



WELCOME TO OUR Quarterly Newsletter

As we step into this exciting new year, we're thrilled to share the latest updates, achievements, and insights with you. The first quarter has already brought fresh opportunities, challenges, and a renewed sense of energy. In this issue, you'll find highlights from our recent initiatives, upcoming plans, and key accomplishments that set the stage for a productive year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. We look forward to an exciting journey together in 2025!

STAFF ORIENTATION

Staff Orientation was held on Feb 1st for the staff, joined by Tabitha tailoring team. The session was led by Mr. Songzamang Tawmbing, who delivered a thought-provoking talk on "Work and Worship." The participants found the orientation incredibly enriching, as they explored the connection between faith and professional work. It was a meaningful and enlightening experience for everyone, fostering a deeper understanding of how the two can harmoniously coexist in daily life.



To express our gratitude, he was presented with a traditional bag, symbolizing our appreciation for his contributions. After the session, we enjoyed a hearty and satisfying refreshment, which allowed everyone to unwind and recharge. In the afternoon, each staff member had a valuable one-on-one reflection session with the Director, offering an opportunity for personal feedback and growth. All in all, it was a highly productive day filled with insightful takeaways and meaningful exchanges, leaving everyone feeling inspired and motivated.



BIAKHOIH'S JOURNEY: Building a Future Through Determination and Support

We are proud to share Biakhoih's inspiring journey of overcoming challenges and achieving independence. Biakhoih's journey began in difficult circumstances. Born into a family facing separation, Biakhoih's parents divorced before she was two years old. From then on, she lived with her father, but as she reached Class 3, she moved to stay with her maternal uncle. It was in 2016, when she was in Class 4, that Biakhoih's life took a turn for the better. She was enrolled in Lainat School, and soon after, she was taken under the Lainat Ministry's sponsorship program. This was the beginning of a new chapter in her life, where she received the care and educational support she so desperately needed.



Not long after she moved to Lamka for better educational opportunities, Biakhoih faced setbacks, including failing her Class 10 Board exams. But Biakhoih did not let this defeat define her. In 2023, she took a bold step towards rebuilding her future by enrolling in a tailoring course. Through this program, she has gained valuable skills in stitching men's clothing, school uniforms, as well as shirts and skirts. This training has equipped her with the tools needed to earn a living and support herself and her family.

The unwavering support of her sponsors has been crucial to her progress, providing financial resources and nurturing her independence. As she transitioned out of the sponsorship program, we express our heartfelt gratitude to Nadine Graf and PPF who have supported her throughout her journey. Biakhoih's story exemplifies resilience and the impact of belief and guidance in overcoming adversity and pursuing dreams.

We wish her all the best for all her future endeavors.



Weekends with Students from Grace Bible College

We had a wonderful fellowship with the students from Grace Bible College, who spent the weekend with the children. During this time, we organized a match that helped refresh everyone physically. This type of fellowship was a refreshing change from the children's usual routine, and everyone had an amazing time.



Usually, the students were the ones visiting the children at Lainat Home, but this time, the children had the privilege of visiting the students at Grace Bible College. They were given a tour of the college, where they explored the classrooms, library, and other facilities. It was a wonderful experience for them, as they not only got to see a new environment but also gained inspiration for their own education. The visit sparked curiosity and excitement, encouraging them to dream big about their future. It was truly a blessed time, filled with learning, new experiences, and meaningful interactions.



GIFTS

We are deeply grateful to the kind-hearted individuals who have generously donated clothing and shoes for our children. The thoughtful gifts not only provide essential items, but they also bring comfort, warmth, and dignity to the lives of children who need it most. Each donation plays a crucial role in ensuring that the children have access to the necessities they deserve. We cannot express enough how much these kindness and compassion mean to us. The support makes a tangible difference in their lives, and for that, we are eternally thankful.



House Visits

The staff member, along with Brother Todd, conducted a visit to the homes of the children in Lamka. The visit provided an invaluable opportunity to connect with the children and gain a better understanding of their living conditions. It was a meaningful experience for both the children and their guardians, who were genuinely pleased to welcome the visitors into their homes.

During the visit, Brother Todd took a moment to offer a prayer for the children, focusing on their overall well-being. He expressed wishes for their physical, emotional, and mental health, as well as their continued growth and happiness.



Outing at Green Hills

The children at Lamka had a wonderful and memorable outing at Green Hills. The day was filled with excitement and laughter as they engaged in various activities throughout the trip. The older kids were thrilled to spend their time playing football at the turf located within the campus while the younger children found endless joy at the play area, where they climbed, slid, and played with each other. It was a perfect spot for them to burn off some energy and make new friends.

After the games, everyone gathered to enjoy a delicious spread of refreshments. The snacks were a hit with everyone, and they eagerly savored each bite while chatting and laughing with their friends. The simple pleasures of good food and good company added to the joy of the day.

Once the snacks were finished, the group took some time to relax and take in the breathtaking scenery that surrounded them.

The outing at Green Hills was a refreshing change from everyday life, allowing everyone to bond, enjoy nature, and create lasting memories. It was a day full of fun, relaxation, and togetherness, and each child left with a smile on their face, looking forward to the next adventure.

Below are snippets from the outing.



Update on Lainat School

The students had an enjoyable and refreshing winter break, and the school officially reopened on January 13th. After returning, they dedicated time to revision and preparation before sitting for their final examinations in February. Following the exams, the school declared a well-deserved holiday, giving students a chance to unwind and relax.

A significant highlight of the year was the Farewell-Cum-Graduation Program, which took place on February 12th. This memorable event was not only a celebration of the students' achievements but also a time to reflect on the wonderful experiences shared throughout their academic journey. On the same day, the long-awaited exam results were also announced, marking the culmination of their hard work.



Currently, the students are enjoying their session break, taking the opportunity to rest and recharge before the next academic chapter. Admissions for the upcoming academic year will begin at the end of March, with the new session officially commencing on March 7th.

We are confident that both students and teachers will return from their break feeling refreshed and ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the new session. We look forward to another successful and fulfilling academic year ahead.





Farewell-cum-Graduation

The event took place on February 12 at the school campus and was divided into two sessions. The program commenced with an ice-breaking dance, led by the teachers. The Headmaster, Sir Lalmuan, delivered the welcome speech, after which the students presented a choreography. This was followed by the declaration of results, including the prize distribution for class toppers and other outstanding student achievements.

The highlight of the event was the Graduation Ceremony, led by Miss Esther. Following this, Nem Kim, the Communication Manager, delivered an exhortation speech. The graduating students then shared a special item and delivered short speeches. The Chief of Bukpi also addressed the gathering, followed by additional special performances by the students. This concluded the first session.

A short break was held, during which refreshments were served. The second session commenced shortly after. The staff from Lamka took over this session, providing insights about the Ministry and its future plans. A time was allocated for parents to share their thoughts. The parents expressed both their gratitude and concerns.

The students presented a skit, which conveyed a valuable moral lesson. The session was deemed a success, and it was concluded with a dinner, bringing together all those who attended. It was truly a time of gratitude, and everyone left feeling happy and content.



Orientation and Staff Reflection

An orientation session was conducted by Brother Lian, the Assistant Project Coordinator, for the staff of Lainat School. During the session, he emphasized the importance of work ethics, highlighting how integrity, responsibility, and commitment play a vital role in creating a productive and positive work environment. This was followed by the annual staff evaluation, which is held every year to assess individual performance, identify areas for improvement, and ensure that the staff are aligned with the school's mission and values. The evaluation serves as a tool to provide constructive feedback, encourage professional growth, and enhance the overall quality of education at the school.

After the evaluation, a reflection session was held, where staff members from Bukpi had the opportunity to share their personal struggles and challenges they face in their daily work. This open discussion allowed them to express their concerns, as well as offer suggestions for improving the school's operations.



House Visits of Sponsored Children at Bukpi

Taking advantage of the Lamka staff's visit to Bukpi, a house visit was organized for the sponsored children. During the visits, it was observed that the majority of the children lived with their parents, while a few were staying with their grandparents. The living conditions for most of these families were quite dire, with many homes lacking basic amenities and in poor overall condition. Most of these children, along with their families, support themselves through farming and by working as daily wage laborers, often facing significant financial struggles to meet even their basic needs.



Lainat School Bukpi: A Step Towards a Safer and Cleaner Campus

Lainat School Bukpi, located in the heart of Bukpi Village in southern Manipur, has been serving the community since 2016. As part of a long-term initiative under the Lainat Ministry, the school provides education to the economically disadvantaged children in Bukpi and surrounding villages. Currently, 45 students from nursery to class 5 are enrolled, and the school continues to produce students who excel in their studies, even after moving on to higher education.

However, due to the lack of proper fencing and the school's proximity to a main road, there have been several challenges faced by the institution:

- At night, loose cattle often roam onto the school grounds, defecating in corridors and surrounding areas, disrupting the school's activities and affecting cleanliness.
- The open campus also leaves the school vulnerable to unauthorized individuals engaging in anti-social activities when the school is not in session.

The photos captured from opposite angles highlight the extent to which the school grounds are open to trespassing and external interference. One of the images, showing the concrete steps and iron railing at the back of the classrooms, illustrates how easily the school is accessible due to the lack of a fence.



Our objective is to install a chain-link net fence around the school campus to create a secure barrier that will protect the students, staff, and school property.

Expected Outcomes:

- Complete cessation of livestock entering the school grounds at night, leading to improved sanitation and cleanliness in the school.
- Elimination of unauthorized access to the campus outside school hours, preventing anti-social activities.

With the installation of this fence, we will provide a safer and more conducive learning environment.

This is a project that will require collective support, and we are fortunate to have a community that values education and safety and this is where we kindly invite you to consider supporting us. Whether it's through a donation, assistance with resources, or simply spreading the word, every contribution makes a difference.

If you would like to learn more about the project or explore ways to get involved, please feel free to reach out. Your interest in this effort is greatly appreciated.

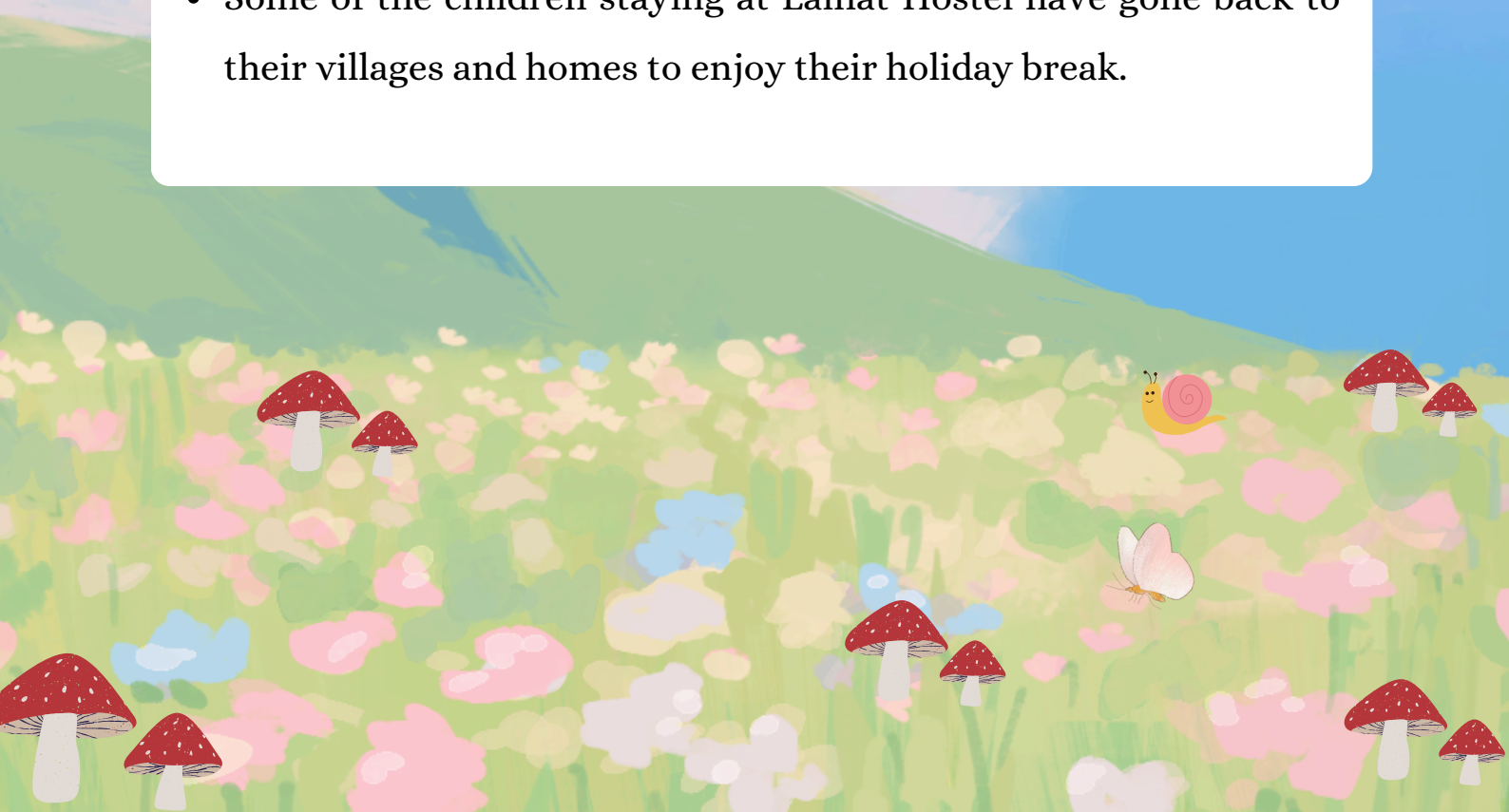
Current Situation of Manipur

Here's the current situation in Manipur:

- 1. Presidential Rule imposed:** President's Rule was imposed for the first time since the outbreak of the conflict. In February 2025, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh resigned amid ongoing ethnic unrest and mounting pressure from opposition parties. Following his resignation, the Indian government imposed President's (Direct) Rule, placing the state under direct central governance. It brought a sigh of relief to the public since it meant that the Government of India is seriously considering our situation. The implications of this order for both the Meitei and Zo Ethnic Communities (Zomi/Mizo and Kuki) will unravel in the months to come.
- 2. Humanitarian Crisis:** Thousands are still living in relief camps under harsh conditions.
- 3. Potential for Sudden Internet Restrictions:** Given the history of prolonged and abrupt internet shutdowns in the region, there remains a high likelihood of sudden restrictions being imposed without prior notice. These measures are typically enacted in response to emerging security concerns or attempts to control the flow of information during periods of unrest.
- 4. Risk of Sudden Power Shortages:** While specific data on power shortages is limited, regions experiencing political instability and conflict often face disruptions in essential services, including electricity. Damage to infrastructure, challenges in maintenance, and resource allocation issues can lead to unexpected power outages.
- 5. The subsiding of the conflict** – The ethnic conflict between Meitei and the Zo ethnic communities (Zomi/Mizo and Kuki) has subsided during the past couple of weeks. However, due to the constant denial of the minority Zo ethnic communities' aspiration for a separate political administration by the majoritarian Meitei Government, it is highly unlikely that the conflict will end anytime soon. The situation in Manipur remains fluid, with ongoing efforts to restore peace and stability.
- 6. Economic challenges** – Economic challenges continue to prevail. The prices of essential commodities continue to be up. Essential supplies for Churachandpur District coming from the state capital Imphal were cut down; therefore everything – from daily essentials to construction materials – was bought at inflated price. In order to bypass trade restrictions with the state capital, trade and commerce was conducted through the state of Mizoram, which became our only lifeline, even though it was more distant and difficult to travel.



Points To Note

- All the children at both Lamka and Bukpi are currently on their session break from school.
 - Most of the students will begin their next academic session either by the end of March or in early April.
 - Class 10 students have successfully completed their board exams.
 - Class 12 students are still in the middle of their exams and are expected to finish by April.
 - Some of the children staying at Lainat Hostel have gone back to their villages and homes to enjoy their holiday break.
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