

Kanji children
Newsletter December 2020
www: // enfantsdekanji.org

The stability of the sponsorship we have seen this year testifies for the trust placed in us. Thank you.
This trust obliges us to be completely transparent. This is the subject of this year-end newsletter.

Last year we celebrated twenty-five years of development and success for the institution. Today it is going through the worst crisis in its history. The Shanti Lumin school and children's home were forced to close in March, on the eve of the end-of-year exams, which were eventually canceled. The students were all allowed to go to the next level.

In June, with no return to school, families did not enroll the children. During the summer, the state demanded that courses be broadcast via videoconference, without providing the necessary assistance. Teachers have been mobilized and trained in digital technology, but the lack of reception tools in many households impeded to reach the expected results.

Many families, seeing the school buildings closed, have not paid the school fees for the new year, nor the delays for the past term, depriving the school of most of its local resources.

The situation remains changeable, but it seems established that the school and Shanti Lumin will not open until June 2021.

The financial consequences

The lack of local resources is of great concern. The meager local financial reserves quickly ran out, and our contributions helped secure a livelihood income for the staff.

The appeal for donations, as well as the income from sponsorships in the first semester, represented 26,000 euros sent at the end of November. They are intended to meet the fixed costs of the school and Shanti Lumin. These are mainly staff subsistence fees as all other expenses are deferred. They will make it possible to pay a monthly nest egg equivalent to 35 Euros to teachers and administrative staff, which represents the purchase of 40 kg of rice.

Future prospects

We approach challenges with determination even if some decisions are not ours.

- Restarting Shanti Lumin remains the priority. Maria Rayapan has maintained contact with the children whose situation is extremely precarious. Some visit him and leave with a few provisions of rice and lentils.
- The school must remain faithful to its raison d'être: to combat poverty through the development of education, that is to say to welcome children from destitute families free of charge.
- Next spring, the elections will have installed a new government for Tamil Nadu. The latter will have to assess the impact of the closure of schools and adapt the programs accordingly (blank year, exams at the start of the year?). The decision will therefore only be made after the start of the school year.

- The reopening of classes will entail significant expenditure before any local revenue is generated: payment of salaries, purchase of supplies and uniforms, resumption of buses, etc. while the finances are drained.
- A significant drop in the number of students is expected, either by dropping out or by the inability of families hard hit by the crisis to meet expenses.
- This reduction could jeopardize the number of teachers and administrative staff.

The challenges are immense. Their solution will depend on our ability to generate new financing at a time when there are many requests.



Maria and Lourdusamy send you their deep gratitude. Your generosity allows the institution to survive as they wait for better days to come.

For our part, we wish you a happy holiday season. They will not resemble the previous ones, but will certainly remain etched in our memories.

Finally, we offer you a free gesture, but how useful for our association: Click on this newsletter and send it to your distribution list.

You can also use Hello Asso and benefit from the latest tax exemption possibilities for 2020 !!!

<https://www.helloasso.com/associations/enfants-de-kanji/formulaires/1/widget>

Thank you and all the best

Pierre Danthony