



# Shanti Sewa Ashram / Peace Service Center 2017 Quarterly Report (April- October)

## Kathmandu, Nepal

### Background

Shanti Sewa Ashram (SSA), also known as Peace Service Center, was founded in 2002, Kathmandu for the promotion of peace as a reflection of Mr. C.M. Yogi's effort to bring organizations working in several areas of the society into a common forum. It dreams of fostering selfless service towards humanity through actions towards peace, non-violence and various spiritual and philosophical awareness programs such as discourses,

seminars, conferences and worship on a regular basis. For the realization of these, SSA has future plans for running an orphanage, a senior center, a Yoga, meditation and naturopathy centre, an organic farm and a vocational training centre, for underprivileged women.

Dr. Yogi dreamed of creating a shelter, a place to integrate services and bring together all the social organizations on one platform, present a fantastic example of ecology and spirituality, bridging east and west, connecting nature and culture, and uniting spirituality and humanity.

Shanti Sewa Ashram, fosters selfless service towards humanity through programs which strengthen the intention of peace, promote interfaith cooperation, non-violence, and spiritual and philosophical awareness.

Originally purchased with generous donations from the Yogi family, the Community Center/Ashram was initially a simple one floor flat with an area for Satsanga. Today it is a three-level headquarter building and regular meeting place for workshops, conferences, and various other regular programs for all spheres of the community. This development shows heartfelt trust in the abilities of Dr. Yogi who continues to guide the Community Center/Ashram in its vision.



The hope of SSA is that disadvantaged children, women, and elderly people will get holistic services regardless of religion, cast, sex, sect or nationality. SSAS is a big open house where one can get service, prayer, awakening, and enjoyment.

Shanti Sewa Ashram is also a big umbrella organization, that leads Three Hindu Vidhyapeeth School, an orphanage home in Dang, Children Peace home. Women's Education class, Children Study club, Youth Society for peace, and Seeds of Peace for Children. SSA has also recently bought a Land in Banepa, Nearly 25km away from Kathmandu Valley, dreaming to build bigger building to reach out to the bigger underprivileged segments to the society.

## April

### Miss. Ayushma's Experience, Participant of Forum, Sharing of GNRC 5th Forum, Panama City.

Article by Ayushma Pant.

Namaste !

I am Ayushma Pant. I am 16 years old. I live in Parsa which is 6km south- west from Ghorahi. I have finished my grade 10. While I am in leisure time. My father asked me if I would like to go to Panama. I was surprised. I didn't know where Panama was. I had never been outside of a city on my own, and I had to take decision to go outside of the country. I was interested, so I said I would like to. Next day, my father told me that Dr. Chintamani Yogi and his organization select me to



attend the Global Network of Religion for Children GNRC program and support for my preparation. She told me that we have to discuss about the child violence. She also said that we have to do group work, group discussion and also perform in the program. And I prepared myself. On the 4<sup>th</sup> May me with kriti Madam had flight from Tribhuvan International airport to Panama. I



am a little bit nervous because it was my first trip to foreign country and my first experience on the flight.

From the flight of 4 pm at 4 th May we departed Nepal and our first transit was in Delhi. We spend about 4 hours in delhi. The carried our journey to Panama. After 11 hours we finally reached panama. It took us nearly 36 hours to reach. It was exhausting but very exciting as ell. Some

Members of GNRC, came to pick us up. We stayed in a wonderful hotel, I had never stayed in hotel. Next day early morning we got ready for the program. From the opening ceremony and all the participant gave there introduction. On that program from the 25 countries children were present. I am also one of the them. I have always worked as a active member of student club at Shanti sewa ashram. And then, we did group work, group discussion about the child violence. After that, we discussed about the problems back in our counry and ways to solve them. We all have done that job very well. Program of the first day very intersting.

I have made many friend there. One of them is Marianne Horan, she was very friendly and helpful. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> day we did group work on different topic related to child violence. I was in fifth group among six group. Our topic was sexual abuse. We have prepared presentation on sexual abuse for the third day. On that day the chief of the GNRC came and we meet him. He introduce the program and work of the GNRC. On that day our hotel changed and we are shifted on sheration hotel from the next day religious



representative from the different countries join the program. Dr. Chintamani yogi also joined us as the representative of Nepal. On that day president of Panama, Mr. Juan carlos varela gave his speech on love and care for children and said he was very happy to be the part of the program. We have present drama from our group about the sexual abuse. And we have heard from religious representatives to end the child violence. And we have fun there. I like Panama, very much. Panama is very developed than Nepal. Nepal, being a landlocked country, I had never seen ocean, I absolutely loved the experience. In the last day of the program, I visited the oldest city of the panama. In the last day, we have a big farewell program whee we have best wishes and exchange of the gift to each other. In the evening 4 pm we take off from Panama. I had lot of learnings and exposure from the program. I can changed my life in a way. After, returning from Panama, I gave several speeches and shared my experience to many children and inspired them, also gave several interviews in the media. The journey has made me a very confident. I feel, I am very lucky that I got a chance to visit and participated in the program.



Interviews and Talk programs on Media about GNRC 5<sup>th</sup> Forum – 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May



Kriti Giri, is a program officer of Peace Service center, Dr. Chintamani Yogi, chairperson of Shanti Sewa ashram, also shared their experience related to GNRC 5<sup>th</sup> Forum in various media. Also, interviewed in different talk programs and shared Panama Declaration in the media.

### Interfaith Program to address Child Labor



A Program for Religious group to address child labor issues, with UNICEF and SOUTH ASAIN GROUP. Human trafficking is the systematic exploitation of the world's most vulnerable people. Children are a matter of concern as they can be trafficked into forced labor, debt bondage, child labor, domestic servitude, prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, forced marriage, forced begging, armed conflict and more. Therefore, Interfaith program was conducted to aware all religion and religious leaders to be a part of across religious traditions, common values inspire faith communities to promote peace and end exploitation in sake of children prosperity.

May

## Workshop on Cyber Crime and Sexual Exploitation for Youth's



Two days workshop was conducted by Shanti Sewa ashram for youth's to address the challenge of the issue and how we can overcome the battle. New technologies are facilitating the online sexual exploitation of children, including the live streaming of sexual abuse of children using web cameras or cellphones, often for profit. Mobile devices also provide new and evolving means by which offenders sexually abuse children as apps are being used to target, recruit, and coerce children to engage in sexual activity. Experts believe tens of thousands of children globally are sexually exploited online, and the number

appears to be growing. The victims may be boys or girls, ranging from very young children to adolescents, and hailing from all ethnic and socio-



economic backgrounds. Therefore, the workshop main intention was to make the generation aware of it's negative consequences as well.

## May 8<sup>th</sup> - Menstruation Hygiene Day

“Come Let’s Talk about Periods”

Shanti Sewa Ashram, conducted Training of Menstrual hygiene in Hvp Schools, targeting 500+ students. Menstruation is still a taboo in some part of Nepal, where women and girls are segregated from the society. In average, it is believed that girls miss 4 days of class in a month because they do not have menstrual pads to come to the school. Therefore, experts were invited where they were taught to make cotton pads at home which is easy and affordable by any segments of society.



Chaupadi Pratha, Menstrual Taboo, where Nepali women segregated during menstruation. However, after decade long of Lobby and advocacy,A woman during her menstruation or post-natal state should not be kept in chhaupadi or treated with any kind of similar discrimination or untouchable and inhuman behaviour," reads the law, passed in a unanimous vote.



The new law, which will come into effect in a year's time, stipulates a three-month jail sentence or a 3,000 rupee fine (\$30), or both, for anyone forcing a woman to follow the custom. Also, Pads were distributed to the children Peace home.



## June

### “Ethics in Education”

Dr. Yogi, conducted a seminar to the staffs of Nepal Examination board, on quality service and ethics in education. A Discussion session on the importance of “Ethics in education”



Ethics in education has been given a lot of importance over the years and institutions are designing courses that help students understand these ethics. The seminar was designed in a way that are applicable on both the instructors as well as the students. while the job of examination board was to make the students aware about these ethics the school management often takes it upon them to familiarize the instructors with the ethics that are relevant to their profession.

### Seminar on “Quality Service in Educational Sector”

Dr. Yogi conducted a seminar on “Quality service in Education Sector, to improve the quality in education sector and talk program on Ethics in education to the various experts of the



educational fields.

## July

### Talk program On Voilence Against Children



### “Interaction on Early Childhood Marriage”

A Interaction program had been conducted with World Vision Nepal and PABSON, Department of Service service to address Early Childhood Marriage. Early marriage and forced marriage is most common in South Asia and West and Central Africa, where 46% and 41% of girls become child brides respectively. Among girls growing up in Latin America and the Caribbean, 29% experience early marriage, compared with 18% in East Asia and the Pacific, 15% in the Arab States and 11% in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



Early pregnancy is one of the most dangerous causes and consequences of child marriage. Girls married early are more likely to experience violence, abuse and forced sexual relations. They are more vulnerable to sexually transmitted infections (including HIV).



Going to school gives girls choices and opportunities in life, allowing them to play an active role in their communities and break the cycle of poverty. Girls who are married are unlikely to be in school. Education is essential for girls to be able to make informed decisions about their sexual health and well-being.

## August

### “Community Production Center”

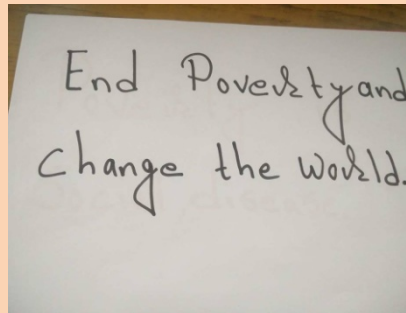
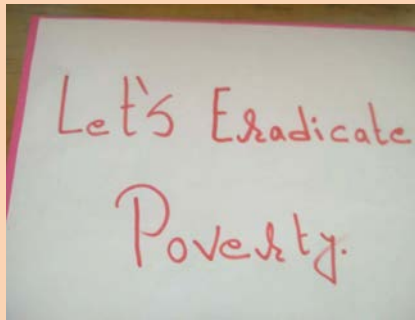
Community Production center, is one of the another venture that Shanti Sewa ashram, has partner organization with. It helps the local women to get employment opportunities. Center especially, targets the single women, so that they have a way of income generation for there child upbringing and for their better future. We also had an event in Labim Mall, selling items that these item made to generate some profit that could be helpful for the girls hostel being built at Children peace home in Dang, which was destroyed during earthquake.



## September

### IDP “ International Day of Peace”

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ERADICATION OF POVERTY



IDEP, like every year Shanti sewa ashram/ Peace service center, Kathmandu, Nepal celebrated in a massive way to aware the society of Child Rights and its importance to eradicate poverty. This year marks the 25th anniversary

of the declaration by the General Assembly, in its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. This year also marks the 30th anniversary of the Call to Action by Father Joseph Wresinski—which inspired the observance of October 17 as the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty—and the recognition by the United Nations of the day as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

The theme for this year’s memorial reminds us of the importance of the values of dignity, solidarity and voice underscored in the Call to Action to fight to end poverty everywhere. We organized various programs to aware youth’s and children that are the future to value children and have knowledge of what child poverty really means and ways we can eradicate it. We organized workshops to and active participation of those living in extreme poverty will be critical to the success of sustainable development goals.

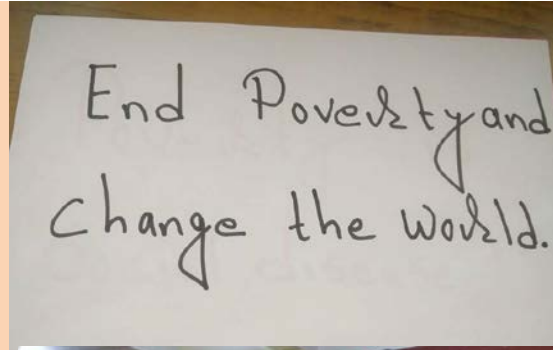
### Activities

- ✓ Involvement of Children in Poverty Eradication Educational and Cultural program
- ✓ Involvement of Youths in Workshop on “Ways we can Eradicate Poverty”
- ✓ Donation to Saptari Flood Victim

Involvement of Children in Poverty Eradication Educational program at Hindu Vidhyapeeth School also a Cultural Evening Celebrating the day–



2)



Children celebrated the day at Hindu Vidhyapeeth School, Dr. Chintamani yogi delivered an educational speech on “Importance of Education” and how it can be a main tool to eradicate poverty, also the celebrated later in the evening the day with a cultural program, where they made songs and poems related poverty and danced gracefully to remark the day.

## Involvement of Youth’s in Workshop on “Ways we can Eradicate Poverty”



Kriti Giri, Program officer of Shanti Sewa ashram/ Peace Service Center and Youth society for peace, along with two volunteers from Oxford University, London conducted a Workshop on how Youths can play a vital role on “ways we can eradicate poverty. The workshop was a successful one, where all youth’s mindfully and actively participated in the games and active discussion and had lot of learnings.

### 3) Food Donation to Saptari Flood Victim

Shanti Sewa Ashram in leadership of Dr. Chintamani Yogi, with the support of National and International supporters donated food and other immediate relief to around 500 saptari flood victims. Also, Shanti Sewa ashram along with other local organization are in a process to build another 100 huts, a shelter for the needed victim families.

“Thank you”



Special Glimpse



***Dr. Bhola Nath Yogi, Chairperson of our sister organization Children Peace home, being awarded for his Excellence service for Children in Children Peace home.***



***Congratulations to Dr. Chintamani Yogi for being selected as a Chairperson of National Curriculum Board of Ministry of Education In serving for Ethical/ Value Based Education***

**Some Glimpses of our Regular Programs**



**Women at Community Production center, busy making handmade crafts.**



**Children of Children Peace home, having Lunch before they leave for School at Hindu Vidhyapeeth School.**



**Children ready to leave for School**



**Children of HVP School Praying.**



**Ongoing Construction at Children Peace home in building Girls Hostel for additional Children. We look forward to accommodate atleast 45 students including Boys and Girls.**



**Dr. Chintamani Yogi, delivering his value based education to HVP children.**



**Regular Satsang/ Spirtual sessions at Shanti Sewa Ashram.**



[For more information-](#)

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***Together we may give our Children the roots to grow and the wings to fly....***

*Thank you*

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