## Nepal, Kathmandu Shanti Sewa Griha

Dear successful WOW-Day campaigners,

The students in Nepal send you a huge thank you. You have achieved something very special with your money: you co-financed two new classrooms on the roof of the Shanti leprosy relief workshop building. They replace the rooms that fell in ruins in the great earthquake on April 25, 2015.

Why has it taken so long for construction to get underway, you will certainly ask. Unfortunately, we were only able to obtain the building permit after a long, long wait, after numerous enquiries to the authorities. It was very frustrating.

But yesterday the concrete ceiling was poured. Finally I can tell you how helpful your donation to Shanti is. You have made sure that we can build in an earthquake-proof way. Because you can certainly imagine how scared we are of another great earthquake. We have bought strong reinforcing irons with your donation and mixed the concrete with a lot of cement. The Shanti School is attended by children of leprosy patients and very poor people, who have no money to send their children to school. School in Nepal usually costs a lot.

I'll tell you the story of a small Boy, Rajiph, who lives with Shanti. Both parents are alcoholics. They gave him too little to eat, so Rajiph hasn't grown

in two years. He went to Shanti Kindergarten, but he wanted to go to school. Because he is so tiny, the teachers said he wasn't ready to go to school. But then our doctor saw that Rajiph was smart and enthusiastic about learning, and we came to the conclusion: Rajiph will probably stay small, but he must be allowed to learn. Small stature is the fate of 36 percent of the children in Nepal. Because they often have to go hungry, they are underweight and too small for their age. So I placed Rajiph in first grade. Look how happy he is! Rajiph sits in the middle and wears a checkered shirt. When I arrived in Nepal, he was so kind as to help out when the children painted the wall of our water tank. Everyone at Shanti likes the cheerful boy. We give him lime and a snack, and everyone wants him to grow like his classmates.

The solidarity of fellow human beings like you makes it possible for the children of poor people to attend Shanti School, get food and have a bed. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

If you like, I would like to visit your school and tell you about life in Nepal. Kind regards, Marianne Grosspietsch



## Shanti Sewa Griha

The "Leprahilfe Shanti Sewa Griha" was founded in 1992 by Marianne Großpietsch. Over the years, it grew to encompass a clinic, a hospice, a soup kitchen, a well for drinking water, various workshops as well as a Waldorf-oriented school, kindergarten, and orphanage, which where completely destroyed by the severe earthquake of 2014. With combined efforts and much help from our donors, we were able to get the community through the following monsoon and set up some temporary classrooms in the clinic.