



A page from the Family Album

Late July 2012

Update on the Challenge Grant

We are working towards the goal of meeting the \$4,000 challenge grant from the **Don Splawn Foundation East** for our Children's Learning Centre, which provides a free education for children whose parents can't afford school fees.

Currently, we have raised close to \$2,300 towards the challenge, and ask that you consider helping us to meet this goal. Thank you to all the donors who have already contributed!

Every dollar donated between June 1 - September 1, 2012, goes towards this match.

How desperate must a mother be to abandon her babies? What goes through her head as she walks away? I can't imagine what she feels like, but I have seen firsthand what it does to the children who are left to fend for themselves.

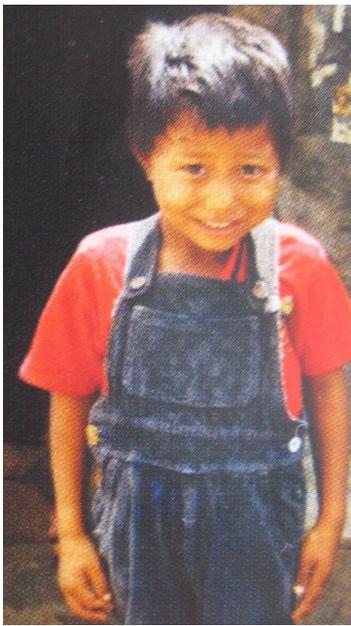
Twelve years ago I found Krishna and Babu sitting on the road in front of their tin hut. They were frightened, hungry, confused and dirty, and just two and five years old. A man told me their mother had run off three days before and they had no one to take care of them. "You take them," he said. "No one else will."

I took them.

This is the short version of the Ghar Sita Mutu story--you'll have to see me in person or wait for the book for the full details--but I am happy to say that Krishna at 17, has just passed his school leaving certificate with excellent marks. The sad news for me is that as a non-governmental organization (NGO) we must have a constitution and rules, and one of them is that the boys leave the home after class 10, and the girls after class 12.

We are, of course, still taking care of Krishna's needs, rent, and food allowance while he is living with his elder sister. We will pay for his college fees (which is the US equivalent of grades 11 and 12) and also pay for his university. He is very smart and talented at art and wants to study IT with a view to graphic design.

In the future we hope to have a second building with some rooms set aside to house returning family members. GSM is not a typical Nepali orphanage. We created a loving family for these children, so we would like them to be able to come home when they need or want to.



I love Krishna and am proud of him. He has overcome many challenges and difficulties in his life. Thanks to the generosity of our many supporters, I know Krishna has some happy childhood memories of his GSM family.

Best wishes, Beverly

Krishna was a frightened five-year-old child abandoned by his mother when Beverly found him.



Krishna is a talented artist with plans to study graphic design at university. This is a recent portrait he painted of the GSM family.

Krishna, all grown up, with Beverly.

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Ghar Sita Mutu | 151 First Ave, #74 | New York, New York 10003 |

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