

Human Stories:

The locals of Ghusel, who were adversely affected by the destructive earthquake two years ago, are trying to rise again with the support of RFP. They still remember the massive devastation. RFP has provided a lot of assistance and support to Ghusel's denizens. Quake victim Uttam Timalsina considers RFP the guardian of Ghusel's people. The organization helped Ghusel residents to build houses by providing zinc sheet, and distributed food for pregnant women, senior citizens and other women. Thus, the habitation of Ghusel's people has now shifted back to proper homes from temporary shelters.

RFP has helped senior citizens and people who lost their homes. Children and pregnant women have been rescued. The organization has not only distributed zinc sheets, but also provided seedlings to the people for income generation. Yield of crops of fruits like peach and apple, and vegetables like tomato and bitter gourd among others have spread lush greenery in the place while the fruits have also grown ripe. Reconstruction works are also ongoing in Ghusel. People who could not find any alternative to zinc sheets to brave the scorching heat, rain and storm, have constructed their houses with the same.

Not only Ghusel, RFP has mobilised relief and rescue works at many other quake affected places. Thanapati of Nuwakot district is also one of the quake-affected regions. Two people were buried by debris of their houses at Lamagaun of Thanapati. Wives of 87-year old Toran Bahadur Lama and 70-year old Hasta Bahadur Tamang were among the dead. Both Toran Bahadur and Hasta Bahadur, who were reeling under hardship despite their survival, said RFP distributed food, clothes and zinc sheets to them. They are rebuilding their homes using the same zinc sheets.

Uttam Timalsina

Ghusel, Quake Victim

Many children, pregnant women and senior citizens, in their pitiful condition, would have died if RFP had not been there. They provided us with zinc sheets and blankets. We were like orphans then. However, RFP was a guardian for us even when the government was indifferent towards us.



They got huge relief from RFP in the predicament back then, and they are looking for sustainable solution now. However, some of the distributed zinc sheets have been used for making huts. They have only one dream-- to build a strong house. But their economic condition is a hindrance to accomplishing their dream.

Whether it is Asthamaya Kapali of Sankhu or Maili Putawar of Halchowk, all of them are happy. The blankets distributed to them by RFP have been a support to them. They could combat the shivering cold of January-February with the warmth of the same blankets. The locals of Sankhu are expecting more from RFP. They are also extremely grateful towards the organization.



RFP has been providing assistance at various places of the country during difficult times. With the main objective of social service and peace, the organization has been extending help and support in rescue efforts and distribution of relief

materials at times of disasters. Thus, the contribution of RFP at both urban and rural areas will be commemorated forever.

Goma Thapa

Ghusel

I was not in a state to work and I was thinking how to raise my children. However, I could make a hut from the zinc sheets provided by RFP and it got better.



Taranath Timalsina

Ghusel

After we received seedlings from RFP, we distributed the same among all of us, planted them, and the crops have already grown.



Biraj Theeng

Thanapati, Nuwakot

Earlier, we made huts damaged corrugated zinc sheets and tarpaulins. However, after we received proper zinc sheets, we have made these kinds of shelter, and we have planted the distributed seeds and they have developed wonderfully.



Hasta Bahadur Tamang

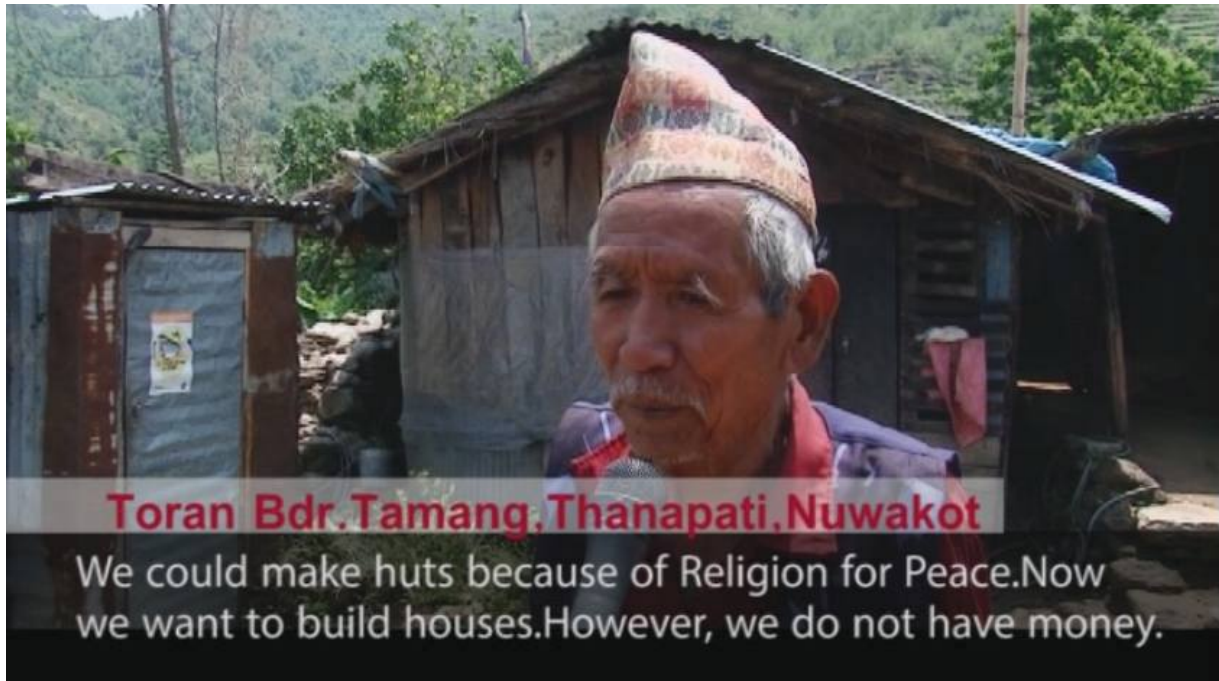
Thanapati, Nuwakot

We could build houses with the zinc sheets distributed by RFP.

Toran Bahadur Tamang

Thanapati, Nuwakot

We could make huts because of RFP. Now we want to build houses. However, we do not have money.



Madhav Neupane

Ghusel, Quake Victim

RFP provided us salt, oil, clothes and tarpaulins, and saved us from living under open sky. They also provided us with zinc sheets. They helped a lot when our children were starving and did not have any clothes.

Pratima Lama

Thanapati, Nuwakot

RFP Nepal provided us zinc sheets for temporary shelters. However, we don't have money to construct houses. The grant amount being provided by the government will not be enough to construct houses.



Temba Lama

Ghusel

After the earthquake collapsed our houses, RFP supported us a lot by providing food to eat and zinc sheets to at least make temporary shelter. However, it would be great if it could help us in constructing houses as well.

Janata Shrestha

Sankhu

It was cold then. All the clothes, bed sheets and mattresses were buried. So, distribution of blankets was a huge relief. Heartfelt gratitude to RFP on behalf of all the Sankhu denizens.

Dwarika Shrestha

Sankhu

I was very happy with the warmth of blankets during the cold winter.



2016: Blankets and woolen caps distribution in Nuwakot, more than 235 families were part of the distribution program held by religions for peace Nepal with funds made available by religions for peace international.



Blankets and woolen caps distribution for 210 families in Sakhu with funds made available by Religions for Peace international.



Blanket distribution for earthquake victims in Gol Dhunga for 120 families and, in Godamchaur, Godavari, for 215 families with funds made available by Religions for Peace



2017: We had visitors from ACRP members Rev. Misamachi Kamiya and Deputy Moderator for youth Takashi.



As the joint project of *Religions for Peace (RfP)* International, *RfP Asia* and *RfP Nepal* titled: *Supporting Earthquakes Survivors and Advancing Social Cohesion through Multi-Religious Cooperation* marks its third year, whose closure is scheduled to be at the 30th of June this year. *RfP Asia* (ACRP) sent its third taskforce to Kathmandu Nepal from 8 and 11 March 2017 to monitor and assist in the implementation of the joint project. The taskforce this time was composed of Rev. Masamichi Kamiya, *RfP Asia*'s coordinator for the joint project and Mr. Takashi Hashimoto who represented *RfP Japan*. Ms. Deepika Singh generously joined the Taskforce on behalf of *RfP International*. Led by Mrs. Indira Manandhar, President of *RfP Nepal*, the Board members of *RfP Nepal* extended great assistance for the work of the taskforce as usual. In this sense, *RfP Asia* (ACRP) is so grateful to its Nepali chapter for the help given to the taskforce. *RfP Asia* (ACRP) is also appreciative of the fact that both CCRP and KCRP seriously considered sending their representatives to the taskforce until the final moment.

In addition, *RfP-Nepal* recently entered into a partnership with a local NGO, Manushi, to provide income generation training to 90 marginalized women. Manushi, with its extensive experience on micro-finance programs, conducted six training sessions with at least 25 women participating in each. The trainees were provided with skills to make liquid soap, candle, incense and decoration pieces from recycled plastics. It is expected

that these women will go on make and sell these products to generate income to provide for themselves and their family.



RFP Nepal organized a television program on February first week 2017 which is World *Interfaith Harmony Week*. Various religious leaders were invited to present their views on interfaith harmony.



10th May 2016 was Buddhajayanti, this is the day we celebrate the day Buddha was born. On this occasion, RFP Nepal visited Ananda Kuti Buddha Bihar and distributed juice to the guests and devotees. Buddha's Astidhatu was also displayed their in this occasion.



Toilet construction for earthquake Victim 2017

Nepal has been facing plenty of problems due to its geographical condition as well as lack of infrastructure development. Mostly in the rural/hilly areas, people are facing water and sanitation problem. This problem has become more severe after earthquake. Most of the houses in hilly area were damaged. They are still living in unhygienic environment. Lack of water and proper sanitation facilities have been major problem among women and children, especially young girls.

Proper sanitation is one of the crucial part of human development, therefore RFP Nepal has identified this need and decided to help. RFP Nepal has constructed toilets and bathrooms for the people in Mankha, Sindhupalchwok. They are community toilets/bathrooms; all together we have constructed 4 toilets (2 for men and 2 for women) and also 2 Bathrooms (one for men and one for women).

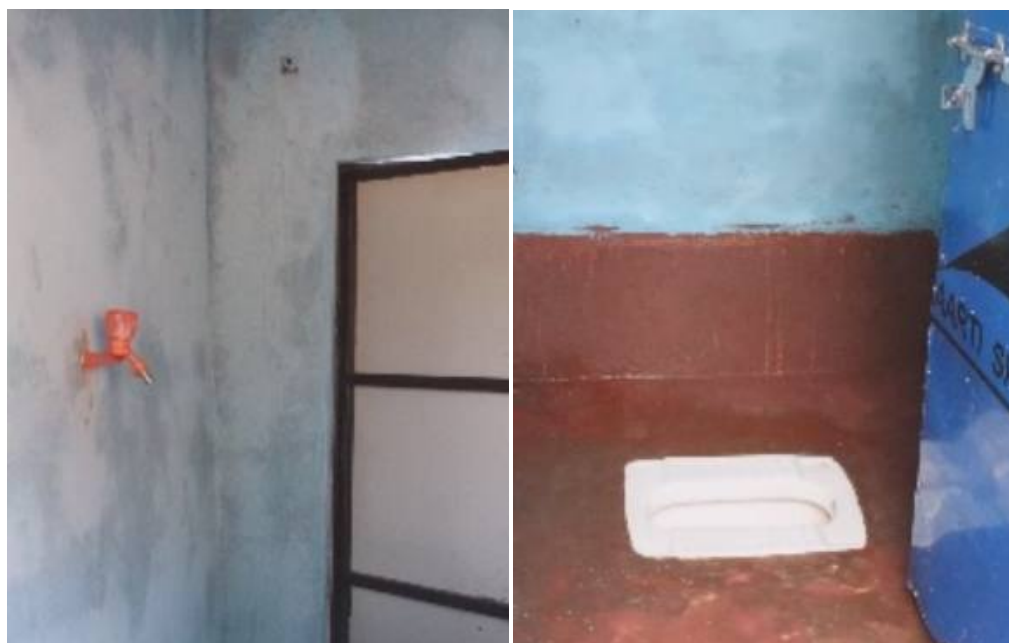


Indira Manandhar, President RFP Nepal visited Mankha, Sindhupalchwok to lay the foundation bricks.





According to the Contractor Mr. Che Dorje Tamang, he had hard time building the Toilets her in Mankha, Sindhupalchwok because of the rough terrains and bad weather. He had to hire 4 wheel Drive SUVs to deliver raw materials on top of the hill which cost him more than anticipated but he was happy to help people in need.





A Local Yuba Kumari expressed her happiness on having toilets and bathrooms made for community.



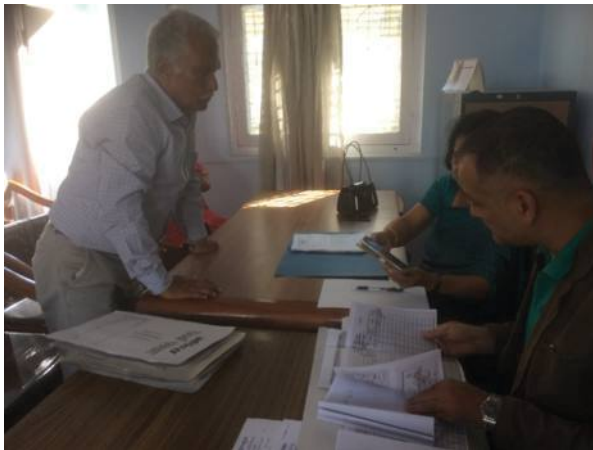


Reginal Head of Mankha Sindhupalchwok, was happy to have toilets and bathrooms made for her community but was worried about the water supply which was poor in that place. But we found out a way to bring water to the toilet constructed site, we will have to invest some more money on pipes which we will eventually provide them.

Saptari Project on buiding houses for the Flood Victims , Nepal 2017-2018

Religion for Peace Nepal had an Annual general meeting on 15th September 2017 and a member suggested that since we had a budget that can be targeted towards flood victims as well, she introduced us to Mr. Kashinath Joshi from Saptari district of Nepal. Mr. Kashinath's village has been victim of recent flood in Nepal and the local people of his village are in desperate need of shelter. The exact location of the village is: Tirhut Gaun Palika, Ward Number 5, Maina Kaderi Village, Saptari, Nepal. The village is about 4km away from the East West Highway of Nepal and about 8km away from the place called Bharda.

Mr. Kashinath was a former local of Saptari District, Nepal. But right now he holds a PR in Australia. He is owner of a Primary school in Saptari known as Bankhandi Gurukul. He is also the President of an NGO called Savoday Nepal in Saptari. He has been running the school and the NGO from his own pocket money. He has built about 5 houses for the locals already and he is in need of funds to build some more houses.

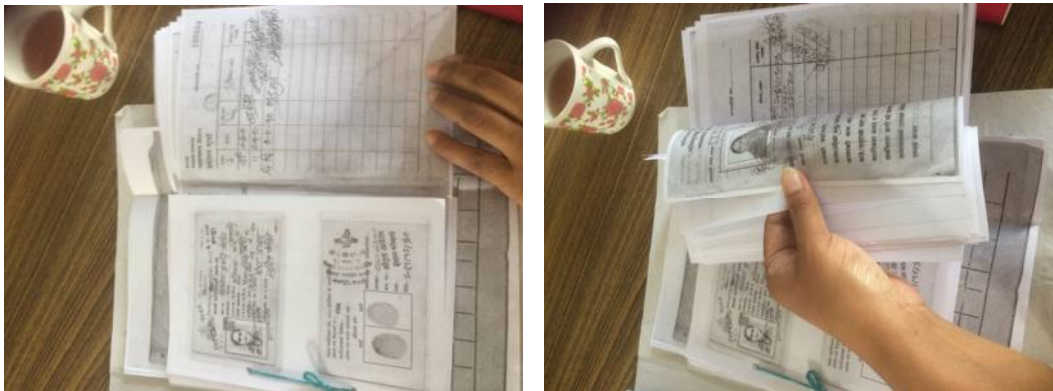


Man standing: Mr. Kashinath Joshi



Mr. Kashinath Joshi showing us video of the flood victims of Saptari .

RFP Nepal had asked Mr. Kashinath for the details about the victims. Later we met with him and he confirmed us that we will be building houses in the victims own land therefore the government will not interfere with them later. He has identified about 30 families who are in desperate need of shelter. He has also provided us with the photocopies of the citizenships of the victims. He also assured that the families themselves will be contributing as the general labour for construction and we only need to hire the skilled labour.



Above: Picture of the copies of the citizenships of the victims.

PICTURES OF THE FLOOD VICTIMS IN SAPATARI (from Mr. Kashinath's phone)



RFP Nepal went for Saptari for inspection. We were in dilemma whether to build more houses or to choose to build stronger but fewer houses.



We choose to build stronger houses with Metal roofs and cement pillar. We decided to build 18 houses with a personal toilet.



Above: Laying of foundation bricks ceremony in Saptari





We here in RFP Nepal in the support of RFP International and ACRP have successfully built 18 houses in Saptari for the flood victims and we will have the inauguration ceremony on 18th February 2018.

Conclusion

Nepal is a country that has been blessed with an unblemished history of a spirit of inter-religious and inter-communal tolerance. RFP, Nepal seeks to keep on the glorious tradition. We in RFP, Nepal have been doing programs to promote development, Peace and Harmony and we always will continue to do so. We would like to thank RFP Internal and ACRP for their immense support.