

ACTIVITY & FINANCIAL REPORT

SLOW MOTION PROJECTS

2019 & 2020



Winter School 2019-2020

Summer Camp 2020

Winter School 2020-2021

Financial report

Winter School 2019-2020

For this winter camp 2019-2020, Slow Motion Projects partnered again with the Youth Association Gya based in the Gya region in Ladakh, India. We enable the local team of the Association to set a 3 weeks-long educational programme offered without any costs to young students of the region, during the winter holidays. About 60 students, teenagers 12-20 years old, young men and women, participated in the programme. The students were offered several modules during the school:

- Introspection
- Ice hockey
- Ladakhi history
- English classes & English conversation classes
- Group projects on the topic of waste management
- Cultural activities (traditional dance, folk songs classes)
- Youth and student exchange module

A full report on the winter school is available below.



WINTER CAMP AT GYA- MERU

Albert Einstein said, **“I never teach my students, I only provide the conditions in which they can learn.”**

The 2020 Winter Camp at Gya- Meru started off with the similar philosophy. The motive of the camp was to enable students to learn and develop their skills outside of their formal education system. The experiential learning at the camp was facilitated by engaging the students in various hands-on activities within under the guidance of the community members and leaders. Over the past few years, rapid modernization and urbanization have driven the youth of Ladakh away from their core values and culture. The camp also aimed at giving a deep insight to the youth into their culture through various activities.



ACTIVITIES AT CAMP

INTROSPECTION

The day at the camp kickstarted with a 5- minute morning ritual of self-contemplation. This daily activity helped everyone present the camp, students and the organizers alike, to plan their day and gave them new approaches to problem- solving. The activity also helped to improve their sense of clarity and direction which was evident during the evening talk while sharing their interests. The introspection was followed by teaching the students about the philosophy of Buddhism and its fundamental values.



ICE HOCKEY

The students at the camp were given Ice- hockey coaching by Mr. Chemet Gyatso. The daily training session was for about two hours and students took part in learning the sport with sheer enthusiasm and dedication. Having a laugh and the amount of smiles and giggles witnessed during the training over the days has definitely been pivotal in team building.



LADAKHI HISTORY

The formal education system in Ladakh greatly emphasizes on Indian History, thereby, neglecting the history of Ladakh. The students were taught about the Ladakhi history, and how Ladakh has withstood the changes of time, geography and its rulers. The activity helped the students take pride in their own land, culture and traditions.



ENGLISH CLASS

The students at the camp were taught by Mr. Rinchen Dawa, He taught the students about fundamentals of English grammar- tenses, punctuation, use of pronoun, preposition, composition of sentences, and phrases. Theory classes were supplemented by practical exercise. Loud choruses answering the questions while mass correction after each exercise per-se sufficed the need for energizers. The youths were encouraged to maintain personal diary and advocated on importance of reading literature as well.



GROUP PROJECT

Gya and Meru, being rich and diverse regions, both in terms of flora and fauna have been witnessing depletion of environment. Environmental learning and sustainability were therefore, one of the key focuses of the camp. Keeping this in mind, the students were arranged in five different groups and were given a project on waste management. The students organized a clean-up in the locality and came up with creative ideas to make different products out of the waste by up-cycling it. The activity helped them to monitor the waste in their area, which otherwise goes unnoticed, and encouraged them to adopt more eco- friendly and sustainable practices in their daily-life.



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

As mentioned before, rapid modernization and urbanization is driving youth of Ladakh away from their core values and culture. To provide the kids a deep insight into the local culture, while making the activity a fun experience, the students were taught traditional dance and folk songs. The dance session was conducted by Mr. Tsewang Karsey and Village Goba, Mr. Lundup and the folk songs were sung in unison by the staff and the kids. The activity catalyzed social interactions and helped the kids form inter- personal relationships whilst connecting to their roots.



CONVERSATION CLASS

To make the students confident and comfortable with spoken English, conversation classes were conducted. The students were organized into different groups and each group was moderated by a staff/volunteer. The students, within the groups presented their views and shared their experiences on a given topic. The activity allowed the students to understand and respect each others' opinions and perspectives.



YOUTH CLASS

Wide array of topics were discussed during the youth class ranging from learning about the biodiversity of Ladakh, conservation and sustainability, to career counseling. The classes helped the students to interact with youth from their own communities, studying and working in various fields.



EVENING ACTIVITY

To resist the evening chilly weather, the kids were engaged in various evening activities which included live music, debates on social topics in context to Ladakh, speech competitions, games, and so on.

DINNER ACTIVITY

The day at the camp ended with the selected kids sharing their learning experience throughout the particular day. The activity helped the kids enhance their public speaking skills, and allowed them to introspect their learning from various activities.



STUDENT EXCHANGE AT VILLAGE SHARA

On one of the days, the kids from the camp visited the winter camp at Village Shara, which is 50 kilometres from Gya and presented a cultural dance performance. The kids from both the villages interacted and shared their experiences and stories from their respective villages. Later, the kids from Village Shara also visited Gya and presented their folk dance.



Summer Camp 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic lasting since March 2020 in India has severely impaired education for Ladakhi students, especially those living in rural areas such as in the Gya region due to poor internet connectivity. The Youth Association of Gya Meru was therefore mandated to conduct an educational programme during the summer months of 2020 for the students of the Gya region. Guidelines issued for COVID-19 by the Ministry of Health from the Indian Government were strictly followed.

Beyond the regular curriculum the summer school included educational activities around environmental conservation. For instance, a day-trek was organised in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy during which students visited traditional wolf traps converted into stupas to prevent killing of wolves. Students could also learn about the flora and fauna of the region, including bird species of Ladakh.

A detailed report of the project can be consulted below.





YOUTH ASSOCIATION OF
GYA-MERU

YAGM SUMMMER 2020 PROJECTS REPORT

TWO MONTH SUMMER TUITION

YAGM, on being requested by village school representative Mr. Thines Gurmet, VEC, Govt High School Gya, has agreed to conduct two months' summer tuitions for the village students.

The ongoing pandemic has severely affected the students, especially those in the rural area owing to poor internet connectivity.

Keeping this in mind, the Village Education Chairman, Mr Thinles Gurmet approached and requested YAGM to conduct classes to ensure that the pandemic doesn't deter students in their learning process. Since YAGM had the similar thought we agreed to conduct tuition classes during summers for the students of Gya Village. The initiative saw an enthusiastic participation from our students and hence we divided the students into two groups. The two groups were taught in two different schools, strictly adhering to the guidelines issued by GOI.

YAGM members tried to cover maximum syllabus of the students in the classes. The Villagers, including the representatives along with the local and school authorities were very happy with this initiative and presented a token of appreciation to all the volunteers. YAGM will continue to work towards its community with such commitment in the future.



Staff on tour to TSOKAR lake after the completion of tuition.

RESHUFFLING OF EXECUTIVE BODY

The reshuffling of YAGM Executive body for tenure 2020-2022.

On 21st June YAGM members unanimously appointed Mr. Urgain Nurboo as the new president of Youth Association of Gya meru YAGM.

Urgain is one of the founding members of YAGM and has since then worked very passionately and actively towards taking YAGM to new heights. A graduate from SECMOL (foundation, collage), he recently completed his BA.

Executive members were also appointed on the same day.



EASSY WRITING COMPETITION

An essay writing competition for children and youth was organized in collaboration with NCF which saw an active participation from Many students from Gya And Meru.

Odon Palmo, one of the participants got shortlisted and her essay was published in NCF story writing booklet.

MARATHON

YAGM, in collaboration with SLT completed its 1st ever Taklang La Challenge marathon for a noble cause.

More than 70 enthusiastic participants belonging to different age groups from Gya Meru Valley ran the marathon and accomplished it.

Dr. Tsewang Namgial (Director, Snow Leopard Conservancy) and Dr. Stanzin Namgial also participated and boosted the morale of the participants.

The marathon was flaged off by YAGM President, Mr. Urgain Nurboo on Taklang la top at 6:00AM and concluded at Rumtse. The winners were given the prizes and all the participants were acknowledged with a vote of thanks.

The names of the winner of the marathon are:

Girls:

- Finishing first was, Ganzes Dolker in 4 Hr 20 Min
- Finishing second was, Tsewang Nondol in 4Hr 21 Min
- Finishing third was, Deachen Lamoin 4Hr 55 Min

Boys:

- Finishing first was, Jigmet Stanzin in 3 Hr 5 Min
- Finishing second was, Thinles Meru in 3 Hr 20 Min
- Finishing third was, Jigmet Lundup in 3Hr 27 Min

The whole event was organised following the guidelines issued for COVID - 19 by MHA, Govt. of India.



ONE DAY TREK TO SHANGDONG(wolf trap)

Today, YAGM in collaboration with Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF) took students of Gya Meru for one-day nature trail. The purpose of this walk was to take the students to Shangdong Stupa site. The site is an initiative by NCF in which traditional wolf traps, called Shangdongs are converted into stupas to prevent merciless killing of wolves, which are important predators of Ladakh's ecosystem.

Along with this, the students also enjoyed bird watching and gained a lot of information about the birds of Ladakh.

During the trail walk of more than 5 hours, the students learnt about the diverse flora and fauna of Ladakh and understood their role in the mountain ecology and the need to preserve them.

All the members of YAGM would like to express their sincere gratitude to Mr. Karma Sonam, Field coordinator, NCF for organising the walk and guiding the students. We value this collaboration for a sustainable future of our land and our children and look forward to many such similar events in the future.



ONLINE PROJECT

This Lock down gave us an opportunity to learn many new things some of which we were not even aware of. To ensure that the learning doesn't go futile and help our students to engage in such activities in the future as well, YAGM also organised an online competition among the students. The students were asked to document the new activity/ activities that they learned during this lockdown and send it to us. Many interesting stories came out of it and

Most common among these was that most of the students had never spent a long stay in the village so far. But this lockdown allowed them to spend their time in their village home and introduced them to a different lifestyle. The students witnessed the whole farming season, which was new to many of them. This helped them to explore the potential in these activities, which are otherwise, getting lost in their school education.





Photoshoot for the upcoming YAGM Magazine.



YAGM Hoodies and T-Shirts in making

By YAGM Media: Rigzen Mingyur & Sonam Otzer

Winter School 2020-2021

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued spreading in India, our local partner the Youth Association of Gya Meru (YAGM) was not allowed to organise any indoors education programme during the winter 2020-2021. Willing to still provide psychological support to Ladakhi students and a sense of hope and empowerment in the long winter months, Slow Motion Projects allowed YAGM to organise a local edition of ice hockey tournaments in Leh, capital city of Ladkha, as part of an initiative of the Ministry of Youth Affair and Sport from the Government of India. The local girl's ice hockey team from the Gya region participated in the tournaments and won all the major trophies against the best Ladkhi teams - an immense victory for the young hockey players and a chance for those girls to become recognised athletes.

More details on this are included in the report below.



YAGM WINTER REPORT 2020-21

Khelo India Ice Hockey Tournament

January 9th – 10th:

Khelo India Tournament, an initiative of Ministry of Youth Affair and Sport, Government of India, was inaugurated at Gya. The event was organised by Youth Association of Gya Meru (YAGM). This initiative aims to give platform to budding sportspersons and boost the talent at grass root level. A total of five teams- 2 girls' teams and 3 boys' teams from Gya and Shara villages participated in this tournament. On the final day Councillor Igoo constituency Sonam Thardos, Councillor Sakti Rigzen Tsering, All the Sarpanches from Kharu Block and Gya Meru Goba were present. Youth Association of Gya Meru hold a meeting shortly after the closing ceremony with all the leaders and it was decided that all the leaders from Kharu block will collectively work towards the promotion of Ice Hockey in Kharu Block.



YAGM beat Domkhar team to lift the UT Ladakh Khelo India Trophy.

28th Jan: YAGM Girls Ice Hockey team lifted Khelo India Trophy: A proud movement for Kharu block in general and YAGM in particular. Our girls Ice Hockey team from defeated the Domkar team by 3-2 in the final match of Khelo India women ice hockey.

Our team for the first time participating in such tournament and lifting the cup is a proud and encouraging moment for all the upcoming athletes. Beating the strong conditioned contender from Lalok in the league for the title, the spirits of our team are on a high.

All the strongest team from all over Ladakh participated in this tournament.



Team YAGM beat Lalok to win the CEC cup

YAGM beat Lalok team to lift the CEC cup.
Once again we did it.



Team YAGM lift the first ever LG cup of Ladakh.

We are sharing this with immense pride that YAGM team has won the final match played against Dhumkar team. We congratulate to team YAGM and all the teams who participated in the event.

The final match between YAGM and Domkhar was perhaps the most exciting match of the tournament. The match was won after a penalty shoot out!

Our player Rigzen Yangdol won the best player of the tournament and our Golie Dorjey Dolma won the best goalie of the tournament!
Congratulations all!!!



WE are Officially Register Society now.



सत्यमेव जयते

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION
UNDER SOCIETIES REGISTRATION ACT XXI OF 1860

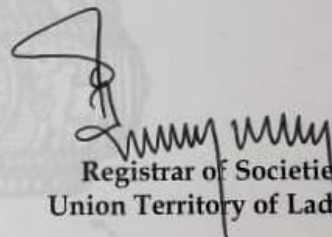
Regn. No. 48 UTL of 2021

I herewith certify that the Society Youth Association of
Gya Miru Office located at Miru,
Leh Ladakh has been registered under Societies
Registration Act, 1860.

Given under my hand and seal at Ladakh on this 24th February
2021.

Fee of ₹. 50/-




Registrar of Societies
Union Territory of Ladakh

"This document certifies registration under the Society Registration Act, 1860. However, any Government department or any association / person may kindly make necessary verification (on their own) of the assets & liabilities of the society before entering into any contract / assignment with them".



Financial report

Final budget for 2019

	Income	Expense
Opening balance	CHF 5,701.98	
Interests	CHF 0.00	
Donations (2018 with 2019 accounting)	CHF 284.40	
Donations (2019)	CHF 2,215.00	
Bank fees		CHF 90.00
Credit card commission fees		CHF 25.08
Support: Druk Clean Pledgethon		CHF 2,000.00
Support: Youth Association of Gya		CHF 1,420.00
Total of movements	CHF 2,499.40	CHF 3,535.08
Closing balance	CHF 4,666.30	

Final budget for 2020

	Income	Expense
Opening balance	CHF 4,666.30	
Interests	CHF 0.00	
Donations	CHF 1,200.00	
Bank fees		CHF 80.00
Credit card commission fees		CHF 35.50
Total of movements	CHF 1,200.00	CHF 115.50
Closing balance	CHF 5,750.80	



Contact

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