आमाको छोरालाई डाक्टर कहाँ लग्नु भएछ । डाक्टरले बच्चालाई चेकअप गरेर औषधी दिदै भनेछ, “तपाईंको छोरालाई निमोनिया भएको रहेछ । यो भोलि दवाई दुई बिको खान दिनुहोला ।” आमाको भनिछन्- “डाक्टर साब यहाँ त एउटा एउटा बिको मात्र छ, अर्को बिको कताबाट ल्याउने नि ।”

३. रमेशको बुवा आफ्नो कपडामा आइरन लगाइरहेका थिए । त्यसै बेला रमेश खेलै आइपुग्यो ।

रमेश: बुवा तपाईंको कपडामा किन आइरन लगाइरहेको ?

बुवा: खुम्चिएको कपडा चिल्लो बनाउन लगाएको ।

छोरा: त्यसो भए हाम्रो हजुर बुवाको गाला पनि त खुम्चिएको छ । आइरन लगाइदिनुहोस् न !

नाम: उमेश थापा

उमेर: १४ वर्ष

नेपाल बाल सङ्गठन

बालसंरक्षणगृह, सिफल

मेरो देश

- धनकुमारी बस्नेत, कक्षा ६

पारीजात बचेर । बास
हिमालको काखमा
सानो मेरो देश छ
सगरमाथा चुचुरो
यही देशमा पर्दछ ।
आउ मिलौ सङ्गी हो
देशको विकास गर्नलाई
पढी गुनी ठूलो भई
देशको इज्जत राख्नलाई

पूर्व मेची बहने
पश्चिम काली सुसाउने
हिमाल पहाड तराई
यही देशमा रमाउने
यही देशमा मायाले
मन मेरो रम्दछ ।



INTERVIEWS AND OPINIONS OF NCPD MEMBERS ORGANIZATIONS

Access to Justice and Advocacy of Rights (AJAR)

Prisoners are always ignored and no individual or organization has yet strongly come up with the agendas about prisoners' rights to life as human beings. Access to Justice & Advocacy of Rights' (AJAR's) motivation to join NCPD was its mission aimed at benefiting our shared target groups, prisoners and their dependents.

"Right now we are involved in raising public awareness about criminal justice," says Rabindra Bhattarai, Chairperson, Access to Justice & Advocacy of Rights as well as Chairperson of NCPD.

The recent achievements made by AJAR consisted of a one-day orientation program which was focused on the rights of prisoners about the way police officers should treat and behave with prisoners, and help the prisoners to get legal aid to attain their rights to life. There were altogether 102-164 police and 62 women attending in 14 groups from 7 districts of Nepal.

"In current situation, the conditions are deteriorating in the different prisons around our country. In one hand, most jails lack minimum basic infrastructures and facilities like access to sunlight, bed, clothing, and lack of hygiene, which I personally observed at Ramechhap," says Hari Karki. "From my observations I can generalize that the facilities in jails throughout Nepal must be like that – some better and some worse, but they definitely fail to meet the standard," He further adds.

Our main aim being not to keep children in jail nor in rehabilitation center, AJAR is trying to generate funds for children who could not be released because of small amount of money like Rs. 500. Our insistence is that children should be kept in community where they would get all the positive elements of socialization i.e. care, love, support, appreciation. In one hand, we

facilitate children to help them release from jail and on other hand we try to release the prisoners themselves by advocacy on the basis of fundamental rights. But our prioritized legal aspect is not implemented due to lack of solid support from the concerned authority. Our legal and social framework is creating hurdles in raising necessary documents to proceed and to deliver service promptly.

"Being impressed by the vision of NCPD and role as facilitator, I promoted AJAR to be its member", Says Mr. Bhattarai. NCPD has facilitated in networking, proposal writing, getting access to resources ensuring transparency and without ever hindering the internal affair of AJAR. Being of same vision and mission, NCPD has helped in channelizing the dependent children to AJAR, marking a benefit for both, enjoying symbiotic relationship.

In the matter of exchanging resources and providing equal exposures to out of valley members, it is preparing common working guidelines to seek consistency, efficiency in the operation of its members and creating a common profile of each of them.

Behind every law, there is always philosophy in its primitive state. So, we should recommend philosophical documents concerning child rights and juvenile justice system. Though we have a lot of stuff concerning and addressing child rights, we lack resource but do not question our professional confidence of publishing them.

Maintaining quality in homes is always related to finance. Those who have access to donors are working to maintain the required standards. But others who are operating with local resources and through goodwill might not have physical facility and quality services. So NCPD can direct financial help and assistance to those

organizations, which fail to meet standards defined by NCPD. Standards cannot be attained in one night or short span of time. Without helping the organizations to meet the standards, only making policy, will not be effective.

Acting as facilitator and building capacity and evaluating the quality of work done by its local partners, NCPD should also allocate funds and additional resources that it gets from donors, partners to its members. More over, Mr. Bhattarai, feels that NCPD should focus in report writing skills, joint proposal writing and other documentation requirements in interest of donors. Because it would help



AJAR Executive Committee Members

both NCPD and its members in attracting, financial aid and other resources they are deprived of. As resources are scarce, the resource utilization should be analyzed in terms of its expenses and the value it creates (quality) ensuring low rate of wastage as far as possible.

The psychological stress children undergo when their parents go in prison is unfathomable and burdensome. So, everybody should understand psychological aspect of child with dual understanding of physical aspect and philosophy of child rights in moving them from jail to community. The community environment should lessen the psychological stress, giving quality of life to children ensuring his/her rights in any circumstances. The rescue should be in private care rather than in institutional care. The former offering homely environment in a community based care system offers personal growth, personal liberty to enjoy life as a human being and opportunity to develop as a potential human resource in future.

Many people are not aware of our programs. Even if they are aware, they do not believe in lawyers due to lack of professionalism. So, our first initiative will be to make prisoners aware of our programs by giving classes and changing their belief by promoting legal aid scheme. But due to lack of resources, we are unable to take forward step in convincing prisoners.

NCO/CPH

NCPD is a network for those who work in the jail sector and children home. Nobody knew how much work was done in this sector by an organization. When all the children's home and organization work together there is no duplication of work as well as there is sharing of lots of information and resources. We then could know what was happening in this sector by whom. So, these were motivating factors to join NCPD. It helps in aid if we go through a network than individually.

At NCO we are placing the orphan child in various homes. We also help the conflict victims. There were children with their parents in Jail. So, NCO tried to abolish it. It established children homes so that these

dependant children wouldn't be with their parents in the jail. We have a program to protect these children. We made an agreement about this with Department of Prison Management (DOPM) on 2058 B.S. Ashwin 23rd. We provide education and shelter to these children in NCO/CPH. It provides full scholarship to all the children till class 10. After class 10 it plans to provide life skill training to these children.

We have conducted counseling program to reduce the inferiority complex in the child as they come from the jail environment. We have been helped by NCPD in reduction of psychosocial disorder. Satya Sai Kendra has been conducting Bal Bikash (Child Development). It also helps and encourages in extra curricular activities. It is our 7 years program. After 7 years these children might develop the ability to give training to those upcoming dependants. We are conducting Yoga classes sponsored by AmSci del classes to develop these children as physically sound. It has established library to enhance the reading ability of these children. We take the children meet their parents on an auspicious day of Dashain so as to smoothen their relationship with their parents. NCO has conducted a monitoring program for child even after they are handed over to their parents, which help in the further education of the child. We have established a children's club for the children who have left our homes.

NCPD should provide a vision in helping the new organization in its work related with the child. The vision of vocational training should be of prime focus in NCPD's agenda. We should also help them after they go out from the organization as they are habituated to the facilities provided in organization because they won't be getting the same facilities after they go out. So, we should help them in this regard.

Those who are in our contact or within the organization of NCPD should feel proud about the organization they come from. In outer society they hesitate to say they come from orphanage. It means they are not satisfied. They should be proud of the organization. They shouldn't feel they are discriminated

because they are orphans. They should feel proud because they are children from NCPD.

NCPD should facilitate more interaction amongst members. We should have a schedule and follow up plan. The staffs who are working with the children should be provided with the training. We conduct training generally but these staff should be trained specifically on a particular subjects. It would be effective if it were repeated again and again. It should be updated time and again. The frequency of the meeting should be increased.

We need help from member organization. There is



Children and staff members of NCO/CPH

less manpower. If all the member organization understands this and extend cooperation then it would be more effective and program would be more interesting. There needs to be more participation of members in the network activities. We couldn't utilize the resources properly. It is because of lack of effective communication and co-ordination. We need NCPD staff because other organizations are all volunteers. Other member organizations have their own work. We should introduce more activities that help the organizations because this will motivate them.

There should be uniformity in the quality services provided to all the network organizations. We should help and prioritize those who are in need and their problems.

Executive committee would measure it. It should solve the problem then make it an issue if some problems arise. We should together solve the problems. If media makes the problem of children as gossip then it might ruin the future of the child. So, we should work together to solve this problem. NCPD should help in utilization of resources.



—Nepal Child Welfare Foundation (NCWF)—

We were motivated to join the network because of three reasons: a) we found the network members involved in same field; b) we believe in collective efforts that will make a greater impact in the lives of target beneficiaries; c) the network can play key role by acting as a liaison between Department of Prison Management and our organization. In addition, we believed that NCPD would help us identifying and placement of the children of prisoners. We feel proud to share that NCPD to date has been successful in helping its member organizations in many aspects.

NCWF inceptioned its activities in March, 2002. It started to run protection homes for children of prisoners. The

key objective of operating homes was to deliver services for survival, development and protection of children of difficult circumstances.

NCWF emphasizes on family reunification and community reintegration. Since the best place for children would be his/her own home, it is of utmost need to reunify or reintegrate them.

Being NCPD member, it has given us an impression that we are backed up by a professional group, which shares the same vision. We feel that NCPD has been a bridge for service delivery, coordination, communication and facilitation. This has given an impression of being strong enough to accept challenges whatsoever. In addition, NCPD has also been able to attract the attention of the concerned government entities, which are also prioritizing the children of prisoners in their national agenda.

Since our association with NCPD, we have found its commitment in strengthening the members through working out different strategies. It is highly encouraging to note that NCPD, though in its infancy has been able to deliver services to the desired level. We feel sad to say that NCWF has not been regular in forums organized by NCPD as we are stationed in Bhairahawa. "However, our liaison Mr. Mani Gurung has been instrumental in bridging the coordination and communication between NCPD & NCWF", says Captian, Khem Thapa, Executive Director of NCWF

In our opinion, NCPD should act as a mediator in settling disputes which might crop up in and out of the network. The major role NCPD could play in this time would be to assess the quality of services being delivered in its member organization's children's home. Therefore, NCPD should try to develop a package of minimum standard of quality for the care of dependant children within the existing set-up of NCPD group homes. In addition it should also focus on developing training packages on counseling services not only for children but

also for the parents who would be released soon from the prison. Effective resource management is key to success in any organization. Hence, NCPD should orient the members on effective resource management.

Similarly, NCPD should also develop a human resource data bank from within the network member's employees. We understand that it has been guardian of nearly 300 children. The number of staff for the care of these children would be more than 100. Therefore, NCPD should keep a track record of the human resources involved and utilize their expertise in other organizations where the same expertise is lacking. In addition, it should be an effective referral centers from where the children and their



NCWF Executive Committee Members with Children

families would get prompt response to their needs and/or problems by linking them within and outside the networks.

We recommend NCPD to be more aware regarding the programs being carried out by member organizations. It should organize several brainstorming sessions to generate innovative ideas for the benefits of the children and prisoners.



Parizat Nestling Home (PNH)

Freema & Barbara consulted me to set up an umbrella organization of like-minded organizations that were already working on behalf of children and prisoners. Later they invited me to a meeting to germinate this idea into the priority list of the organizations. As a part of a process, several other meetings were arranged with organizations to explore the possibilities of agreement on certain level so that the targeted beneficiaries would get optimum benefits and support. As I was involved from the very beginning, it motivated me to contribute my expertise in the development of the network group. In this way PNH was encouraged to join the network.

Parizat Nestling Home works with the philosophy of creating a society where mothers of next generation are developed to the full capacity to nurture the child for brighter future. The society and human genealogy can't be fully developed unless the mothers (the girls of today) are educated, trained and empowered (made skillful). This organization was established with the goals to provide safe and secure place for those children who are deprived of fundamental rights (physical and mental development, attaining education and building self-esteem and confidence). Parizat Nestling Home focuses not only on the upbringing of the children but also prepare them to take the challenges for survival in the society.

Basically, PNH provides food, shelter and education to the girl child of prisoners who are living in different jails across the country. Apart from these, PNH is now engaged in preparing technical human resources required for next generation by offering them with the livelihood training programs such as sewing, knitting, designing, beautician, etc. Apart from the prisoner's children, PNH has broadened its scope of targets to the victims of the armed conflict including the displaced women, youth and children. We would like to help young children who are compelled to live behind the bars with their parents by offering them a preschool setting out of the prison. We approached the Department of Jail Management for this particular purpose. However, we did not get the response as anticipated. This has

hindered the implementation of our vision in producing skillful children.

"We are also formatting a plan to replicate the vocational training program components in the eastern part of Nepal" says Mr. Singh Bahadur Moktan, the Director of PNH. "We have recently identified and exposed genius of a woman who have been living in shadow by offering her a little contribution to publish her book", Mr. Moktan says expressing his satisfaction over this efforts. In the field of mentally disordered children, PNH is going to take over the new project from this year. The main aim of this project is to place the child in the home where the child will get shelter, take care and proper treatment facility. Hopefully, this program will definitely help many children who are mentally retarded getting proper look after and medication on time.

We have to institutionize our learning rather than individualize it for long-term effects. There is no vast analytical plan in Nepal in development field. "It is impossible to implement comprehensive programs without adequate homework." Says Mr. Moktan.

What I feel is that whatever amount of works has been accomplished by NCPD till date is excellent and praiseworthy. However, NCPD has not been able to fully exploit the opportunities. NCPD should play the role of guardian in developing its member organizations. We need adequate homework to build up relationship, trust and sensitize them for additional contribution to the development of the network group. The network should concentrate efforts on strengthening the internal capacity of the members, ensure effective management of resources. In addition, NCPD should develop an effective monitoring mechanism to monitor the activities of member organizations as a 'watch dog'. Likewise, the member organizations should also be empowered in developing comprehensive programs for the benefits of prisoners and their children. NCPD could be a body in marketing those programs in national and international community through ICRI-International.

In present context, it will be difficult to generate resources working alone. We need to identify the best methodology to incorporate the collective interests of the members and translate them into action. The first and very important attempt NCPD needs to take is to develop a profile of all the Member organizations to be able to assess the strengths and thereby start prioritizing the strengths for program development.

It is a good idea to develop and determine a minimum standard for care of prisoner's children. NCPD has that capacity and needs to be done as soon as possible. We have to provide exposure to those who have been doing well and train those who are little bit behind. Also NCPD needs to identify suitable strategy to avoid duplication, repetition in program delivery and implementation level.



PNH children

Prisoner Assistance Mission (PAM)

Since NCPD operates as the network for prisoners' children and dependants with an aim to curb the necessary hardship of those suffering children, and improve quality life of children of prisoners, PAM, itself, working in same area of work, opted to join NCPD as a member organization. PAM wishes to work together with all the related organizations by sharing of ideas, information and resources relating children's all round development.

Currently we ourselves are engrossed in restructuring our strategy to ensure better results, required for the suffering children and dependants of the convicted prisoners.

The vision of NCPD is appreciable in the sense that its arduous efforts towards bringing close to all the related organizations working for the welfare of the deprived children in one platform, creating a dignified and creative society with bona-fide citizens of the nation. With this in mind NCPD should focus its attention on fulfilling its strategic objectives as specified.

We would like to see more orientation training for the staff members and counseling service for the children, to be organized and delivered respectively. Monitoring and follow up program should be carried out stringently so

that the programs conducted by NCPD could be more productive and worthwhile. To facilitate a mechanism for insuring quality of care within the homes, workshop should be organized with the massive participation of all the NCPD member organizations.

Lastly, we would like to extend our thanks for giving us the opportunity to express our views for the forthcoming newsletter.



Executive Board Members and Staff with Children in PAM



PRISONERS ASSISTANCE NEPAL (PA-Nepal)

Indira Rana Magar is the Executive Director of Prisoners Assistance Nepal (PAN) and has been working for the benefit of prisoners and their dependants for more than a decade. Ms. Rana Magar expressed her thoughts on the value of NCPD in this manner: "Working in-group



Board Members and Staff Members with Children in PA Nepal

gives a chance to share experiences and problem with each other which would lead to the betterment of a child. We can raise our voice regarding the rights of the children & dependants, it is to strengthen all the organizations." When she used to do monitoring she used to find the problem of placement but now she is happy to find organizations working in this sector with common goal that has certainly resolved the problem of placement.

She says that the focus should be to learn working together. Not only on words but also on deeds. Arrogance and egoism should be ignored. We have common goal

and we should share the problems with each other so that we could give the children a better life to live. She feels that NCPD should focus on prioritizing the record system of children in different homes. It should also focus on the health camp for the children by assigning the doctors in different places. Activities should be done on the regular basis and everybody should show their initiative, which will help the child to develop intellectually. The quarterly newsletter is good in the sense that it publicizes the activities of the organizations and also motivates and encourages members when their works are published.

According to her, NCPD this year should focus on one task because performing one task effectively rather than handling many would be much more fruitful. NCPD should also provide training to those organizations that can't properly prepare the proposal for the fund raising. NCPD should also be a role model for transparency regarding the finance of other member organization, because in the time of need organization should protect other organization as well as show transparency regarding the source of donation. She suggests NCPD to recognize

Hearty Congratulation!

Network for children, prisoners & dependants (NCPD) congratulates NCPD Treasurer Ms. Indira Rana Magar for being voted as one of the top 50 influential women in **Social Category** to be enlisted by Boss magazine for their April issue for her exemplary contribution and commitment in the field of social work. We the family of NCPD is proud of her achievement and wishes her all the success in all her endeavors in years to come.

NCPD Family

Having attended the monthly staff trainings conducted by NCPD for more than 14 times Shanti & Shova have got a lot of experiences and learned many things. They have learned to treat the child according to their age and even got the chance to know about the adolescence. It was their previous experience that children used to share everything without hiding any thing but after participating in many training sessions they have realized that children feel shy and hide their feelings and emotions.

Interview with two staffs of PA Nepal

They feel the training that NCPD is currently providing should be continued for the long time. They have gained a lot of self-confidence empowerment through participating in the training process. Now they feel like that they are more exposed and confident to express opinions and views about their work. They have even got the opportunity to know the other NCPD members.

the network organizations that are actively involved in their activities and employ them so as to develop its own strength. NCPD should review some criteria for its membership. It should also monitor the activities of all its member organizations on regular base.

Regarding the need of mechanism that ensures quality of care within the homes she opines, "It is very much needed. Training should be provided to the staffs and interaction with the management committee is also necessary. To raise the quality some workshop should be forwarded." She feels that no child should be addressed with foul language. They should not be tortured within the homes and that if they are tortured then some legal action should be taken. She suggests every member organization to provide nutritious food weekly, provide clean drinking water and allow them to meet their parents at least once in six months. So she feels the mechanism regarding these issues should be

made otherwise the output won't be good.

PA-Nepal children's home provides a homely environment & good education to the child. The children are learning life living skills where the senior child helps the junior. This increases the responsibility and unity among them. The children are also divided into various groups in order to provide more attention. There are some cultural programs and they support creative activities. PA-Nepal is also conducting beekeeping, horticulture and composting programs in jail; engaging the released women in embroidery, cooking and training, looking after the basic needs of the vulnerable prisoners relating their health and other basic needs, conducting a literacy class & help them market the tailoring items which they have prepared. They also advocate them legally. Above that they also help those who are HIV affected by providing them with anti-retroviral drugs, medicine and offering counseling and supporting to the mentally handicapped prisoners. Her further program is to develop the home itself and for that she is planning to buy a land in Kathmandu area and construct a home.



SAHARA GROUP

If we work jointly, then it will help in fulfilling the missions, we can easily solve the problems in groups. That is why we were motivated to join NCPD. We joined not intending to benefit through the resources but helping solve the problems relating prisoners and children with joint effort. We are new in this area of work and wish to do better and through network we can share ideas and get to know something helpful.

Our focus is on children and we have been running three centers to support them. One is for general orphans, with maximum children of Dalits, and some number of children of imprisoned parents.

We have been looking after victim children of armed conflict. We also have programs for children especially, those injecting drug user who are HIV affected. We have started a program in minor education. We provide direct service to child through center. We save them from conflicts and we are in the phase of designing programs concerning HIV/AIDS focusing the children. We are trying to decrease the stigma and discrimination of these children and for this we are being supported by BSO.

The problem a child faces because of parent's guilt always has been a problem of every place. Psychologically the children will always have an inferiority complex and some psychological problem if s/he grows in jail though s/he is learned. The principal is the state and should take the responsibility of



Children smiling in Shara Group's Home in Syagja

child if their parents are prisoners, the civil society rejects to take responsibility and the state denies too. This organization is because of our initiative and use of local resource and our internal resource and many programs depend on all those internal resources. And we are looking in this sector is just a small drop of contribution.

NCPD being a network working in jail sector and having lots of organizations working for the same cause should either publicly announce or by making agreement with government should not let dependent children enter with their parents unless it is an infant. But if the child is eligible for education then they shouldn't be in jail and should be supported by jail. If there are some children then the jail administration through this network, should be handed over to organization. We need to focus our program on the fact that children shouldn't spend their life in jail along with their parents. Those kind of situations need to come to an end. To do these some compliment and supportive work should be done like organizing interactions, meeting and making agreement to support these children if finance is needed. Within the center there should be qualitative care as well.

NCPD should make and implement policies through member organizations. NCPD can facilitate member organization to support these programs by helping the centers financially through various sectors. It should facilitate the centers by implementing some policies, which would later help the child to return back to community.

We are involved in various networks including NCPD out of which one is relating to AIDS called NAANGAN one relating to girls trafficking NNAGT and NCPD. Comparatively NCPD is quite active than other networks. It has been conducting meeting on monthly basis. Strength of umbrella organization depends on the strength of its member organization. NCPD's main objective is to solve the problem of children and to do this, it should encourage the civil society. Whether they are able to fulfill their mission depends on the members. The member organizations should not have difference in their working style being NCPD members. After an organization becoming NCPD's member there should be evaluation of work of that organization. It should be known where NCPD want to reach in near future.



SETU NEPAL

We joined NCPD for sharing information, ideas and resources. Our goal was to extract information related to the prison. We also thought that NCPD as a parent organization it might draft a collective proposal to generate funds.

Our primary concern is women, but in the process of rehabilitation, family ties come in. The mother is constantly worrying about her children. We realized that if we were going to do something for the women, the children must also be included. We can see that their performances have improved after being reunited with their children. Our current capacity is 8 women and 8 children. We will have seven children attending school this year and we hope to extend the schooling facility to them after they leave SETU, which is six months to 1 year. We provide training to them

during that period and after the specific time of training we ask them to leave and live on their own. We will provide them financial support to start to work on their own.

We would like to give them as much information as possible on training about the strength and weakness of different training. After discussing alternatives the women decide, based on their interest what different areas to pursue. Another important part of our program is adult literacy, which starts after the initial days of their joining SETU.

We prefer to call SETU a midway home, not a rehabilitation home. Our ultimate goal is to make an environment where the women and children can come and share their family. We don't want to make them self sustained and create a conflict with their family again. They would be able to be united with their family only if they were skilled and trained. We advocate for them, in some case there might be counseling for them. We encourage



Children With Executive Committee Members in SETU

them to start family planning. If they go on adding children, more trouble will be added to them. We can't directly tell them to do family planning it is against human rights. We don't completely abandon them there is always a regular follow up after they leave our home.

We think NCPD has helped us a lot. Through AJAR we can help a child whose paternal wealth is being challenged by his uncle. You have brought us donations through fund raising. The share of Rotary Grant is equally beneficial for SETU.

Every organization has some weakness. Let NCPD provide information more easily available. NCPD should focus on fund raising, helping to solve the problems of member organizations. NCPD should focus on all the organization. NCPD needs to develop a package that benefits the female prisoners. If you can, NCPD should make a display place for displaying the handicrafts made by the women and even help in the marketing.

STAR CHILDREN

We heard about NCPD from CWS when we visited their office, attended couple of meetings and also visit and talk to those who were already member of NCPD. All the member of NCPD I visited were doing a great work! We had a similar objective. Most of the members have already been working for the welfare of the children and prisoners since a long time. Their expertise and experience would guide us in the future to achieve our goals. I know a lot of

Interview with released Female Prisoners in SETU

The conservation took place in the transit home of SETU-Nepal. There were 3 female prisoners during the interview time. One of them was quite interactive where as the two others were less communicative.

"You should help us!" i.e. how the women started their conversation! We have children and have lots of hope from you. We live in your shelter, if you don't support us who will? When my 6 months training is going to be completed, we can do small business to support our children. We have been living here as our home. After vocational training we all do household work, washing and cooking. Some of us teach children and look after them.

Nobody looked after us and we had no hope from our husbands, some husbands remarried. For e years nobody took an interest in us. Now it's better, our children are with us. We have hope after being independent we can support our families.

The kind of help you are offering are beneficial to us so that we would not face the difficulty for acquiring the basic needs of our daily life on food and clothing. After the completion of six months training we have to leave this place and we have nowhere to go so you should help us to accommodate in some place.

These people have helped me a lot during hardship. So we want to be here doing some work like cooking, washing and even teaching those women who come later. After we leave this place people will blame us. They have a different perspective of looking at us. The women were released from three months and were very nervous about their future.

the members of NCPD. I have talked to them personally as well as during the meetings. This is one of the reason we were motivated to join NCPD.

Star Children operates children's home for jailed children, HIV and AIDS infected orphans until they are able to live independently. Our belief is that every child has a right to a homely environment, education, and health care. The aim is to set up an example of how young AIDS victims can be facilitated and helped to integrate into society through a community based program of "foster families". We don't believe in institutionalizing children as this has an adverse effects on their development, but instead we base our policies and working methods on international care standards and examples of good practices. The house mom receives training on how to care for this special target group. In the mean while the relations between the children are strengthened before the family fazes out into a simple Nepalese style house. Through financial support, constant monitoring and training, we believe this will be the right way forward to assure quality of life and fair chances for the children.

Our children attend normal Nepalese Government schools or Private English Medium Schools (it depends on their individual capacity). Because of their poor backgrounds however, they often lack years of formal schooling, hence a major focus in our programming lies on education. Star Children home has set up the concept of an in-house teaching-learning method. A Non formal education (NFE) program is in place for those

children who lack some years of education or are not able to go to school at all. The extra tuition received here through innovative and creative teaching techniques will enable the children to catch up with their peers of the same age group. We believe that arts & crafts are a vital therapy for the children's mental and physical development and therefore an integrated part of our education syllabus.

Members based outside of Kathmandu should be visited by NCPD from time to time. The programs organized by NCPD should not only be Kathmandu based, but also out of Kathmandu sometimes. NCPD should also develop care standards for children and pass it to the members. Our philosophy is to promote the principles and practice of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and show no discrimination of cast, sex, religion and race. The children are the priority.



Children of STAR CHILDREN

Brought forwarded from page 15

standards to judge the status of juvenile justice. Juvenile justice is accepted by these norms as specialised wing of social justice to ensure best interest of children. Nepal's juvenile justice system, however, is not perceived as essential specialised service and special wing of social justice for best interest of children. Still it is treated as a division of criminal justice system.

Nepal's juvenile justice system needs to be brought to the conformity of the international standards as international standards desire worth spirit of protection and promotion of best interest of children. Bringing Nepal's system in conformity would improve the situation of children in conflict with law. Numbers of improvements are probable even in existing legal position through promulgation of regulations. However, for ensuring full conformity to international standards, the law requires to be reframed. Similarly, several administrative, judicial and social reforms are essential to establish a real juvenile justice system in conformity with international standards.

If Nepal's juvenile justice system is to be standardised in the line of international standards separate legislation covering the roles and responsibilities of the actors including police and government attorney may be essential. The legislation should pay full attention to alternative forms of treating juveniles in stead of penalising and punishing them. Broader preventive measures should be devised and effective rehabilitation and reintegration programmes should be initiated to this end.

UCEP

Underprivileged Children Educational Programme, who is one of the NCPD member organizations, is currently engaged in operating different homes for the dependant children. These homes are in Bhaktapur, Gausala and Dang where about 381 children are being sheltered and nurtured. It is providing technical/ vocational training to the underprivileged, disadvantaged & drop out children. These training include motorcycle repairs, offset printing, plumbing/ sanitation, carpentry etc.

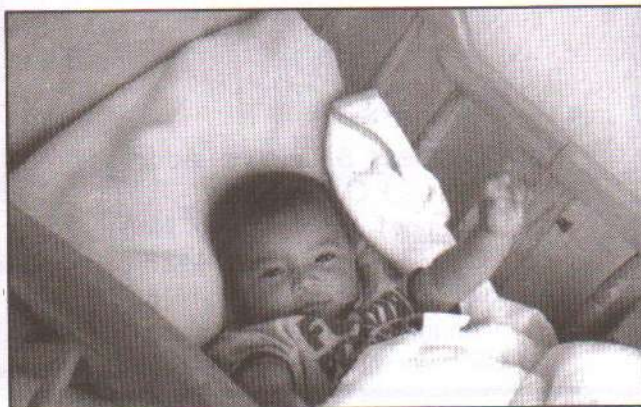
After the training UCEP is also providing the placement opportunity. Placement Monitoring Unit helps to identify 70% of successful placement. UCEP is also taking care of 24 Juvenile Delinquents. They have been provided with formal education from Ashwin 6th 2061.

Counseling service delivery, regular health checkups, and doctor visit once a week, sport activities, creative training is some of the facilities among many provided to Juvenile Delinquents in UCEP. Now they have also started providing paralegal services to these Delinquents in collaboration with AJAR.



A Glimpse of Children in Child Correction Home of UCEP

About vision of NCPD, Mr. Bhupendra Gurung, Executive Director says, "Whatever NCPD is doing is supportive to members". He stresses out his main focus on periodic interaction program among NCPD member organizations. He feels that conducting such programs helps to share ideas and knowledge among each other. It also helps to develop a common platform to share some productive information of the activities that other member organizations are currently engaged in along with helping solve problems. According to him NCPD has been successful



in conducting these sort of interaction programs to some extent but not to the greater extent.

"NCPD being a network is dependent on external funding", says Mr. Gurung in response to NCPD and its activities, "It should stand on its own", he further adds. NCPD should focus on supporting its member organization in each and every activity they are engaged in. It should organize those programs in joint coordination with its member organization that could ultimately benefit them. These programs can be fund raising training, different methods of designing projects,

help in developing the overhead cost etc. At the mean time he feels that there is a need for a full time coordinator to guide NCPD to the desired level.

At last, he suggests that NCPD being a network should identify its own program. It should utilize its internal resources up to its potential. NCPD should show its active participation regarding this matter. It should formulate minimum standard policies for NCPD group care facilities. He feels standard criteria applicable for each home to conduct its daily activities should be formulated. These criteria can relate to the health and hygiene of the children living within, their education, program activities of each and every member organization, their structure (mechanism for the quality enlistment) etc. He recommends on developing a profile of each and every member organization.

Lastly he has thanked NCPD for doing the excellent work and providing the continuous coordination to carryout the activities done by its member organization. He has also thanked NCPD for its enormous support all over the years and its contribution in fulfilling the set goals of its member organizations

VSRP/PF NEPAL

Establishing and working through a network of the organizations having similar types of goals has been fruitful. The experience gained by the members of NCPD has justified this statement. Mr. Dinesh Neupane, Executive Director of VSRP/PFN and Vice Chairperson of NCPD finds the network as a platform where "we get to know each others problems, the challenges and a chance to share our ideas and knowledge." To him, working together through a single network also grants an opportunity to know about the activities of other organization, which reduces the duplication of work. NCPD members can also work and support each other, united together they can impact public awareness on children's issues.

Since such network unifies various organizations and their bright minded people, it consequently becomes a pressure group. Such pressure group as Mr. Dinesh says, "Could easily give service to people." Justifying his point, he further says, "We help in each other's problem. For instance if a destitute child is in jail we can accommodate the child in some home where there is vacant place and some home might be wanting such kind of child when there is common platform it is easy to work. It is easy to understand each other. If there is problem regarding child if we go jointly then it is very easy to solve. If we were alone then child might have been deprived of his basic need and right. Besides, the network has been a fruitful to a large extent getting grant from the Rotary Oakland."

Except these NCPD has also assisted, in resource sharing. Mr. Dinesh opines that resource sharing has also taken place. Like sharing ideas and information on some programme is a kind of resource sharing. What kind of difficulties of children and their undisciplined attitude? When we come to know about such thing we can be alarmed, we get to know that there is some probability of facing such kind of difficulties in future. Those difficulties faced by others are lesson to us.

It is to be informed that the organization where, Mr. Dinesh is involved is related to children's programme. The organization operates two Peace Loving Homes, one in Kathmandu and another in Pokhara where the children of imprisoned parents below 16 are provided service. Besides it has also launched a rehabilitation center, which provides different vocational training like motorbike repairing, tailoring, electronic device maintenance and house wiring. Along with this there is a counseling programme to change

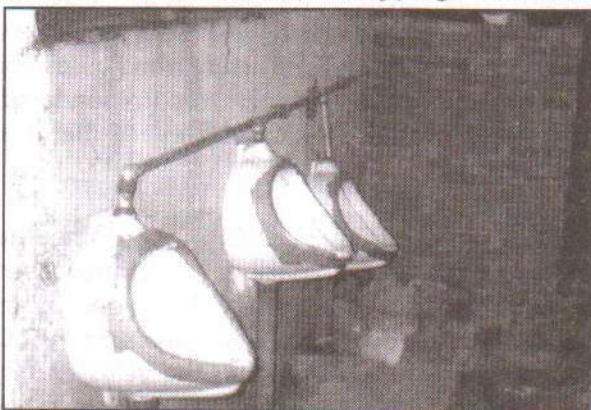
their attitude, motivate them towards working and leading their life skillfully with optimism in future. After joining NCPD, Mr. Dinesh says this organization has been helpful in achieving all its vision and mission on highly fast pace.

Regarding the vision of NCPD, Mr. Dinesh says, "Though it has gathered together the common vision of all



Staffs and Board Members with Children in VSRP/PFN

member organization, NCPD itself is not the implementer. Implementers are the member of organizations and the main role of NCPD is to act as a facilitator. Idea sharing, encouraging, resource mobilization is the aspect where NCPD needs to play its role and has been doing so. He personally wants NCPD to play a bigger role. He says, "If we want to protect our society then NCPD must strongly forward the vision of resource mobilization, facilitator and information sharing. Because jail sector is the vulnerable part of the society, it affects all aspect of our life. No society, NGO, people & country is untouched from this sector. Tomorrow there might be confusion split and separation of organization. There is no compulsion in any case. So it needs to use it's role. He would like to see NCPD give priority to resource mobilization, facilitation, and concrete information sharing to develop the whole community. He has a special focus of maintaining standard and having solid decision of all the member organizations. He says, "If we maintain a standard within the jail and between member organizations it will be nice. But if we go to the broader sense of the child right ranging from UN to various organizations it has maintain certain level of quality so I think it is nice to have general principal but there is no need to take it separately."



A Child-friendly Urinals construction in progress in NCO/CPH with support of Rotary Oakland



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URL: www.astoria-hotel.com

CHILDREN VIEWS AND OPINIONS

We felt it was important to include feedback of our most important target group, the children of NCPD. We spoke with eight children from member organizations on their overall situation, awareness of NCPD and its role and areas that their homes and NCPD could improve. The respondents included four girls and four boys ranging in age from 13 to 17 years.

A feeling of sadness on arrival into the various homes was expressed by many of the interviewees, but it did not last more than a few months, after which the children started to get used to the environment in the children's home. They did not have interest in their studies before they came to the homes, now they are motivated to perform well in their studies and some children participate in extra activities. One of the juveniles expressed that it would have been better if there had been additional extra activities like educational trips, creative activities along with sports equipment, yoga, games, crafts and other activities.

A few agreed that their health has improved and most of them have learned to be more neat and clean. Furthermore they now know how to respect elders, love the younger ones and have learned to be in discipline. One of them also said that he has learned how to live a simple life. Others explained that they have learned to be happy within themselves and have become aware of the fact that they are responsible for their own lives. One child

expressed that to live in the home among the children whose parents are also in jail, makes one feel less lonely. One of the juveniles shared with us that the situation has improved a lot during the last period, because the security personal have nowadays shown a positive attitude towards the juveniles: they are giving more attention to their interests and supporting/stimulating them in extra activities. Overall the children are feeling happy and blessed to get an opportunity to live in the children protection/correction homes.

One child told us that it would be nice to learn and experience many things even at this young age, in order to know the world more and progress in the future. Another told us it would be good if somebody would be available when the children are at home. He/she would take the responsibility in case of an accident or whenever there is a question and even if they just want to talk or share problems. One amongst seven gave his emphasis on a fair treatment, particularly hinted to the 'outsiders', who know that they are living in these children homes. Another child wants its hostel to support in study (at least till class 10). One of the juveniles likes the home to make smaller groups for the juveniles. Groups according to physical strength and behavior. Because it is hard to live in a big group and to deal with everyone. So everybody among these seven may have their own wants but overall they want their home to continue their work and help the children who are in the same situation.

Only one of the interviewees did not know of NCPD or its role and activities in regards to their home, the rest of them are aware of NCPD existence and activities. Some of them knew it through their "sirs" and "madams", another through the NCPD painting program, from her friends, another heard it while there was a conversation between the manager of the home and the coordinator of NCPD and one of them through the newsletter of NCPD. One respondent seemed to have a clearer picture of NCPD when she described it like a computer network and she even takes NCPD as an umbrella organization but she added that the members should work more as a network. All the children agreed that NCPD should facilitate more activities like the elocution and painting competitions.

Profile of prisons in Nepal

Altogether there are 73 prisons in Nepal that occupy 6618 prisoners. Central jail of Kathmandu has the highest number of prisoners (1701) where as Jarjarkot and Manang have the lowest (1). Among them, 2215 are male convicts and 188 female convicts. As for the non convicts, there are 1847 males and 141 females prisoners and sharing the prison with them are 46 minor girls.

Some prisons in Nepal have prisoners beyond their capacities. For instance Chandraghadi Jail of Jhapa has currently 280 prisoners, which is far beyond its capacity (200). Similarly, Charkhal jail of Kathmandu, currently has 279 prisoners but its capacity is 150.

The highest number of prisoners is in Central Development Region (3420) followed by Eastern (934), Western (855), Mid- Western and Far- Eastern which has (579) & (401) number of prisoners respectively. Though the crime rate has increased quite significantly over the last decade, the capacity of the prisons remains the same for a long time. On the top of it, districts like Sunsari, Dhanusa, Bara, Bhaktapur, Arghakhachi and Solukhumbu have no prison at all.

Source: Human Rights Year Book 2005



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NCPD Highlights and Happenings

Trainings:

Monthly Orientation Training Program

As a part of an on-going effort, monthly orientation training program for the staffs, who are directly working with the children of NCPD member organizations, have been conducted in different member organizations within 19 months. These training are conducted to update and share knowledge to the staffs/caretakers of children's home on the issues related to child development, child rights and welfare activities. It is also a forum to share and enhance their skills and experiences for delivery of quality care services to the children living within the children's shelter homes.



A Monthly Orientation Training in progress

Until now, NCPD has carried out total of 18 such training sessions within the space of 19 months in all the children homes in Katmandu including NCPD office. Right from the very first training session it has covered many different topics relating to children. Beginning with an opportunity to develop a positive understanding with each other building rapport & environment of trust & cooperation between the participants to dealing with the different subject like; counseling; child rights; child development; self confidence, self awareness & self independence; teenagers/adolescence, socialization and life skills.

The training has been conducted in a participatory learning approach based on experimental learning cycle and learning principles. It is conducted using various techniques & methodologies such as an interactive lecture, demonstration, role-play, group work, discussion, presentation, feedback & evaluation.

Training on Trauma

Dashain festival, 2061 for NCPD children & staff was commenced with several activities and training programs. Dr. Nancy Compton, Consultant for International Child Resource Institute (ICRI) conducted a daylong training session on **"How to Identify and Intervene with Child Who have been Traumatized"** on 13th October 2004 in the premises of NCPD/Nepal. The training session basically focused on identifying and working with children who have experienced trauma in their lives.

Loss through separation from loved ones (Prison, displacement or relocation), death of caregivers, witnessing acts of terror (war, killing, mass murder etc) experiencing or witnessing a car or bus accident, sexual and other forms of child abuse including trafficking are some of the causes for trauma.

The psychological symptoms such as helplessness and passivity, generalized fear, cognitive confusion, lack of verbalization-selective mutism (repetitive nonverbal traumatic play, unvoiced questions), attributing magical qualities to traumatic reminders, sleep disturbances (night terrors and nightmares, fear of going to sleep, fear of being alone especially at night), anxious attachment (clinging, not wanting to be away from parents, worrying about when parent is coming back), regressive symptoms (thumb sucking, enuresis, regressive speech), anxieties related to incomplete understanding about death (fantasies of "fixing up" the death: expectations that a dead person will return, e.g. assailant) etc were discussed to a certain length. Similarly the first aids needing in such psychological disorder such as providing support, rest, comfort food and opportunity to play or darw; re-establish adult protective shield; providing repeated concentrate calrifications for anticipated confusions; providing emotional labels for common reactions; helping to verbalize general feeling and complaints (so they will not feel alone with their feelings); separate what happened from physical reminder; level of encouragement and consistent care taking while anxious attachment; tolerating regressive symptoms in a time limited manner; and giving explanations about the physical reality of death were also discussed to some extent.

Altogether 31 senior NCPD staff along with representatives from different non-NCPD member organizations participated in the training. Sahara Griha, AIDS-INFO-DOCU, Anterdristi, ABC/Nepal, LALS, ETC, CPWD and Voice of Children were some of the non-NCPD organizations that participated in the training. The inputs from Dr. Compton were valuable for the participant organizations.

A follow-up session was also arranged on the same topic as participants wanted more discussions. The follow-up session, which was organized on 29th October, was highly interactive as the participants shared the examples



NCPD member organizations' staff with training facilitators

of parents and children they were working with. The traumatic reminders of children and parents occurring in day-to-day environment causing very upsetting reactions were broadly discussed in the follow-up. The participants reacted the session being very practical for their day-to-day work. Thanks to ICRI and Dr. Compton for this.

Early Childhood Development Training

NCPD in collaboration with ICRI-Nepal organized a training entitled "Preparing Children for the later School Success" on 22nd April in its office in Bakhundole Lalitpur. The training was co-facilitated by Dr. Helen Walka, the professor of University of California and Ms. Freema Davis, Project Director of ICRI-International.

Senior Manager level representatives of NCPD member organizations and a few teachers of pre-school participated in the training. The program commenced with sharing training purpose followed by a brief introduction of the participants.

The training basically focused on identifying the best practices already used in the pre-primary and primary schools in Nepal. In regards to this Dr. Walka and Ms. Davis demonstrated a practical session about how children learn and how emotion develops within the children. The other key issue highlighted during the training was on how to interact with the children by making children engage in different activities. Besides, the training stressed on increasing children's language and vocabulary skill, asking children open-ended questions to encourage speaking and language, setting aside time for singing, rhyming, finger plays, making books with children, giving children experiences with print, telling children stories, exposing children to letters in an informal, playful manner and incorporating math "talk" into daily routine.



Dr. Walka receiving gift from NCPD training participants

Workshops

Art, Craft and Music

After the successful workshop Art & Story organized by ANCPD and at ECEC, Early Childhood Education Center on 21 April 2004, NCPD initiated another workshop at ECEC for the staff of NCPD member organizations in July 2004. This was conducted with the main objective to deliver the participants more ideas; techniques and skills to work with crafts while interacting with the children, while at the same time improving their communication with the children.

This time the subject of the workshop was Craft and Creativity. The professionals at ECEC presented the subject in a lively, interesting, understandable and practical way.

The major items in this workshop were:

1. Freedom in Craft and Creativity: **a.** Do we need to put boundaries? **b.** Do we need examples? **c.** What is self-expression? **d.** How do we motivate?
2. Explaining and presenting a variety of craft activities with different materials around a story, where after the participants could practice by themselves.
3. How to make a story more lively and understandable for children (dramatize the story).

During the workshop participants were motivated, concentrated and could hardly finish/stop when the time was over. Afterwards they expressed their satisfaction and the things they learned from this workshop.

Psychosocial Counseling

One of the major activities carried out by NCPD in the beginning of May 2005 was a half-day workshop on "Psychosocial Counseling". Since the background of the children protected by NCPD group homes is comparatively challenging than the ordinary children in term of psychosocial disorders, the idea of organizing this workshop was inevitable. On the top of it, the concerted efforts specifically in creating environment for the counseling over the last 2 years was the key behind organizing this workshop.

The workshop commenced with introduction and sharing of brief information on NCPD member organizations along with key roles of the participants in their respective organizations. This was followed by (a) defining counseling, (b) working session on self-realization listening practices and (c) the environment required for the effective counseling service delivery activities. The workshop was co-facilitated by Ms. Gemma te Woerd, the Counselor of NCPD and Ms. Hazel Ettridge from Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO).

All the participants evaluated the workshop as fruitful in understanding psychosocial disorder and identifying the key elements that enables environment for delivery of quality counseling services. The roles the participants played and enthusiasm that they demonstrated was highly encouraging. It was probably due to the innovative methodologies adopted in the workshop. Though the workshop was short, it was stimulating along with full of excitement and entertainment. At the end of the workshop, Ms. Gemma te Woerd was felicitated on behalf of NCPD and its member organizations in recognition of her voluntry contributions.



Workshop in Progress

Girl till the age of 12 and boy till the age of 16 shall be considered as minor and treated accordingly- Kautilya.

Children's Program:

Elocution Contest

With the objective of enhancing the skills of the staffs of NCPD member organization, it has been conducting a monthly orientation-training program. So, a panel of 4 members from the participant of that training for doing extra-curricular activities was formed. A decision to organize an elocution contest for the dependents children sheltered within the NCPD member homes on the occasion of "International child Rights Day" on 20th November 2004 arose from the



Elocution contest

various meetings held between them. The main thrust of organizing this contest was to extract the hidden talent of the children, to develop the skill of making them speak in front of masses without fear and to make them participate in extra curricular activities outside their studies.

In this regard, an elocution contest was organized in Nepal Children Organization/ Child Protection Home (NCO/CPH), Siphel chaired by Mr. Bal Krishna Dangol (acting secretary, NCPD) and the chief-guest of the program was Mr. Deepak Sapkota (Director, CCWB). The contest covered three topics: a. When I grow up. b. Protection of child from War. c. The role of the nation for the overall development of a child. A boy called Sukra Chandra Bomjan from UCEP Nepal secured 1st position under the judgment led by Mr. Chetan Karki senior most lyricist of Nepal. Similarly, Ramesh Bhatta from Prisoners Assistance Mission (PAM) came second & Sharmila Bhatta from Parizat Nestling Home (PNH) home came third. Other than that children from NCO/CPH, VSRP/PF, PA- Nepal & CRCIP also participated in the contest.

Overall the contest was well received and had a high turnout of supporters from each home. Every child from their respective home showed their active response. They all, even the non-participants, seemed enthusiastic and energetic and enjoying the whole environment. The program was organized in collaboration with NCO/CPH. Though there were some minor difficulties it went unnoticed as the contest was organized for a good cause.

Seminar:

Effective Planning and Child Rights Advocacy

Mr. Kenneth Jaffe, the Executive Director, ICRI-International delivered a combined seminar on "How to develop effective planning for the best funding & VI steps to effective child advocacy" on 10th April, 2005 at the office of ICRI-Nepal. Both the NCPD and non-NCPD member organizations located in Kathmandu Valley attended the seminar with great interest and enthusiasm. A total of 25 individuals participated in the function.

The program commenced with a welcome note delivered by Mr. Dharendra Lamsal, facilitator for NCPD Secretariat. Mr. Jaffe the noted international expert on child program development and advocacy underlined the steps required to formulate a plan for the best funding along with VI steps to effective child right advocacy. The major steps highlighted during the seminar include:

Step I. Knowing the Issue:

Understanding issues is the key to effective program development process. It is essential to comprehend the issue to convince the decision-maker.

Step II: Research for Background Impact:

A proper research is next step for effective program development initiative.

Quotable Quotes is another medium that could help the research become effective. It can be used to substantiate the arguments. It refers to the quotes used by experts, professionals and celebrities.

Creating own scientific filing system, bookshelves, database helps gain more knowledge.

Step III: Prepare a Summary Sheet:

A brief description of a whole project proposal & planning in a page or two is called summary sheet. It should concisely reflect the whole picture of the proposal & planning.

Finally there is something for the prisoners

Have you ever heard of a talent contest held in the premises of the prison? It is indeed weird in this part of the world to come across such news. But amazingly it happened. Marking the democracy day, Bara jail organized a talent contest for its inmates. This was the program first of its kind.

There were altogether 12 inmates of age ranging from 18-25, who participated in the contest. The program was organized with an aim to boost up the morale of the inmates and to make them feel that life in prison can be fun.

The participants prepared themselves by going through books and maintaining their physique. Sonalal Yadhav, 19 bagged the first award with an answer, Health is wealth, and with good health only I can do anything I want, for the question what is the most important aspect of life. The person who was second positioned was also not less, he was asked what would he do if he finds 10 million rupees lying on the road and for this he had a very straight answer, if there is no one around I'll surely take the money. The third winner had an answer for the question what will you ask for if God asks you for only one wish, the answer was Self respect and loyalty.

The competition was very entertaining as well as knowledgeable. Every one in the prison seemed enthusiastic and the program went for around 5 hours with dances and songs. It was a very healthy competition and was not less than any other such competitions.

Unofficial translation (Kantipur Daily, Sunday 20th Feb. 2005)

The Issue: It should be generalized issue, simple and clear. For example: there are 5000 children of prisoners without care in Nepal. **The need:** Description of the need through collective data, quotes. **Proposed Solution(s):** Summary sheet should also contain proposed solution(s).



Mr. Jaffe with Seminar Participants

But the solutions proposed should be in numbers meaning should have several options because the decision maker might not agree with a particular solution. **Support for this Concept:** Those individuals, organizations or companies that support the proposed intervention program should also be mentioned for additional strengths. Prepare the list of the organization and individuals extending support for co-operation. Also mention the contribution provided by them thus far and the contribution needed. **Outcomes:** mention clearly and concisely what will happen if proposed intervention is supported and what will happen if the problem remains unsupported immediately. This will provide an insight to make quicker decision if every step mentioned above is presented clearly.

Step IV: Make meetings that work;

This is the process in which the meeting has to be called with the decision makers. **Whom to Bring:** it is helpful to bring in the individuals who know or has a good relationship with the decision maker. **What to bring:** Documents of related subject matter, and the Summary sheet. **What to say and what not to say:** Saying those things that really count, saying those things that support the arguments, quoting the quotes referenced earlier could be the best support in this case.

Step V: Follow Up:

Follow up means to be in frequent contact with the decision maker. After all the preliminary interviews are over, follow-up should be done on the regular basis. There are two components to do follow up: **Us:** Us refer to the people in our organization. Follow-up can be done by the people of our organizations or by ourselves. **Them:** Them refer to the decision maker themselves. They assess how we do the follow up. Them also refer the person who knows about our needs. One of the ways to do the follow up is to be in each and every meeting organized by the decision maker.

Step VI: Behavior Modifications

Thank the donor as a form of behavior modifications.

Introduction of New Members:

Sahara Group:

Established on 31st Bhadra, 2056 Sahara Group is an emerged as an NGO committed to child rights advocacy and overall development of Nepalese children. Its primary focus is to the destitute children including street- children, conflict affected children and women. Besides it prioritize its focus on trafficked & trafficking prone girls and women, children, living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and AIDS orphans, providing support to helpless senior citizens, poor, and educational support to Dalits & other disadvantaged communities in rural areas.

Sahara Group has been conducting two major programmes: Advocacy, and Support Activities. Through its advocacy program SAHARA advocates on child rights, anti-trafficking of girls & women & HIV/AIDS and against child labor. Likewise it has also conducted support programs through Sahara Emergency Transit Center and Sahara Emergency Rehab Center to the affected children, including the socialization of street children.

Sahara Groups has accomplished miscellaneous tasks including 5- km.fun walk for fund raising program and Chief Secretary Vs Diplomatic Missions Friend Soccer match 2004. It is currently conducting Mutthidan (Fistfull of Rice) Collection for providing meal to poor & needy children and Cultural Program.

They will be expanding their support package for conflict-affected children and to children living with HIV/AIDS and establishing Alkapuri Sahara Peace Home as well.

STAR Children:

STAR Children is established in 2060 Chaitra, 12 with an objective of effectively utilizing the internal & external source & materials to provide equal rights education, health & other developmental needs to those children deprived of these facilities in villages & cities. It provides a healthy and safe family environment for children until they are able to live on their own independently, though it is their goal to place children in "families" for a more normal and nurturing environment than that of an institution. Their philosophy is child centered care, including, non-formal education in the home, empowerment, life skills and support of child rights, as an organization they are committed to networking and cooperating with relevant organizations to share information and views to strengthen each other.

Its objectives include providing advocacy and organizing various social programs in developing the environment for the HIV/AIDS affected children. They provide special training for caregivers and counseling both children and adults on care policies that needs to be followed while living in a mixed HIV and non-HIV infected households.

Wash basins installed in PA- Nepal by Rotary Oakland



From the Counsellor

I have now been working for the NCPD network for nearly two years. My work for the network will finish in the first week of May 2005.

It feels strange knowing that in less than a month I will be saying goodbye to NCPD.

I made regular visits to the different homes, traveling by cycle or bus. As we got to know each other better, I found that at the different homes and organizations there were different questions, needs and situations. So my work in the different homes varied a lot. In some homes I worked with the children as well as with the staff, in some homes I found myself working more with the staff, in some other homes I care for organizing extra activities for the children, like yoga lessons and craft lessons.

My work for NCPD was also varied. It included:

- ◆ Facilitating the monthly NCPD staff training, together with the NCPD coordinator;
- ◆ Networking with other organizations for different purposes, for example exchanging information about each other's organization and looking at how we could benefit from each other, or looking for a resource person for the NCPD monthly training or meetings on different subjects (for example the standards for children's homes). I also represented NCPD at Kathmandu Psychosocial Forum (KPF);
- ◆ Holding many discussions with the coordinator on different subjects concerned with NCPD network;
- ◆ Assisting for the NCPD newsletter;
- ◆ Organizing workshops for the staff at the (Early Childhood Education Center ECEC).

The objective of all my work is/was to stimulate and improve the quality of care and environment for the children in the different homes. The way to achieve this being through:

- ◆ Stimulating the staff to communicate with the children at child level (one of the ways was doing activities together);
- ◆ Helping the staff understand the behavior of children;
- ◆ Making them more aware of their role in working with the children;
- ◆ Giving them more knowledge of child development and child behavior;
- ◆ Stimulating communication between the workers about their work;
- ◆ Giving them information and awareness about counseling;
- ◆ Stimulating communication within the NCPD network.

I got to know a bit about Nepali culture which is in some ways very different from the culture I am used to. When I look at the way that Nepali people raise a child and how people generally do it in the Netherlands, there are a lot of differences. Sometimes I wonder how it would be to mix the positive things from both cultures together and get a 'mixed' approach. Of course there are many examples one could write about. But for example I think

that the children in the western culture, nowadays are more individualistic and materialistic, whereas the children in Nepal are more social and care more for each other. Another example that I found is that many of the Nepali children are more focused on memorizing and copying than really understanding what they learn at school. In my opinion there can be a mix of elements from the different styles to create a balance in which both the children and the adults can feel comfortable.

Looking back, I found that the NCPD monthly training for the staff of the different children homes was fruitful and has gradually had an impact on the different participants. Nowadays most of the participants feel more comfortable and confident in the training; there is more exchange and sharing of their experiences and knowledge during the training. It takes and needs time of course. It is a process; but I think the influence of working in a group is showing its effect and continuation will be good.

In my opinion communication should be one of the key words for NCPD. Within each organization management and good communication on all different levels is important. This includes:

- ◆ manager with staff
- ◆ between the different staff
- ◆ staff with the children (members of staff/caretakers are role-models for the children)
- ◆ children with each other.

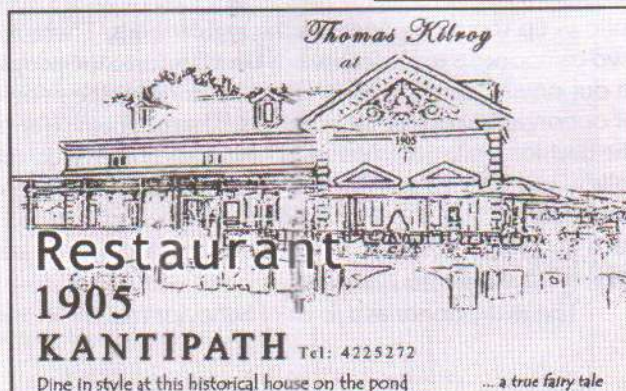
In addition, as part of the communication, it should be clear for everyone where responsibility lies. If the communication is good and effective on the different levels it will influence and benefit the whole organization; not forgetting its influence on the care and the well being of the children who depend on us and for whom we are working.

Good communication between the different NCPD members and understanding about experiences and visions, will make the network stronger and "wiser"; one example being the committee that has already started to discuss criteria for the children in the homes. By creating an environment where communication and understanding may "grow" we can ensure that all children can "grow".

I leave you all my best and warmest wishes for the future.

I will miss you all!

— Gemma te Woerd



A Summary of Findings & Conclusion of the Interviews

-Dhirendra Lamsal

Since last 2 years NCPD has been publishing bi-annual newsletter including major happenings and highlights of NCPD and its member organizations. In this III volume, we have tried to reflect primary views and opinions of member organizations along with changes that occurred in the network set-up in the past. Since NCPD is the first program in South Asia Region to recognize the unique needs of prisoners and their children, there are altogether eleven organizations directly responding to the needs and/or problems. I feel very proud to underline that NCPD member organizations have been directly providing food, shelter, education and medical assistance to about 311 prisoner's children ranging from 1 month to 19 years of age. There has been excellent feedback on this initiative. These feedbacks have encouraged us to dedicate ourselves for the same cause and come-up with this exclusive volume.

Due to the feedback and suggestions, it became essential for NCPD Secretariat to capture member's view on NCPD and opinions of prisoners and their children regarding the organizations that work with them and for them. Therefore, this particular volume has accommodated the views of member's expertise along with perception of prisoners and their children on the organizations that work for both their welfare and protection of rights.

Ten different informal interviews were carried out with key authorities of NCPD member organizations and the situation of prisoners and their children. In addition to this, children and female prisoners from different member organizations were interviewed to assess their current situation.

Let me briefly tell you how we could accomplish this initiative. NCPD Secretariat constituted a newsletter publication committee, which organized several meetings to decide appropriate interaction guidelines. The interactions were conducted with each and every concerned authority of NCPD member organization in their own organizations. There were altogether 21 representatives of NCPD member organizations ranging from 1 to 7 in groups during the interactions. Besides, separate interviews were taken with 4 staff members of NCPD group homes, 3 female prisoners, 6 dependant children, and 1 juvenile delinquent. The representatives of NCPD member organization stationed outside the valley were interviewed via telephone and in NCPD office respectively. The views, opinions, information extracted from the interactions were taped and later on transcribed. Those transcriptions were summarized and edited to transform the information into the existing shape.

Summary of Proposed Future Programs:

- Develop a philosophical document concerning child rights and juvenile justice system;
- Identify and link poor resource settings to international donor communities;
- Publish pamphlets, posters, booklets, leaflets to promote the rights of children and prisoners.
- Deliver advocacy campaigns at community, district and national level to make sure the rights of children and prisoners are protected and respected

- Determine and enforce minimum standard for quality care of children within NCPD group homes.
- Develop comprehensive children's home management training manual and delivery of Training. (The manual should contain issues related to child rights, child protection, discipline, staff management, physical surrounding, health care and nutrition, education, recreation and culture, case management, psychosocial intervention, reunion and reintegration etc)
- Inter-organizational visits, observations, (twining visit, professional attachment visit) to promote a sense of 'belonging', 'uniformity', and 'conformity' among the members.
- Design, conduct and carry out research, action research, needs assessment, small-scale study.
- Identify best practices, successful intervention programs, introduce and replicate them according to the local context.
- Deliver human resource development capacity building training programs to the entire staff of NCPD member organizations
- Identify psychosocial disorders in children/prisoners and deliver counseling services accordingly.
- Organize dissemination workshops to share ideas, experiences, best practices and successful intervention model
- Resource mobilization and ensure flow of information systematically
- Develop model programs for social and economic reintegration of prisoners upon their release from prison.
- Develop realistic parameters for monitoring and evaluation of on going program service delivery activities.
- Organize interactive programs on periodic intervals with the participation of its members and outside organizations to create common understanding on the issues for uniformity in program development and implementation and evaluation.

Recommendations:

- Activate network secretariat in fund raising campaigns/initiatives.
 - Activate member organizations in each and every steps and process of networking
 - Chalk out appropriate strategy to avoid duplication, repetition in program service delivery activities.
 - Strengthen monitoring & evaluation capacity
 - Constitute technical committee under the supervision of NCPD Executive Committee to review, develop and define intake criteria, network protocols, admin/finance policies, guidelines, and intervention strategies
 - Identify marketing possibilities
 - Broaden the scope of work and geographical location for intervention program.
 - Introduce reward and punishment system within the entire network set-up
 - Provide adequate attention to make the programs sustainable.
 - Encourage members to be accountable, transparent and responsible towards the target groups and beneficiaries.
- Please contact NCPD Secretariat for further details.

WEAKNESSES OF LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF JUVENILE JUSTICE IN NEPAL

- RABINDRA BHATTARAI

Juvenile justice has been a keen interest area in recent years after ratification of the Convention on Right of the Child by Nepal in 1990. By ratification of this treaty Nepal has expressed a full commitment to the values of child rights and has accepted international obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of Nepali children. There are several rights of children in said convention which are supported and standardised by several international human rights instruments basically concerned with best interest of child. Juvenile justice system would be one of the significant aspects of overall protection and promotion of rights of the children.

The Constitution of Kingdom of Nepal 1990 fails to recognise child rights with right perspective. An argument may be raised that as the preamble of the constitution regards "fundamental human rights" as basic feature and article 11 has provided for differential legislative measures, therefore, there is room to insertion of this perspective. However, this may not be justified if we look whole provisions. The constitution could provide special provision to recognise special rights and interest of children explicit under fundamental rights.

The Proviso of the Article 11 reads that "provided that special provision may be made by law for the protection and advancement of the interests of women, children, the aged or those who are physically or mentally in capacitated or those who belongs to class which is economically, socially or educationally backward". This is clear that it does not impede to protect and advance the interest of the children and leaves role of the state with welfare approach and state policy governed by the constitution under article 26.8 includes safeguard of rights and interest of the children.

According to it, it is responsibility of state to make necessary arrangements to safeguard the rights and interest of the children and ensure their protection from exploitation. Another noteworthy point in constitution is that it recognises the age of 18 years as the age of majority establishing it as qualification for voting rights under article 45.6.

Children Act 1992 is the prime statutes to govern juvenile justice in Nepal. This law came as follow up action of the ratification of Convention on Right of the Child (CRC) in 1990. The current Nepali system, though claimed brought in pursuant to international standards, does not reflect the essence of international orientation. The main inconsistency of Nepalese system with international system may be highlighted as following:

- ◆ Children Act 1992 defines human being below the age of 16 years as children. Article 1 of the CRC requires the age up to 18 to be considered as children unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier. As mentioned above the constitution has ensured the age of 18 years age attaining age of majority. Defining age below the definition by statutory provision may not be accepted as attained majority earlier. For attaining majority right of the adult franchise or voting right is a standard. Therefore, Nepali system is inconsistent

with international standard.

- ◆ Article 37 (a) of CRC prohibits to impose life imprisonment for offences committed by person below eighteen years of age but Nepali system by defining adult for criminal sanction by the age of 16 ignores to respect this notion and imposes sentence of life imprisonment for the offenders of the age group 16 to 18 under adult criminal liability. Even for below 16 years only the punishment would be half but there is no legislative limitation to pass sentence of life imprisonment. A consistent system with international standards may not accept sub-standard. For example, Section 16 of Juvenile Justice Act of India clearly restricts to pass such sentences.
- ◆ Standard of juvenile justice requires a system with variety of dispositions, such as care, guidance and supervision orders, counselling; probation; foster care; educational and vocational training programmes and other alternatives to institutional care shall be available to ensure that children are dealt with in a manner appropriate to their well being and proportionate both to their circumstances and the offence. Incarceration may be used as last resort and for as far as shortest period. However, Nepali system only safeguarding accused child by guardians or social organisations for investigation or proceeding of the case are available as alternatives. In sentencing also there are no alternatives to imprisonment and suspension of imprisonment. Therefore, Nepali system does not meet the internationally agreed standards.
- ◆ Nepali system does not recognise diversion schemes. Neither has it established separate procedural measures in handling children who are in any stage of conflict with law nor separate surveillance and reintegration process. It continues to deal juveniles like adult in all stages of investigation, trial or imprisonment. It also lacks to guide the treatment of children in conflict of law in differentiated manner.
- ◆ Nepal's juvenile justice law lacks clarity on giving legal guidance for apprehension, remand and observation as well as disposition and fails to specify the roles of police, prosecutors and adjudicators. Juvenile justice system is not perceived as essential specialised service for best interest of children.
- ◆ Nepal's juvenile system is silent about handling the cases of status offences.
- ◆ The concept of rehabilitation of children in conflict with law is misleadingly managed by section 42 of the Children Act. Rehabilitation is made as melting pot of varieties of problematic children, not a segregated systematic half way home for reintegration to the community.
- ◆ Corrective rehabilitation; diversion from court and prison; coverage of status offence; no conviction, loose adjudication and disposition and well being of juvenile supersedes other matters are international

Please refer to page 9

कारागार सुदृढीकरणका लागि बाल संरक्षण गृह

सम्बन्धी मापदण्डको र्वोचो

- युवराज पाण्डे

विभिन्न क्षेत्र र विषयका आ-आफ्नै विशेषता र समस्या हुन्छन् । कारागारप्रणालीका पनि केही भिन्नै खालका विशेषता र समस्या छन् । एउटै विषयक्षेत्रमा पनि कुनै एक ठाउँमा एउटा र अर्को ठाउँमा अर्कै खालका विशेषता र समस्या रहेका हुन सक्छन् । तसर्थ, विभिन्न ठाउँको कारागारप्रणाली भिन्नभिन्न प्रकारका विशेषता र समस्या हुनु स्वाभाविकै कुरा हो ।

नेपालको कारागारप्रणालीमा अरू मुलुकको कारागारप्रणालीका भन्दा फरक विशेषताहरू पहिचान हुन सक्छन् । भौतिक पूर्वाधारको अपर्याप्ततालाई नेपालको कारागारप्रणालीको प्रमुख समस्याको रूपमा औल्याउने गरिन्छ । नेपालमा अहिले ७३ वटा कारागार छन् । काठमाडौं र दाङ जिल्लामा दुईदुई वटा कारागार छन् भने भक्तपुर, सुनसरी, धनुषा र बारा जिल्लामा चाहिँ कारागार छैनन् ।

कारागार नभएका जिल्लामा पक्राउ परेका व्यक्तिहरूलाई नजिकको जिल्लाको कारागारमा राख्ने काम हुँदै आएको छ । यी जिल्लाका अदालत वा मुद्दा हेर्ने अधिकारको आदेशले थुनामा राखिने व्यक्तिलाई नजिकको जिल्लाको कारागारमा राख्दा मुद्दाका सिलसिलामा अदालत वा अधिकारीसमक्ष लानेल्याउने क्रामा केही समस्या छन् । बाकी ७१ जिल्लामा भने जिल्लाभित्रै कारागार रहेका हुनाले थोरै कारागारहरूले मात्र अर्को जिल्लाको न्यायिक अधिकारी समक्ष बन्दीलाई तारिखमा लग्ने र फर्काउने काम गरे पुग्ने अवस्थामा रहेको कुरा स्पष्ट नै छ ।

बन्दीलाई तारिखमा मुद्दा हेर्ने अधिकारीसमक्ष पुर्‍याउँदा रअवश्यकताअनुसार अस्पतालमा लैजाँदा कारागारप्रशासनले आवश्यकता तथा सुरक्षाको व्यवस्था मिलाउनु पर्दछ । कारागारहरूको आफ्नो सवारीसाधन नहुँदा बन्दीलाई अदालत वा अस्पतालमा आवश्यकतानुसार लैजान असजिलो हुन्छ ।

अधिराज्यका धेरैजसो कारागारभवनहरू निकै पुराना छन् । भवनका पर्खाल, छाना तथा बाहिरी सुरक्षा पर्खाल र सुरक्षा चौकी वा बुर्जाका धेरैजसो संरचनाहरू चर्केफुटेका र मर्मत गर्नुपर्ने अवस्थामा पुगेका छन् । पहाडी र हिमाली क्षेत्रका जिल्लामा रहेका कारागारहरूको बन्दी राख्ने ठाउँको क्षमता पनि अत्यन्त न्यून छ । यिनका तुलनामा तराईक्षेत्रमा रहेका कारागार ठूला छन् तापनि तिनमा चर्की बन्दीसङ्ख्याको चापले बस्ने ठाउँको अभाव हुने कुरा प्रायः आई नै र हुने गरेको छ ।

कतिपय जिल्लाका कारागारमा महिलाबन्दीगृहको व्यवस्था हुन नसकेको कारणले महिला बन्दीहरूलाई अर्को जिल्लाको कारागारमा लगेर राख्नुपर्ने अवस्था पनि रहेको छ । केही जिल्लामा भाडाको घरमा कारागारको सञ्चालन भइरहेको छ । त्यसैले नेपालको कारागारप्रणालीलाई सुदृढ बनाउन भौतिक संरचना र सुविधामा सुधार र विस्तार गर्नुपर्ने अवस्था छ ।

कारागारको निर्माण र सुधारको निम्ति सरकारले बर्सेनि लगानी पनि गर्दै आएको छ तापनि त्यस्तो लगानी आवश्यकताको अनुपातमा अपर्याप्त देखिँदै आएको छ । तसर्थ कारागारको भौतिक पूर्वाधारको विकास र विस्तारको काममा सामाजिक सङ्घसंस्थाहरूले ठूलो भूमिका खेल्न सक्ने सम्भावना र यस्तो भूमिका खेल्नुपर्ने आवश्यकता रहेको देखिन्छ ।

हुन त अहिले पनि जिल्लाविकास समिति तथा नगरपालिका जस्ता निकायहरूले कारागारहरूको भौतिक पूर्वाधारको विकास, विस्तार र मर्मत सुधारमा योगदान नगरेका होइनन् । तिनको सहयोग मात्रले बन्दीका लागि अनुकूल भौतिक पूर्वाधार तयार हुन सक्ने नभएकाले सामाजिक संस्थाहरूको यसतर्फ ध्यान जानुपर्ने आवश्यकता खड्केको छ ।

विगत केही वर्षयता धेरै सामाजिक सङ्घसंस्थाले बन्दीहरूलाई सीपमूलक तालिम प्रदान गर्ने, स्वास्थ्यउपचार तथा परीक्षण सेवा उपलब्ध गराउने, पुस्तक तथा पत्रपत्रिका र दराज आदि दिएर कारागारभित्र पुस्तकालयको सञ्चालन गर्न सहयोग पुर्‍याउने जस्ता कामहरू गरेका र गर्दै आएका छन् । कारागारमा रहेका बन्दीमा आश्रित बालबालिकाहरूको संरक्षणको काम पनि कतिपय सङ्घसंस्थाले गर्दै आएका छन् भने केही संस्थाले कानुनी तथा कानुनाभिमुखी सेवा लिगल एड र प्यारालिगल सर्भिस) बन्दीहरूलाई उपलब्ध गराउँदै कारागारलाई सुधारगृहका रूपमा रूपान्तरण गर्न सहयोग पुर्‍याएका छन् ।

थुना वा कैदमा परेका बन्दी आफैले अभिभावकत्व प्रदान गर्नुपर्ने आश्रित बालबालिकालाई कारागारबाहिरै उनीहरूको हेरविचार र शिक्षादीक्षा गर्ने गरी बालगृह चलाएर पनि धेरै संस्थाले सहयोगी भूमिका खेलेका छन् । बन्दीका आश्रित बालबालिकाहरूलाई आफ्नो संरक्षणमा लिएर उनीहरूको पालनपोषण गर्ने र उनीहरूलाई शिक्षा दिने काम गरेर यस्ता संस्थारूले राष्ट्रको ठूलो सेवा गरेका छन् भन्ने कुरा स्पष्ट छ ।

यस्ता संस्थाको संरक्षणमा रहेका बालबालिकाहरूलाई उपलब्ध गराउनुपर्ने न्यूनतम सेवा सुविधाहरू केके हुन् र हुनुपर्छ भन्ने कुरा भने हुनुपर्ने जति स्पष्ट हुन सकेको पाइँदैन । त्यसैगरी यी संस्थाहरूले बालबालिकाहरूलाई केकस्ता सेवासुविधा दिइराखेका छन् भन्ने कुराको अनुगमन र मूल्याङ्कन गर्ने काम पनि हुनुपर्ने जति हुन सकेको देखिँदैन । यसबाट बालबालिकाका नाममा काम गरे पनि र भोको काम नगर्ने कोको छन् भन्ने कुराको पहिचान हुन सकिरहेको छैन ।

यस्ता बालसंरक्षणगृहहरूको उचित कार्यसञ्चालन, व्यवस्थापन र सेवासुविधा र तिनको गुणस्तरको न्यूनतम मापदण्ड तर्जुमा गरी कार्यान्वयन गर्न आवश्यक देखिन्छ । यस्तो मापदण्डको तर्जुमा र कार्यान्वयन हुन सकेमा बालबालिकाको संरक्षणमा रहेका यस्ता संरक्षणगृहहरूको स्तरअभिवृद्धि हुन सक्नेछ । बालबालिकाका लागि हितकर मार्गदर्शन उपलब्ध हुनेछ । यसले कारागारमा रहेका बन्दीहरूमा उनीहरूका आश्रित बालबालिकाको अवस्थाप्रतिको चिन्ता कम हुने र मनोवैज्ञानिक सहायता पनि पुग्ने देखिन्छ । यस क्षेत्रमा क्रियाशील संस्थाहरूले यस दिशामा अग्रसर हुन आवश्यक छ र तिनलाई सहयोग दिने सहयोगी तथा दाताहरूले पनि यसमा सहयोग गर्नुपर्ने देखिन्छ ।

लेखक कारागार व्यवस्थापन विभागका महानिर्देशक हुनु हुन्छ ।



समाजमा रहेका अपराधका जरा

संवेदनालाई सक्रिय बनाउने गरी चेतनाको सञ्चार नभएसम्म उसमा भित्रिएको जानकारी वा सूचना मानवजीवन उपयोगी हुँदैन। मानिसमा हुन सक्ने विनाशकारी सुख्खा सूचनाप्रवेशले मानिसलाई मानवको अपकारतर्फ उद्धत गर्न सक्छ। मानिसको जीवनलाई असर पार्ने अनेक प्रसङ्ग र पक्ष हुन्छन्। समय, स्थान, वातावरण, मानसिकता, सन्दर्भ र परिस्थितिजन्य विकासले आपराधिक क्रियाकलाप हुन सक्छन्। मानवीय संवेदना र विवेकको तत्क्षणको असन्तुलन वा विचलनले नै अपराधका घटना हुने गरेका छन्।

मानवसमाजमा यस्ता थुप्रै कारकतत्व छन् जसले अपराधको उत्पत्ति गराउँदछन्, मलजल गर्छन् र सामाजिक रूपले भित्री तहमा पृथक संस्कारको विकास गर्छन्। समाजको भने त्यस्तो दृष्टि पुगिराखेको हुँदैन। अपराध सङ्गठित र योजनाबद्ध तरिकाले अगाडि बढ्न थाल्छ। अपराधस्वयं पैसाको रूपमा वरण हुन पुग्छ। यस कुरालाई हरेक समुदायले मनन नगरीकन वा समाजको पुरानो परिपाटी र ढर्रालाई विस्थापित गर्नतर्फ समाज अग्रसर नभएसम्म अपराधन्यूनीकृत समाज निर्माण गर्न सकिँदैन।

हाल अत्यधिक रूपमा बढिरहेका चेलीबेटी बेचबिखन, लागू औषध ओसारपसार, अपहरण, डकैती, लुट, चोरी, ठगी, कपट, हत्या तथा बलात्कारजस्ता अपराधलाई विभिन्न सम्प्रदायले अपराधको मुहानको रूपमा व्याख्या गर्ने प्रयास गरेका छन्। शास्त्रीय सम्प्रदायले व्यक्तिको स्वतन्त्र इच्छाको सन्दर्भमा अपराधको विश्लेषण गरेका छन्। प्रारूपवादी सम्प्रदायले अपराधको विशेष प्रकारको शारीरिक र मानसिक बन्नेहरूलाई अपराधको कारण मानेका छन्। कार्लमार्क्स र एङ्गल्सले स्थापना गरेका समाजवादी सम्प्रदायले हरेक अपराधलाई आर्थिक कारकको परिणाम मानेका छन्। सदरल्यान्डचाहिँ मानिसको संस्कार, संस्कृति र सामाजिक परिस्थिति उसले गर्ने अपराधको मूलमा रहेका हुन्छ भन्छन्।

समय र परिस्थिति जतिजति परिवर्तन हुँदै जान्छ त्यति त्यति मानवीय सोच पनि उत्कृष्ट, उदाहरणीय र समाजउपयोगी बन्दै जानुपर्ने हो तर मानिस किन अझ नीचता र घृणाका फाँटतिर बढी लम्किरहेको छ ? कसैले जनसङ्ख्याको बृद्धिलाई यसको कारण मान्छन् भने कोहीचाहिँ यसलाई डार्विनको विकासवादी मान्यताअनुसार मानिसले "बोचनको लागि संघर्ष" गर्दाको स्वाभाविक परिणति मान्छन्। तर यो प्रश्नले मानिसलाई न्यायको बारेमा सोच बाध्य गराएको छ। यसैले अपराधलाई हेर्नका लागि अब वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण राख्न आवश्यक छ।

मानिसको बेचबिखन, लागू औषधको ओसारपसार र अवैध व्यापार, डकैती, लुट, चोटी, ठगी, कपट, हत्या तथा बलात्कारजस्ता अपराधको अन्त गर्नको लागि सर्वप्रथम नागरिक समाज, श्री ५ को सरकार, प्रहरीप्रशासन सबैले अपराधका कारकतत्व वा जराको बारेमा विज्ञानको सहायताले अध्ययन गर्न आवश्यक छ। यहाँ यसका केही परिपेक्ष्यलाई छोटकरीमा केलाउने प्रयास गरिएको छ।

क. सोचाइ:

मानिसलाई कुनै काम गर्ने वा नगर्ने भन्ने कुराको टुङ्गोमा पुर्‍याउन उसको सोचाइले भूमिका खेल्छ। सोचाइ आफै बल्ने कुरा नभएर सामाजिक अन्तर्क्रियाकै परिणाम हो। मान्छे जुन प्रकारको सङ्गतमा भिजेको हुन्छ, उसको सोच त्यति ढल्केको हुन्छ र उसले त्यही प्रकारको कार्यलाई निरन्तरता दिन्छ। भनिन्छ "सङ्गत गुणाको फल"। मानिस अपराधमा लाग्छ तर पनि उसले मानसिक रूपले त्यो क्रियाकलापलाई अपराधीक क्रियाकलाप मानिराखेको हुँदैन। यसैले सोचाइका कारणले मानिस ठीक गरेको छु भन्ने ठानेर अपराधलाई निरन्तरता दिइराखेको हुन्छ।

ख. पारिवारिक विघटन र वातावरण:

पारिवारिक भ्रमेलाले घरपरिवारमा उत्पन्न विषमता र असन्तुलनको स्थिति बुझाउँछ। अनेक कारणले बाबु, आमा, छोरा, छोरी र अन्य परिवारमा

आपसी कलह, मतभिन्नता पैदा हुन्छन्। परिवारमा मेल हुँदैन। संरक्षकबाट उचित संरक्षण र हेरविचार हुन नसके पछि विघटित परिवारका सदस्यहरूमा अपराधप्रवृत्ति मौलाउँछ। सम्बन्धविच्छेद, बहुविवाह र बालबालिकाको अपराधप्रवृत्तिको विकास जस्ता कुरा पारिवारिक कारणले नै मौलाउँछन्। ग्ल्यान्ले गरेको एक सर्वेक्षणअनुसार ९०.४० प्रतिशत अपराधजन्य क्रियाकलाप परिवारबाट सिर्जित थिए। यसले अपराधमा सामेल हुने कारणमा बालबालिकाले पाउनुपर्ने माया, ममता, स्नेह, सम्मान र वात्सल्य नपाउनुजस्ता कुरालाई दसाएको छ।

ग. गरिबी र बेरोजगारी:

अपराधको अर्को कारकतत्व गरिबी पनि हो। छाक टार्न अन्नको जरूरत हुन्छ। अन्नको परियुक्ति र दैनिक आवश्यकता पूर्तिका लागि पैसाको आवश्यकता हुन्छ। मान्छेले आनो आवश्यकता परिपूर्ति गर्न सकेन भने आपराधिक गतिविधिको माध्यमबाट उसले त्यसको परिपूर्ति गर्ने बाटो अपनाउँछ। रोजगारी अभाव पनि मानिसलाई अपराधतर्फ प्रेरित गर्न सक्ने अर्को तत्व हो। काम पाएन भने मानिसको मन खाली हुन्छ। खाली दिमागलाई सैतानको घर भन्ने त चलन नै छ। रोजगारी नपाए पछि मानिस अपराध गरेर भए पनि धोको पूरा गर्न पछि पर्दैन। अहिले नेपालमा रहेको हिंसात्मक द्वन्द्वका कारण त रोजगारीमा धेरै हास आएको छ र आपराधिक क्रियाकलाप बढाउन यसले गहन भूमिक खेलेको छ।

घ. आधुनिकीकरण र सञ्चारको प्रभाव:

आधुनिकीकरणको लालसाको नेपालीलाई सताएको छ। आमसञ्चारका माध्यममा मानिसका आकाङ्क्षा बढाउने अनेक उपाय प्रचारप्रसार हुन्छन्। मानिसलाई अरूले गरेको कुराको नक्कल गर्न स्रोतसाधनको अभाव हुन्छ। उसले अनियमित र गलत उपायद्वारा यसको परिपूर्ति गर्न चाहँदा अपराध बढ्न पुगेका छन्।

ङ. सामाजिक कुरीति र कुप्रथाको प्रभाव:

नेपाली समाज परम्परागत गलत प्रवृत्तिहरूबाट प्रताडित छ। दाइजो प्रथा, देउकी प्रथा, तिलक प्रथा, गैना प्रथा, कन्याती प्रथा, बिक्रीविवाह प्रथा, भूमा प्रथा यसका ज्वालन्त उदाहरण हुन्। विधवाको विवाह निषेध, छोरीलाई लाहुरे बनाई कमाई खाने सामाजिक मान्यता र समस्याप्रतिको अज्ञानताजस्ता कुरा पनि नेपालमा अपराधका कारण हुन्।

माथिका कुराले अपराधको मुख्य कारण आर्थिक सामाजिक कुरा नै हो भन्ने देखाउँछ। जवसम्म हामीसँग सामाजिक न्याय र सामाजिक सुरक्षाको ग्यारेन्टी हुँदैन तबसम्म अपराधमा कमी आउँदैन। सामाजिक सुरक्षा भनेका शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, रोजगारी र आयको समानुपातिक वितरण हो। यसैले अपराधमा कमी ल्याउने रणनीति तय गर्ने हो भने यसतर्फ ध्यान दिनुपर्ने देखिन्छ।

नवराज लम्साल (प्रशासन छाँया)

जगन्नाथ माध्यामिक विद्यालय

केन्द्रीय कारागार



रोटी अकलेपड्दारा प्राप्त सोच पवित्रि

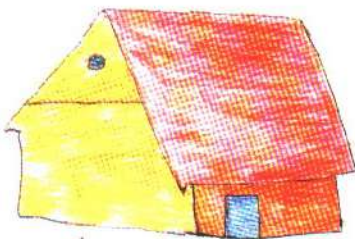
I met an elephant on the summer day

Niranjan Karki
Class : five
School: NVA

Mom, Mom, mom
You were come
Give me badam
Khanchu kram krum

I met an elephant on the summer day
What do you say ? What do you do ?
I said Good Morning elephant
What do you do ?
say nice to met you
like to dance with you.

Chhek IIII



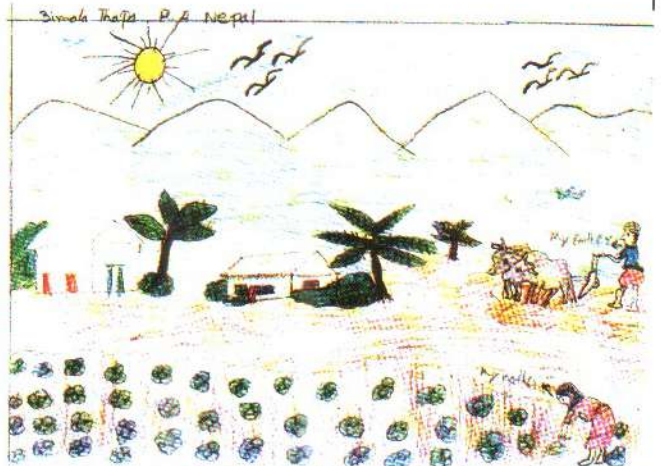
A



Y

Mom

Shanti Khatiwada
Class UKG



Dad

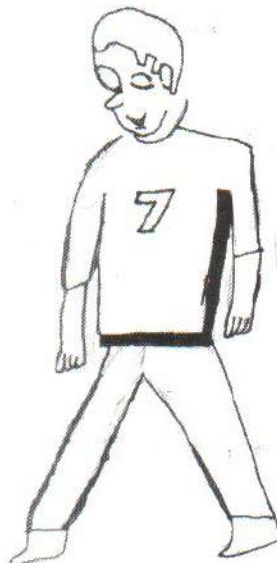
Sundesh Lama
Class LKG

Dad, Dad, Dad
My dog is bad
Give me a cat
I'm wearing my hat
My dad is not fat
Play a bat
I balling my ball
with this hand

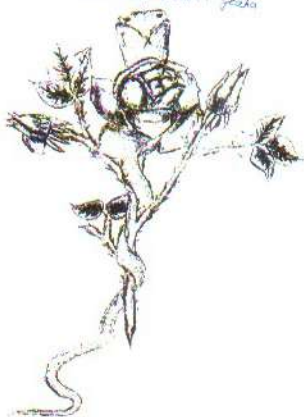
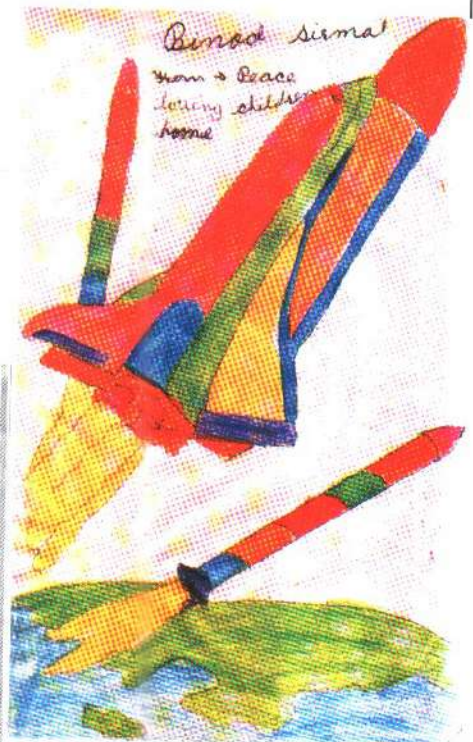


PRINCESS
Rajendra

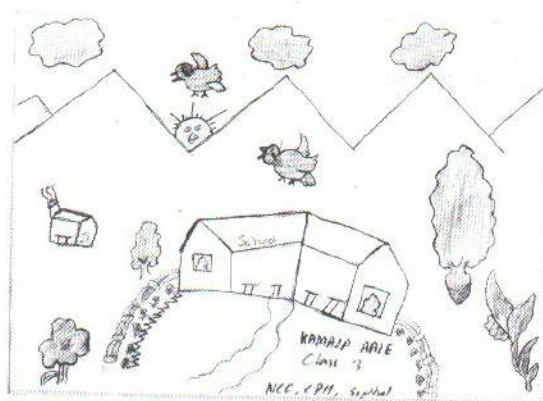
Renu Rai
class:- Six (6/12)
Bai Sudher Gorkh



Simla Khatri
Address: Bai Sudher Gorkh



Karna - Tamara Rajendra Palamari
Address: Bai Sudher Gorkh



..... and at the end



Rotary Matching Grant 89510

The year 2004 ended up with beneficial outcomes for Network for Children Prisoners & Dependents (NCPD) because of a successful implementation of a project initiated jointly by International Child Resource Institute (ICRI) and Rotary International and Rotary Club of Kantipur. Rotarian Freema Davis, a representative of Rotary Club of Oakland # 3 conducted an initial on-site visit and needs assessment survey of NCPD group homes in 2003. The survey and the visit were well coordinated by ICRI-Nepal & NCPD Secretariat. ICRI-Nepal played a pivotal role in designing the project and submitting the project proposal in the international bidding. The Rotary Club of Kantipur assisted in formatting implementation plan for distribution of the grant assistance as well as purchased the equipment/s and supplies for delivery.

The main purpose of this joint project was to assist NCPD with the 'de-institutionalization' process and improvement of group care facilities for children of prisoners in Nepal, enabling the children to adjust in the protection homes. The children of prisoners, many of whom have lived most of their lives in prison with their parents, are suffering from different psychosocial disorders

NCPD received various equipment and supplies worth of NRS. 18,00,000. This grant assistance helped the children benefited to safe environment, well adjustment and eventually enhanced the process of reunification with their families and reintegration back to the community.

NCPD concluded the project on May 2005 amid the function, **"Equipment and Supply Distribution Ceremony"** held at the NCPD secretariat. This concluding ceremony was co-chaired by Mr. Dinesh Neupane, Vice-



Mr Dhirendra Lamsal giving supplies to SETU- Nepal



Rotarian Manohar Das Mool giving supplies to VSRP/PFN

and are severely traumatized were in great need of safe drinking water system, clean and hygienic environment, equipment and supplies for day-to-day living. Though the environment in NCPD group homes was far better than the situation where they were living with their parents in prison, the efforts of creating a home like environment within the NCPD group care facility had remained semi-fulfilled due to lack of adequate resources. This need was appropriately addressed with the Rotary Matching Grant 89510 supported by the Rotary Club of Oakland # 3.

Chairperson of NCPD and Rotarian Purna Shakya, President of Rotary Club of Kantipur. The chief guest for this program was Rotarian Freema Davis, the representative of Rotary Club of Oakland #. ICRI-Nepal & NCPD jointly felicitated the contributors including Rotary International, Rotary Club of Kantipur, Rotary Oakland # 3 and Rotarian Manohar Das Mool

