



Offering a hand up not a hand out.



DHARMIK  
AUSTRALIA

## DHARMIK TRIP TO BHUBAN'S VILLAGE

Methinkot, Kavre District ~ Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008



**On Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008 Bhuban Dahal, (Dharmik Nepal) accompanied Swikriti Thapa (Dharmik Nepal Secretary) and me - Verena Clemencic-Jones (Dharmik Australia Secretary) to his village, Methinkot. Methinkot is situated in Kavre district, two hours north-east of Kathmandu. There are approximately 500 inhabitants living in simple houses on a ridge top. Villagers are generally from the lower farming castes, e.g. Dalit, and have traditionally had minimal access to education. As a result many adults in Methinkot are illiterate.**

## Mahankal Primary School, Methinkot



**Mahankal Primary School is a government run school which 125 village children regularly attend. In addition another 150 children visit school occasionally, i.e. when they are not otherwise occupied with home and farming duties. School pupils are 3 to 12 years old. All classes, from Year 1 to 5, are taught in Nepali. According to government policy each child must wear a school uniform, which many families cannot afford. Therefore Bhuban's family regularly provide funds to buy uniforms for these children.**

## Dharmik's School Donation



**The purpose of our visit was to officially distribute some sports equipment that Dharmik Australia had purchased for Mahankal Primary School. We were welcomed like royalty, with numerous children and women festooning us with handmade flower garlands at the school entrance.**

## School Celebrations



**The school had prepared an outdoor celebration for us which was attended by the entire school staff and pupils as well as many villagers. Various teachers and village spokespeople gave speeches. Both village school pupils and teenagers presented traditional Nepali songs and dances in our honour.**

## Official Handover to School Principal



**Dharmik Australia generously donated:  
~ 6 footballs, 2 volleyballs, a volleyball net,  
~ a badminton set  
~ 1 dozen quoits, 4 skipping ropes, a chess set, a ludo game,  
~ and a kettle drum for daily assembly roll call.**

## Children Playing with New Balls



**As soon as the celebrations finished, many school children began excitedly playing with their new sports equipment.**

## Dharmik's Future Role in Methinkot

With the Nepali government's and Dharmik's financial assistance, Bhuban Dahal plans to construct a solar powered water system which will pump water from down in the valley up to Methinkot Village. This will enable villagers much easier access to running water. Currently villagers have to make a 4 hour round trip to collect water for daily use.



***For further information on this project please contact:***

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**or**

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