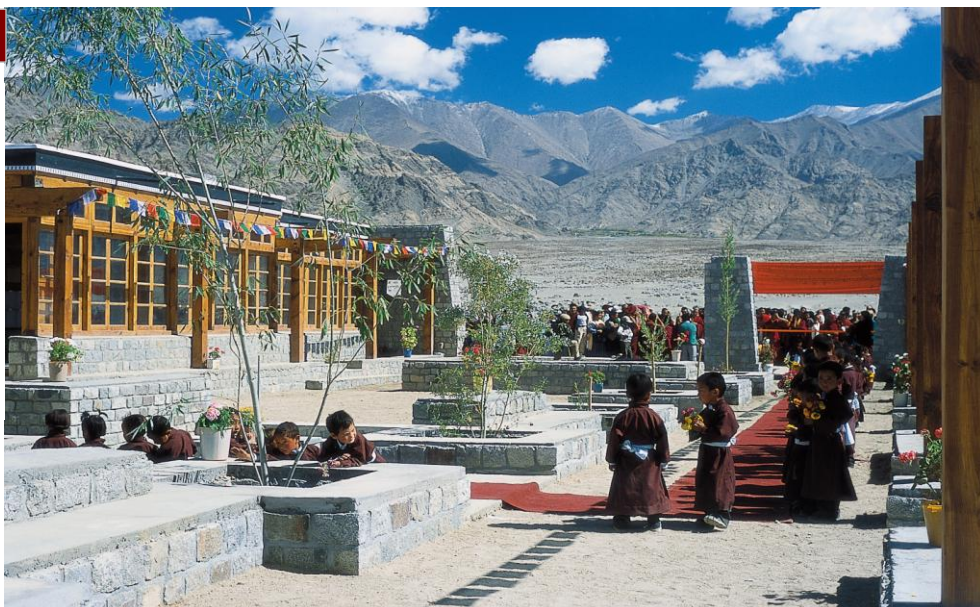


Druk White Lotus Schools, Ladakh, Indian Himalaya

STATUS REPORT, AUTUMN 2011

CELEBRATING
10 YEARS
Druk White Lotus School

Druk White Lotus School, Shey, was opened by its founder, His Holiness Gyalwang Drukpa, on 24th September 2001. On that day, 88 Nursery and Lower Kindergarten students started school life.



Education

We are CELEBRATING 10 YEARS of learning.

The school grew year-by-year to 616 students in 2011 (314 girls and 302 boys), of whom 265 are sponsored.

Nursery class (age 4) through Secondary School class 9 (age 16).

Residence Courtyard 1 opened in 2002. There are now three Residence Courtyards.

Today, there are 281 residential students, mainly from remote areas, living on the Shey campus.

68 displaced-children were taken in after the August 2010 mudslide.

In Shey, there are 34 teachers, of whom 15 Ladakhi, 13 Tibetan, 6 from outside Ladakh and a Principal.

There are 32 support staff in Shey.

A branch school opened in Khachey in April 2010. The school has 29 students from Nursery up to class 1.

Druk White Lotus School, Khachey, has 2 teaching staff and 1 support staff.

English-medium schools with study of Bothi (Ladakhi) and Hindi languages.

Montessori methods in Nursery, Lower and Upper Kindergarten.

First edition of school magazine published - "Drukskat" available on www.dwls.org

Mudslide Disaster

The Shey campus was hit by a mudslide during the night of 5th/6th August 2010; all residential children were evacuated safely.

Classrooms, residences and offices were covered in 1-2m of mud; mud surged up to 3m high on some buildings.

Furniture, books, computers and school records were destroyed

50 staff from Hindustan Construction Company helped over several weeks to clear mud and debris.

Many volunteers helped to get the school back on its feet quickly; tents were used as temporary classrooms for several weeks.

JCB Excavators donated a machine that has helped enormously with clearing the campus.



There was virtually no structural damage to buildings, thanks to good design and construction.

The school has replaced much of the lost and damaged furniture and school equipment, but more funds are still needed.

Work is well advanced on measures to protect against future mudslides.

Sustainability

Buildings are orientated to maximise use of solar energy.

Trombe walls use passive solar energy.

Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines minimise use of water in a desert environment.

Construction uses mainly local materials: granite, mud, poplar and willow.

Buildings are earthquake resistant.

State-of-the-art solar energy system generates electricity on the campus

Master Plan includes recycling and composting.

Several thousand trees have been planted on the campus.

Measures are being put in place to protect against possible future floods, mudslides and other emergencies.

Solar water pumps raise water for drinking and irrigation.

Featured in US television documentary series "e² design: the economies of being environmentally conscious".

Targeting educational sustainability through training programme for local staff.

Aiming for financial sustainability in the long-term.

Construction

Master Plan inspired by His Holiness Gyalwang Drukpa.

Nursery & Infant Courtyard won three World Architecture Awards.

Received 'Design for Asia Grand Award' in Hong Kong in December 2009.

School designed by international team from Arup Associates and Arup, London.

Aiming to complete the Secondary School by October 2014.

Building physical defences to protect against future mudslides.



Heritage

Location for several film-shoots, including 'The 3 Idiots' Bollywood movie.

Hosted 800th anniversary celebrations of the Drukpa Lineage.

Emphasis on Ladakhi performing arts.

School welcomes children from all backgrounds and aims to ground them in their own culture.

Visitor Centre built by BaSIC Initiative architect volunteers from the USA.

Visitors received on campus at the Visitor Centre.



Finance

Not-for-profit fee-paying school with fee levels set at locally affordable levels.

School receives no direct financial contribution from Indian educational authorities.

US\$2.3/£1.5/€1.7 million raised to date for capital investment.

US\$740,000/£476,000/€538,000 urgently needed to complete the Secondary School.

Renewable energy equipment installed, co-financed by voluntary carbon-offset funds.

Very significant contributions in-kind from individuals and organisations.



Organisation

Druk Padma Karpo Educational Society, Ladakh, J&K, India
non-profit society
School Governor

Live to Love
Partner, Education & School Activities

Drukpa Trust, UK
UK registered charity No. 1014948
Partner, Design & Construction

Contacts

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Volunteers
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Design, construction and capital funding
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www.dwls.org

International Co-operation

Arup Associates, Arup Cause and Arup
BaSIC Initiative, USA

Exeter School, Kings School Worcester, Pilgrim
School Bedford, Princeton University, St.
Christopher School Letchworth

Hindustan Construction Company

JCB Excavators Ltd

Jet Airways Ltd

Médecins sans Frontières, Oxfam

Reliance BIG Pictures

Vinod Chopra Films