



# FRIENDS OF TIBETAN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA ("FOTSI")

## Annual Report and Newsletter for 2006-7 Projects in Mundgod and Bylakuppe Settlements



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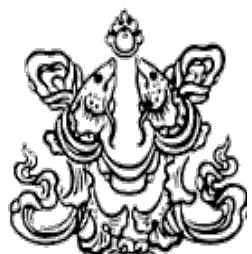


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Many Tibetans

### Newsletter

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July 2007

Dear Friends of Tibetan Settlements in India,

Thanks so much for caring for Tibetans! They continually write to FOTSI and many of you, about their gratitude for your faithful support, both financially and emotionally. In 2006-7 we sponsored 113 people, including laypeople, monks, nuns, students, and teachers. We helped many others through our medical, self-sufficiency, and educational efforts. As detailed on our financial page, we sent \$37,941 to India for our programs in 2006. We got a lot of "bang for our buck" due to lower costs in India and all FOTSI work being volunteered.

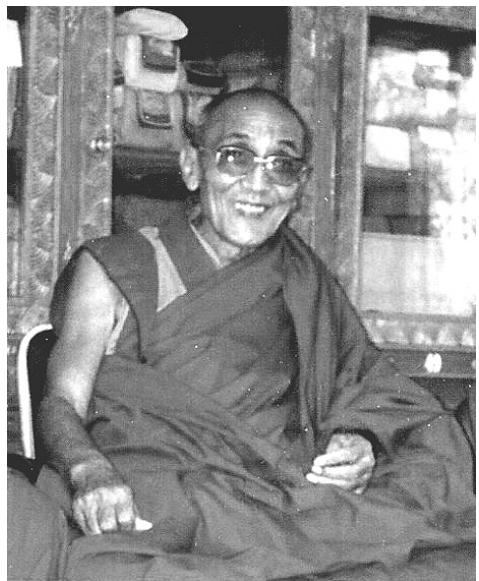
This year it was great to be part of several donor inspired programs, including the supply of 43 glucose monitors for diabetics in the Tibetan camp, donation of a quality otoscope to the DTR Hospital, and introduction of a leadership training program for young Tibetans. Also, donors and friends helped during trips to the Mundgod camp and India. We thank Phoenix Artemisia for her innovative fund-raising yoga and chanting workshops! These efforts were particularly encouraging as I was not able to go to India in 2005 or 2006 or do fund-raising. The good news is that my health has improved and I plan to go to the Mundgod settlement late in 2007 with a long-time FOTSI donor who is making his first visit.

We celebrate a new Tibetan aid group, Green Mountain Tara, one of whose founders was born in Mundgod! We rejoice in the activities of the Tibetan Association of Colorado and the Colorado Friends of Tibet, who continued their efforts for Tibet and Tibetans and also pitched in with community service in Boulder, at the "Chautauqua Park Cleanup". Tamdin Wangdu and Tsering Yangzom's Tibetan Village Project is making a difference in Tibet.

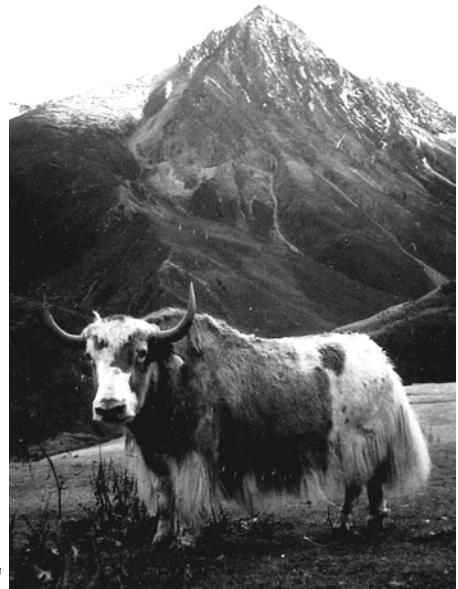
Yet, we grieve at the difficulties of Tibetans leaving Tibet, shown on the news for all to see, and the difficulties in Tibet itself. Please speak up and do all you can about Tibet's situation. We were also deeply saddened by the news of the passing on May 17, 2007

of Ven. Drepung Tripa, Gomang Khensur Rinpoche Tenpa Tenzin, a great Tibetan Lama, age 91. FOTSI was begun due to him and his inspiration. He supported helping hands everywhere -- in Tibet, India, Africa, USA etc.. We share a photo of him, as well as a few precious pictures exiled Tibetans have sent us -- a yak and a Tibetan scene, images tugging powerfully on their hearts.

With Gratitude,  
Chela Kunasz, President, FOTSI



*Ven. Drepung Tripa, Gomang Khensur Tenpa Tenzin*



## **Financial Report for 2006**

(ref. IRS Filing, Marty, Lyle, Doty & Jones, LLC)

### **Income**

Donations	\$39,972
Interest Income	\$ 770
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$40,742</b>

### **Expenses**

Program	\$37,941
Fundraising (e.g. newsletter, mail)	\$ 571
Administrative (State Reg, IRS repts)	\$ 526
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$39,038</b>

### **Our Program Expenses in 2006:**

#### **Education \$10,035**

College/nursing Scholarships, TCV Boarding School sponsorships(4), Dre-Gomang School support and sponsorships(2), books, other student aid

#### **Health/Hygiene/Emergency Aid \$10,550**

Representative's Emergency Fund, Hospitals, Monks' and Nuns' Medical Funds

#### **Sponsorships/Self-Sufficiency/GroupSupport \$16,005**

(46 regular Rep. Office + 2 special sponsorships, 19 nun sponsorships, 40 monk sponsorships, cow purchases, other one-time aid to groups and individuals)

#### **Special Projects/Admin in India/USA for Prog \$ 1,351**

(Laptop computer/internet for Rep Office India, mail India, etc.)

Including our early work as CFT/TSI and later work as FOTSI, our program service has exceeded **\$353,618**. Other work has been done in our name or with our advice by groups working with Tibetans in India, Nepal, and Tibet. As usual, **no salaries have been paid to anyone in FOTSI. We deeply thank all donors who have donated for FOTSI's operating expenses!**

# New FOTSI Donor Directed Projects

**Do you have a good idea for helping the Tibetans in India in 2007?** This year saw a special outpouring of donor ideas and efforts. Several beneficial activities under FOTSI's name were begun in the Mundgod Tibetan Settlement in 2006.

Early in the year, our long-time donor **Karen Kleehammer**, a nurse, had the opportunity to receive a gift from her participation in a medical program. She arranged things so the **Doeguling Resettlement Hospital** could choose the item most needed – a quality otoscope (for ear exams). We were lucky our valued friend, **Dr. Carol Dawson**, went to Mundgod soon afterwards and delivered the scope to **Sonam Palmo**. Sonam, **one of Mundgod's original Tibetan nurses** and acting director of the Hospital, sent us all a letter full of gratitude.



*Sonam Palmo and Carol Dawson with otoscope, at DTR Hospital, Mundgod.*

The sponsor of one of our ill monks, a diabetic himself, started a project to donate diabetic glucose meters for shipment to the Tibetan refugees in Mundgod. In 2006 he obtained 7 brand new Accu-Check Active Meter Kits for the Drepung Gomang Dispensary. **Mary Pattison**, a great friend of Tibetans and of the Drepung Gomang Monastery, carried the kits to Delhi and **Migmar Tsering**, executive secretary of Dre-Gomang Monastery, carried them by train to Mundgod. In 2007, through the generous help of **Dr. Hilburn of Lakeland Regional Hospital** in Springfield, Missouri, FOTSI will be shipping 36 brand new Freestyle Freedom Meter Kits for distribution at the Drepung Loseling Dispensary in Mundgod by **MEI – Medical Expeditions International**. MEI volunteered their services and staff to ship and deliver the meters in August of 2007. The FOTSI donor is remaining anonymous and sends thanks to FOTSI friends and MEI. Many Tibetans suffer from diabetes. Ven. Tenpa Tenzin lived to 91 with diabetes and was helped by glucose meters and good treatment. We hope that no Tibetan goes without such help. See <http://www.medexinternational.org/india.html>

Late in 2006, donor **Jennifer Fox**, working with and for **Mark Gerzon** of the **Mediators Foundation**, suggested FOTSI participate in **leadership training for young Tibetans**. After FOTSI's proposal was accepted, the Mediator Foundation sent us \$1500.00 to mentor potential Tibetan leaders. We are happy about the positive response from our first leadership trainers in the Mundgod Tibetan settlement. One mentor, **Mr. Tenpa TK**, chief invited guest and speaker at the Tibetan Youth Congress, wrote, "It really sounds very good...I will start with one village leader and one school leader...maybe with another young prospective leader for the settlement", while **Ms. Tenzin Yankar** wrote, "About your thought of helping young people -- inspiring future leaders for Tibetan community -- I think that this

is one of the very good and important issues now to be brought up and supported, since young ones in the settlement are losing their typical identity and also they are helpless to have a good job and have no proper experience to lead the community." We'll have more on this program in 2007-8. See <http://www.mediatorsfoundation.org> to learn about the Mediators Foundation's mission "To foster global leadership for a peaceful, just, and sustainable world."



*diabetic glucose meters*



## Travels to India,

We celebrate the journeys to India and major efforts of **Dr. Carol Dawson** and **Mary Pattison** (sorry, no photos here) who helped FOTSI and also, independently of us, did major Tibetan aid work. In addition, both **Ms. Shanti Bhadriah** and **Ms. Sandra Esner**, who have contributed so much to many Tibetans and Tibetan projects, went to India in 2006. Sandra's group, "Angels Without Wings" helps in wonderful ways. Shanti and Sandra both shared with us their direct experience of the current state of people and projects in India. This was valuable since FOTSI President Chela Kunasz, still cautious about her health, did not go to India in 2006. Happily, Chela is feeling much better and **plans to go to India in late 2007.**



Sandra Esner

## Fundraising Programs



Phoenix Artemisia

**Phoenix Artemisia** leads Ashtanga Yoga workshops in California, as well as retreats and life-changing journeys to India and other special sites on our planet. She has helped FOTSI's health projects for years, and in 2006, **sent FOTSI funds from a series of Saturday Yoga classes**. This donation has saved lives and diminished pain for many Tibetan refugees. This year she is leading a **series of yoga and Sanskrit chanting workshops to benefit FOTSI**. Her website <http://www.phoenixyoga.net> has a link to our FOTSI site and to other service-oriented webpages (see "Inspiration and Links").



Shanti Bhadriah

## New Non-profit for Tibetans

Recently, by sharing start-up information such as bylaws, etc., we have been communicating with a new non-profit for Tibetans. This Vermont group, "**Green Mountain Tara**", has just obtained their IRS 501(c)(3) status. Their project was the brainchild of **Christopher Cummings, his Tibetan wife Tsering (born in Mundgod!), and her father, Sonam Choephel**. We are happy to have new colleagues. We look forward to their upcoming website.





Lobsang Sangyas



Lobsang Ngawang



Tenpa TK



Tenzin Norzom



Tenzin Yangkar



Migmar Tsering



Jigme Namgyal



Dhondup Dorje

## Tibetans Who Make FOTSI's Programs Happen

As well as thanking all donors, we are very grateful to those who have helped in the Tibetan Settlements in India. There are many; here we mention some who really make our projects work: **Geshe Lobsang Sangyas** and **Ven. Lobsang Ngawang** (monks' emergency funds), **Geshe Ngawang Tsondonu** (translator, lots of help), **Mr. Tenpa TK** (hospitals, Kharyak Aid Society), **Ven. Tenzin Norzom** (nuns' sponsorships, medical fund), **Mrs. Tenzin Yangkar** and **Mrs. Namgyal Dolma** (no photo) (Rep's Office), **Mr. Dhondup Dorje** (Representative, Mundgod), **Mr. Migmar Tsering** (Drepung Gomang Monastery), **Mr. Jigme Namgyal** (Dre-Gomang School, monk sponsorships), and **Mr. Tsering Dhondup** and **Mrs. Sonam Dolma** (SOS TCV Schools) (no photos).

## Education

### Sponsorship of 4 children at Tibetan Children's Village Schools

We sponsor **Sonam Dorjee**, 15, now in Class 7 at the new **Chauntra TCV School**, 80 km from Dharamsala, north India. Sonam is happy there with 943 other students. His home in the Mundgod settlement had become difficult and he was eager to go away to school. We also sponsor his brother, **Tsering Samdup**, 11, in Class 4 at the **TCV School in Bylakuppe**. Also sponsored at this school are **Tsering Choedron**, a 12 year-old girl from Mundgod in Class 4, and **Karma Tashi** (no photo), doing well in Class 2. A FOTSI donor also sends aid to Karma's sister, Sonam Dolma. Sadly, Tsering Choedron's father died suddenly this spring after she wrote us sharing her happy school news. Special thanks to all who pitched in to pay Sonam Dorjee's tuition (\$360) this year! See [www.tcv.org.in](http://www.tcv.org.in)



Tsering Choedron



Sonam Dorjee



Tsering Samdup + mom



Dawa Dolma



Konchok Wangmo



Pema Dolma #2



Phurbu Dolma

## Nursing and Other College Scholarships

In 2006, through the Office of the Representative of the Dalai Lama in Mundgod we supported **3 general nursing students: Tashi Dolma, Tenzin Choe-don, and Pema Dolma** (no photo), as well as **Tenzin Tashi, Pema Gyaltsen, and Tsering Yangzom** (no photos), who study business, computer skills, and journalism, respectively. All are working hard! Tsering Choedron wrote, “our model exam is going to start by 28th May, and our final exam will be on 7th August, so these days everybody is putting in their hard work; I am also doing my best...here it’s as usual very hot in Mangalore, and these days, due to problems, the electricity is also off most times, so facing bit of problems, but soon everything will be going fine I hope...” The students, at various Indian colleges, have often written of their gratitude. Our scholarships don’t pay full tuition/expenses, so families are also heavily invested in these students.

We are increasing the lengths and amounts of our **two new scholarships starting in 2007, so we are eager for new donations**. We hope to fund a new nursing student and a social work or other professional track student.

Other college and work/study students are also sponsored by FOTSI. **Tenzin Kalden** is in a 4-year nursing program at the **Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences** in Bangalore. She has completed her 3rd year and was **first in her class!** Her courses this year included child health nursing, medical and surgical nursing II, mental health nursing, and maternity/gynecological nursing. Tenzin has been an orphan for many years and is beyond grateful for the support of her special sponsor and other donors. Our nursing student **Dawa Dolma** graduated and worked for two years in an intensive care unit (ICU) in Delhi, but then had health problems. FOTSI helped when she was between jobs and ill. Now she has a new job at the **BATRA Hospital**, working the night shift and studying advanced nursing by correspondence. **Konchok Wangmo** is working at **MAX Hospital in Delhi** and studying for the nursing (NCLEX) and English (IELTS) exams to qualify for a “nurse visa” to emigrate to the USA. This is a multi-year process. We aided **Pema Dolma #2**, a 3rd year basic nursing student at the **CARE School of Nursing in Hyderabad**. She wrote, “Really without you I would not be here in this profession. You make me to come up to this level. You are the ones who help me when I really need it. Thanks once again. You will always be there in my HEART.”. Because our former TCV student, **Phurbu Dolma**, had polio as a child and has trouble walking, we’ve helped her pay for leg braces, transportation, and special needs. She has a scholarship for study at a Mysore business college from the TCV Schools.



Tashi Dolma



Tenzin Choedon



Tenzin Kalden

## Student and Book Aid

We helped our old friend, **Ak Pema**, the blind former translator for HH the Dalai Lama, aid his niece, **Dukmo**, who recently escaped from Tibet and attends a school for new arrivals in north India. In 2007 we began aiding students through the new **Kharyak Aid Society**, run by the head of the legislative assembly in Mundgod, **Mr. Tenpa TK**. Some donors have contributed to the **Library at Drepung Gomang Monastery** and have funded **publishing special books** containing treasures of Tibetan culture and philosophy.

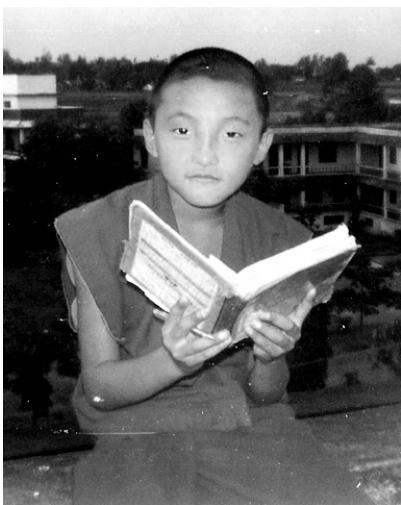


*Dre-Gomang School Kids*

## Drepung Gomang School

This school serves boys arriving from Tibet and ethnic-Tibetan Himalayan areas

**and all the local children of Mundgod.** The boys in the winter monastic school have often lost a parent, come from very poor families, and have nowhere to go. Some have escaped from Tibet with intent to become monks and keep alive the treasures of Tibetan culture. We recall young Lobsang DG's plan, pursued secretly for years in Tibet, to come to Drepung Gomang, become a monk, and help in the house of the spiritual head of Drepung Monastery. He attended the Drepung Gomang School and recently graduated. Another student crossed the Himalayas after being detained in a Chinese prison and hearing his older brother's screams. A third was a student of a great Tibetan lama who helped Tibetans replant forests, rebuild cultural buildings, and stand up for simple fairness in communities where government or corrupt officials were oppressive. That lama



*Lobsang Khechok*

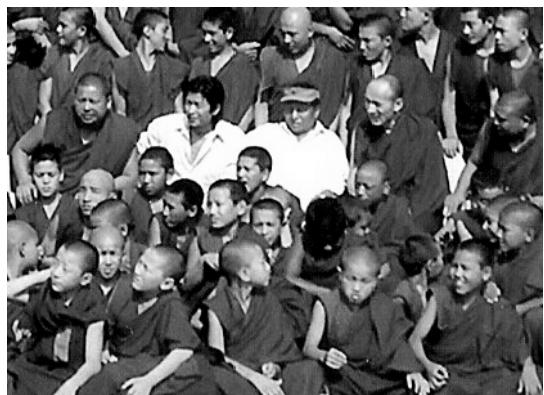


*Science equipment*

is now in a Chinese prison with a death sentence repeatedly put off when everyone protests. The student, also named **Lobsang**, **is now a teacher at the Dre-Gomang School he attended himself.** He was supported by his FOTSI sponsor after graduation from the School while he elevated his English with tutors and gained admittance to a branch of Varanasi University. Unfortunately, young relatives escaping from Tibet unexpectedly arrived in Mundgod, so he had to stop his studies and return to help them. We aid **other teachers working at Dre-Gomang School**, one example being Gen Tashi, a lay teacher. See more about him in the "Health" section of this newsletter. Our 13-year old Class 4 student, **Lobsang Khechok**, from the "Kingdom of Mon", had Hepatitis B, but has now recovered and is doing well. In the summer, all the children of the Mundgod settlement can study Tibetan language and culture in classes that free working parents and grandparents. Note the photos of science equipment we bought last year for the School.



*Student writing*



*Drepung School*

# Health and Emergency Projects

## Community Hospitals

In past years we have helped hospitals in three of the Tibetan settlements: Kollegal, Mundgod, and Bylakuppe. As described in our 2005 newsletter, we sent \$5520 that year to the **DTR Hospital in Mundgod** for outdoor solar lighting as well as new toilets, showers, and rebuilding sanitary facilities. In 2006 we sent \$500.00 to the **Tso-Jhe Khangsar Hospital** in Bylakuppe. They have an outpatient clinic near the Tashilunpo Temple that we help. At the request of the donor for this project, they have especially aided elderly patients. We sent funds to Mr. Tenpa TK and his **Kharyak Aid Society**, which aids poor patients, students, and self-help projects in Mundgod.



Ngawang Choedron



Lobsang Choedon#1

## Medical/Dental Help for Tibetan Nuns

As the source for the Jangchub Choeling Nunnery's Medical/Dental Fund, we have made a big difference for Tibetan nuns in Mundgod. This year we sent more than \$1500.00 to help nun **Tenzin Norzom** get medical attention and work towards getting a cochlear implant to improve her severely damaged hearing. The medical group she consulted in Madras, India, has worked with her for some time, but there have been unexpected issues, so final decisions are still to be made as to the advisability of the actual surgery. Great care is necessary to be sure the surgery will have a good chance of working. She is getting other treatment first. If she does not have the surgery, all unused funds will go back to the Medical Fund to help all the nuns. We will keep you posted on what happens. We wanted to help Tenzin Norzom because she has worked tirelessly for all the nuns and many others in Mundgod for decades and improving her hearing would help the others she assists daily. We also aided nuns with **kidney problems** (successful outcomes led us to a doctor who helped Gen Tashi at the Drepung Gomang School), **broken legs, hernias, brain lesions, dental needs, eye problems** (e.g. Ngawang Choedron), **tuberculosis** (e.g. Lobsang Choedon #1), and an **ear/sinus surgery** (see nun Karma's bandaged head in the photo collage, pg. 14). Because the nuns had a tendency to give away their own health funds to others in need, we've also sent them a small fund which they use to help desperate lay people. ALL receipts are sent to us.

## Emergency Fund and Special Aid to Families

We are happy to report that **Tsering Choephel's home** was completely repaired this year. We sent the funds in 2005, but the major repair was not finished until 2006. We participated with another aid organization to gain this happy result. Now the neighborhood children are dry and safe in Tsering's home. We aided **Tsering Lhamo** (with **severe diabetes and leg sores**) and her son. Both had been improving. Unfortunately, her son just had a stroke. We also aided **Gen Tashi** and his family. Gen Tashi teaches both in a village learning center and at the Dre-Gomang School. This year he was extremely ill and in great pain with **kidney stones** and bladder problems.



Tsering Lhamo



Tsering Choephel



*Gen Tashi*

At our advice, he consulted the nuns in the nunnery who had had a good experience with a urologist in Hubli (near Mundgod) and had a surgery. He is now well and working hard at his two jobs. He wrote in his heart-felt letter that his sponsor had saved his life and how grateful he is. Our sponsored **Tsering Dolkar** came down with **tuberculosis** again this year, although she had been doing well. Our fund and special extra from her sponsor are helping her family get through this. It seems her children

have the disease as well. In May 2007, when we heard of **Lobsang Dolma**'s husband's death, a donor sent funds to help her family at their time of crisis. Our Emergency Fund helps with **emergency transportation, medicine, glasses, eye exams, doctor bills, etc.** Through the **Drepung-Gomang Lay Aid** program we helped **Sherap** with funds for medicine, checkups, and also elderly **Ak Pema** in the Home for the Elderly.



*Tsering Dolkar*

## Medical Help for Lay People and Monks through our Monks' Emergency Funds

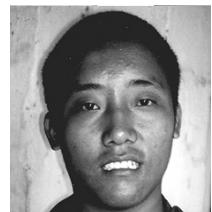


*Tsultrim Dorjee*

**Tsultrim Dorjee, age 9**, traveled from his Tibetan home in Nepal to find his brother, a monk in Lubum Khangtsen of Drepung Gomang Monastery. Tsultrim had painful internal sores as a complication of typhoid fever, couldn't eat and was in a lot of pain. Someone sent him to the monks managing our Monks' Emergency Fund. After the monks got FOTSI's permission to pay for a crucial surgery, we sent money explicitly to help this child. Fortunately, his life was saved and the pain is gone. Tsultrim is now happy at school in Camp #6, Mundgod. We also aided **Lobsang Ngodup** (bad leg burn), **Nyima** (hernia), **Thubten** (Hepatitis B), **Tenpa Phuljung** (facial surgery), **Ngawang Jorchok** (antibiotic resistant TB, no photo), and **Thubten Dhondup** (appendectomy). We continue to help "**Xerox Tashi**" (who tends the monastery copier) get checkups and medicine for his epilepsy and brain cyst. We received a plea from our long-time spesoree **Tenzin Nyingpo** to help **Karma Gyurmey**, a new monk at Thoeling Monastery who needed an emergency appendectomy. Karma was weak and contracted tuberculosis after the successful surgery, but our donations are helping with his TB treatment and he is doing better. All these and other monks we've helped are either much improved or completely well. The monks submit documentation of their expenses, and care is taken that funds are used wisely and when other sources aren't available. We were very happy to hear that the monk with neuropathy who returned to Tibet is doing well in the cooler climate there.



*Lobsang Ngodup*



*Tenzin Nyingpo*



*Karma Gyurmey*



*Xerox Tashi*



*Nyima*



*Thupten*



*Tenpa Phuljung*



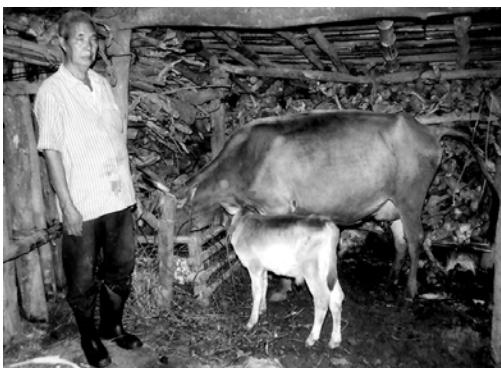
*Thubten Dhondup*

## Cows

This year FOTSI sent \$500 from 6 donors for **two cows**. The funds for one went to **Konchok Sangmo** who purchased a pregnant Jersey cow. After the calf is weaned, she and her family hope to get four to five liters of milk a day from her. They are excited that the milk from this cow will help support their family and also provide milk, a precious commodity. She wrote a lovely letter with "good wishes and love for you all". Funds for the other cow went to **Lobsang Gyatso** and his family. He has two granddaughters (ages 5 and 1) and was most happy about getting the milk for them. He can sell extra milk and nets about \$10/month if the cow stays well.



*Konchok Sangmo and cow*



*Lobsang Gyatso, cow and calf*

helped the office to communicate with FOTSI and with other donors, and has helped the Office's work in many ways. They have other older desktop computers, but these are not mobile and were not useful for internet use. The Representative, Mr. Dhondup Dorjee, sent his heart-felt thanks.

## FOTSI funds Laptop

In 2006 FOTSI funded a major gift to the Mundgod Office of the Representative that handles about half the funds we send to India. This was a **laptop computer with peripherals and Internet connection and support**. We sent \$1,030.00 for this purpose. Like all donations sent through that office, 4% is used by the Tibetans to support Office operations, as required by the Tibetan Government-in-Exile for the last few years. Two donors made this special donation possible. The laptop has



*Mr. Dhondup Dorjee  
with laptop computer in Office*

## Sponsorships

### Programs through the Mundgod Office of the Representative of HH the Dalai Lama



*Tsultrim Sangmo*

We now sponsor **45 people** -- 17 children, 17 elders, and 11 middle-aged (often with health problems). Four elders live in the Home for the Elderly in Camp #3. Others we sponsor are often especially needy, such as **Tsultrim Sangmo**, 73, about whom we wrote last year when seeking a sponsor for her. Tsultrim is elderly and suffers from both epilepsy and partial paralysis. Her family is only one unmarried daughter, so she doesn't have a big support net. Happily, a sponsor came forward, which was huge since her FOTSI stipend is her only source of income. **Lobsang Dolma #2** is staying well, after a long battle with antibiotic resistant tuberculosis. She now works hard caring



*Lobsang Dolma#2*



Pema Tsomo  
and Grandchild



Penpa Dolma

## Sponsorships (continued)

for others and participating in sweater selling groups. **Pema Tsomo**'s health has improved and she celebrated the birth of a grandchild recently. **Penpa Dolma** has been studying well despite lots of work at home, especially this year, as her mother came down with tuberculosis. **Tashi Lhamo** is healthy and studying well in Class 8, thanks in good measure to help from her sponsors. **Tsering Choephel#2** (no photo here), wrote how happy he was to get his home repaired by FOTSI and another aid group. **Tenzin Palbar** is still shy, but getting care from many. **Tenzin Dadon** is 12 and in Class 4; she looks forward to seeing her sponsor in 2007 as he plans to go to Mundgod with Chela. **Tenzin Sonam** is a little less shy and benefits from his father's efforts as a handy-man and his sponsor's assistance to his family.

**Sponsorships are \$120/year, with extra optional.**



Tashi Lhamo



Tenzin Palbar



Tenzin Sonam



Tenzin Dadon

## Sponsoring Tibetan Monks

In 2006 we sponsored **40 monks** at 3 Tibetan monasteries, but primarily at Drepung Gomang Monastery in the Mundgod Tibetan Settlement. We also provided one-time help for Karma Gyurmey of Thoeling Monastery and many other monks through our medical aid programs. Most of our sponsored monks were born in Tibet, although a few were born to Tibetan ethnic families in other Himalayan regions. The monks range in age from about 20 to over 90. Many have suffered from serious illnesses, such as tuberculosis, hepatitis, ulcers from Helicobacter Pylori, injuries, hernias, skin diseases, leprosy, high blood pressure, eye problems, hydatid cysts, and Bell's palsy. Some are relatively recent arrivals from Tibet.



Tenpa Tsering #2

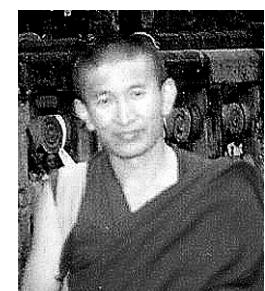
We are looking for a **sponsor at \$90/year** for monk **Tenpa Tsering #2**, who has a serious ulcer and has had trouble adapting to the blazing Indian heat. We also seek **temporary help** for needy monk **Lobsang Chodup**, who came to study in India, tried to return to Tibet, but was unable to do so. He is a cousin of our sponsored monk, Lobsang Ngawang#1. **Karma Tsultrim**, who had a terrible eye injury from his yak encounter, is now doing well and wrote that he is still extremely grateful and not forgetting us. We are sponsoring **Geshe Thubten Tashi**, a special monk in his eighties, assisted by **Tsewang Norbu**, who works hard for the community in the Dre-Gomang Dispensary.



Tsewang Norbu and Geshe Thubren Tashi

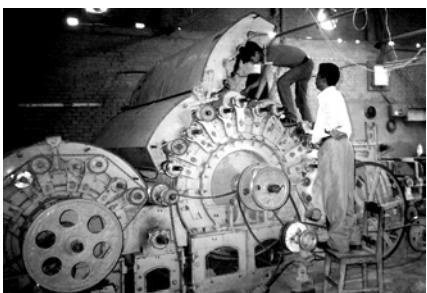


Karma Tsultrim



Lobsang Chodup

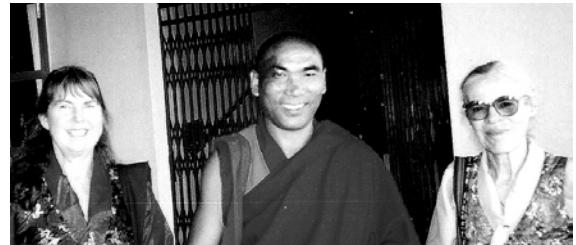
## Sponsoring Tibetan monks (continued)



*Loden Sherap's carding machine in Nepal*

with **Geshe Tsultrim Gyaltsen**, wishing that his generous sponsor, **Buzz Burrell**, who had visited the monastery in a previous year and who had made it all possible, could have attended that year. **Our monk sponsorships vary from \$90/year to \$180/year, depending on the situation.** New arrivals from Tibet find the Indian climate and microbes a challenge!

**Loden Sherap**, who's had a difficult and colorful life, has worked in Nepal, where he ran a wool carding venture that helped local people get jobs and also helped the monastery. He has also worked at a guesthouse in Delhi. He has health problems that would have flattened anyone else, but somehow bounces up and pitches in when he's well again. Sometimes friends and sponsors of monks who earn their Geshe degrees go to the concerned monastery in India for the "graduation". A few years ago, donor Shanti Bhadriah and Chela went to celebrate



*Chela with Tsultrim Gyalsten, and Shanti*

## Sponsoring Tibetan Nuns

### We sponsor 19 nuns of Jangchub Choeling Nunnery in Mundgod.

We are also the source for the Nuns Medical Aid Fund, which aids all members of this nunnery of more than 100. The nuns we sponsor

include many with health problems and a number of relatively recent arrivals from Tibet. Among our newest sponees are **Trinley Tsomo**, **Thubten Choedron**, and **Dolma Choetso**. Dolma Choetso's brother, Gelek Tharchin, died in Mundgod a few years ago, despite our efforts to help him win his fight against brain TB. We sponsor one of the earliest nuns at the nunnery, **Thubten Lhatso**, and also

**Gyaltsen Choedron** who has painful fibroids that now seem under control. **We truly need a sponsor (at \$100/ year) for Tenzin Deetaen, who suffers from brain lesions.** We are supporting her now with funds from whomever we can find every 6 months and this is a bit difficult. **Most sponsorships for nuns are \$70/year, with extra okay too.**



*Thubten Lhatso*



*Trinley Tsomo*



*Thubten Choedron*



*Dolma Choetso*



*Tenzin Deetaen*



*Gyaltsen Choedron*

## Sponsoring/Aiding Students, Teachers, and Staff at Dre-Gomang School

FOTSI sponsors a student and a teacher at the Dre-Gomang School as well aiding several others, such as Gen Tashi. We wrote of student **Lobsang Khechok** and teacher **Gen Tashi** in the Education section. We have sponsored many students in the past, most of whom have graduated. We send general support to the School as well as special gifts such as recently purchased science lab equipment. **Sponsorships are \$180.00 per year per student, and vary for teachers. One-time aid also helps.**