

Thursday, 07. Mai 2015

Suddenly, in the middle of the night, Kritan shouts: "earthquake earthquake). The door to my room was open as well as the front door, it probably was a small earthquake measuring magnitude of r 3 to 4 Richter scale, which I couldn't not perceive again.

Yesterday because of the meeting at the German Embassy we couldn't go to the hospital, so we headed to the BIR Hospital, Trauma centre. At the entrance of the hospital there were tables that had been set up by students who recruited the volunteers. These



volunteers were actively helping to collect food, clothes and medicines. When we asked how we could help, they told may be organizing a health camp together would be a great idea. The volunteers told us that they would provide us tents, some medicines; we also thought it would make lots of sense if we could get some sacks of rice and food supplies.

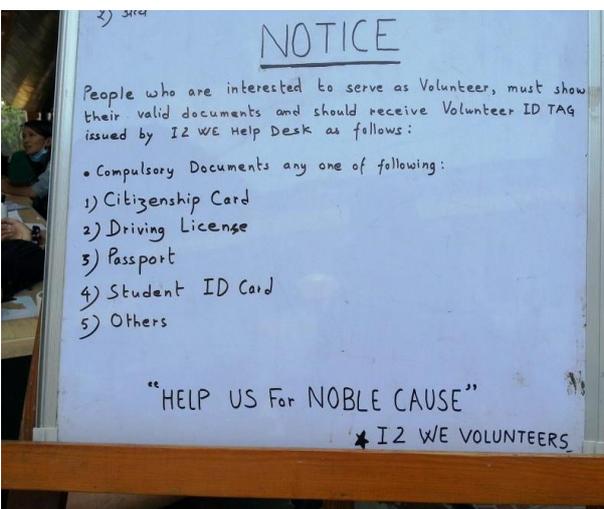
After discussion there we headed to Bhaktapur. There we saw many historic buildings, temples that were completely devastated. Right in the Durbar square, we saw a very well known television presenter Ms Komal Oli holding some entertainment program for the local children.

They were singing and dancing together, they at least looked happy during this time. The presenter also warned the children to be away from the contaminated water. She asked children not to travel alone, she also could convey the message about the chances of trafficking during this time of crisis. The death toll in the Bhaktapur was little on the higher side. Many children were



now half or full orphans and they need to be supplied with things now.

In Bhaktapur Chinese help organizations had erected tents at various locations. There were several tents set up by the locals as well as there were tents set up by the Chinese help organizations, although we didn't see any Chinese helpers around.



People who are interested to serve as Volunteer, must show their valid documents and should receive Volunteer ID TAG issued by I2 WE Help Desk as follows:

- Compulsory Documents any one of following:
- 1) Citizenship Card
- 2) Driving License
- 3) Passport
- 4) Student ID Card
- 5) Others

"HELP US For NOBLE CAUSE"
I2 WE VOLUNTEERS





We didn't see all the historic buildings and monuments damaged by the earthquake since some of them were only piles of rubble. The Nepalese clean up team were trying their level best to bring things slowly to normal. More than the destroyed monuments, we were primarily interested in people. We wanted to look at how they are doing. We wanted to learn how they were getting help and furthermore gain a rough idea how we could be a help for the people there.

Chinese help organizations had set up a number of simple, but slightly more expensive drinking water purification systems that caught my attention. Somewhere around, we also saw large water tank, which was also sponsored by China. They were filled by local water-carrier transport. Unfortunately, I heard later that the water normally comes from a small river and is normally contaminated. Nevertheless, the system is quite inexpensive and easily made. The only important thing is that the population should care for the purification system after installation, it should, however always be filled with clean water.



Here the earthquake caused damaged not only to the buildings, there were hundreds of dead as well. Some were killed by the rubble of the historic buildings, such as in this photo, the building had killed two young girls. Especially in the historically valuable old buildings, many people lost their lives. The heritage conservation and tourism frontlines need to build now the earthquake-resistant buildings.

We continue in residential areas, where there were many old houses. What we saw there is hard to describe in words. Even the pictures here cannot really represent the terrible extent of the destruction.



Depressed looking people, who nevertheless smile at us warmly when we welcome them, sitting among with the loved ones try to collect some of their belongings from the destroyed homes. We were and still are concerned about the people who were still living in the risky almost collapsing houses.

Many people have been affected by quake and some have died instantly. Those who were rescued too could not be transported quickly enough to the hospital because of the narrow streets which were with rubbles from the houses s. We found out that there were many seriously injured, who died after

being rescued due to lack of primary health care.

These two photos show the house from the front and from behind, a 105 years old



man was rescued from here after 8 days of the quake from the rubble. The rubble was removed just by the Indian army.

Everywhere around in the city one suspect there are still dead people under rubble. In this photo one can see how the Nepalese police cooperate with Indian soldiers. They were trying to clear the street so that the vehicle could reach to the houses.

One important thing that the people should know is, dead people do not transmit diseases and also don't spread any diseases (Ebola is an exception). By dying and cooling of the body most germs die too. The people should simply know, associating the dead people with risk of disease is simply wrong.

Survivors transfer germs that can cause disease. It is very risky when one tries to remove the rubble on their own just to remove the dead bodies of their beloved ones. Doing this one just risk their life and also the life of others. It therefore makes more sense to remove the rubble and then the dead bodies.



In the heavily damaged houses, still people were living because they did not know where to go. The tents that were provided were also not enough. We also saw two white-robed men with shaved heads traditionally mourning the death of their very close ones.

When the monsoon comes, everything will be even worse because not only the numerous aftershocks could collapse the houses but rain too could cause serious trouble. We already got a glimpse of the monsoon, when it rained only for two hours.



While moving around the tent camp we meet Thai monks who took care of a small Health Camp together with Nepalese workers. The second from the left in the photo is Keshav, who led us through Bhaktapur and with whom we want to work together in the future. We discussed for a while with the Thai monk about the problems in the city. It was also difficult for them to explain things that would completely alleviate the problems of the people.



This day was little difficult. We saw terrible, these mountains of rubble and debris, inside these there were still corpses and troubled people who live in collapsing houses.

The people here in the old royal city have lost much. People have lost their loved one, from a relative or from the circle of friends, others perhaps their house. All together they have lost their former city, the buildings and attractions, on which they were proud and to which the tourists were attracted are mostly destroyed.

Many have also lost their jobs because almost no tourists come more in the city, or because the factory where they worked, was destroyed. I could definitely help the people if somehow we could create some jobs for the people. Just when we were in our discussion in this topic, where we were discussing how GESINAS Foundation could be a help, we encountered a film crew from the television from London, turning right in front of a destroyed house.



We were walking further and we saw a woman with a child in her arms. Many people walked past full of respect to her and they looked again at the child. The baby is four months of age, a boy named Sonit Awal, who was rescued unharmed from a pile of rubble 22 hours after the earthquake.

The schools in this city were still closed. The reason was simply because the school buildings have been damaged and the authorities have closed because of the danger of collapse. Relatively new school Khwapa college is only slightly damaged.

Currently it is used as a shelter for injured, orphaned children and homeless people. The cancellation of classes, which will last a long time, would paralyze Nepal and is bad for the future development of the country.

Translator: Kritan

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