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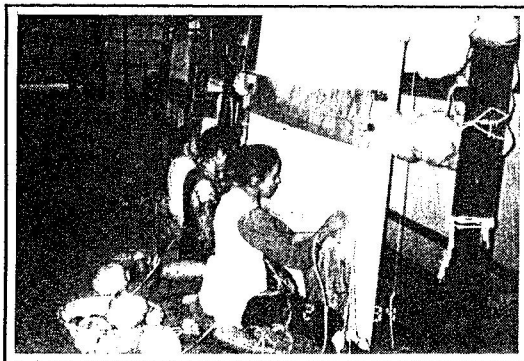
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International

HOPE International was registered in July 1996 as an NGO with the objective of providing vocational training for disadvantaged people living in Nepal, but we focus mainly on the Tibetan refugee community. It is seen as a means to effectively help the community and thus build friendship and trust to share our Christian love with them.



Tibetans making carpets in Nepal

The Tibetans living near the Training Centre engage in carpet production. As this trade is on the decline, the community leaders see the need to diversify the skills of their people. They themselves state that vocational training is the need of the day.

HOPE International and the people involved had the vision to provide training in woodwork, tailoring, English, computer and business skills. The first year of operation was a setting-up phase but, because of the lack of suitable instructors, few courses were conducted. The following year we moved closer to the community we are seeking to serve. Around the same time we were able to employ a tailoring instructor and an office assistant and expatriate volunteers helped set up an English language programme.

We now look back on a year in which tailoring has been taught to women from both Nepali and Tibetan background. We were also able to teach several English courses. A few months back we started the first computer course. Former students and some other interested people approached us about teaching German and Nepali writing. We have offered one German course and are now in the process of setting up a Nepali writing course.

We are constantly seeking to improve and expand our programme. As our aim is to serve the Tibetan community, we listen to their suggestions and are looking for ways to incorporate them into our programme.

We are thankful for all the support we get not only from our students and the Tibetan community - whose feedback has been positive so far - but also from people overseas. Only in joining hands can we get the best possible out of the Training Centre and give new hope to people attending our courses.

Lilian Iselin  
Project Manager

Newsletter 2  
September 1998



From the *CHAIRMAN*

In this second *HADA* Newsletter we are able to report some good progress in a number of areas.

Firstly, a very warm welcome to new members. Our membership now stands at 75 for which we are very grateful. Your support in helping establish *HADA* is very much appreciated.

HOPE International, working with Tibetans in Nepal, has been accepted as a project by HADA. HOPE International was required by local government authorities to have recognition by an external agency. The manager of this project, Lilian Iselin wrote "*I am absolutely thrilled. I have just come back from travelling and found your letter stating that our project has been accepted by HADA.*" I personally visited the project a number of years ago and can fully recommend it as a worthwhile project.

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Health and Development Aid Abroad  
Australia Fund Inc.

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Neil & Jeanie Young are still travelling. They have visited a number of countries and have had a very profitable time. They expect to return to Australia in December.

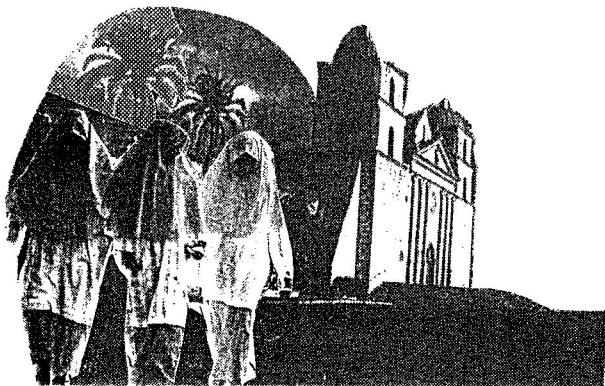
The Management Committee is currently considering further projects. We will keep you informed of progress in this area.

Donations for any project may be sent to The Treasurer, PO Box 688, Albion, Qld. 4010. Funds will be forwarded promptly. Cheques should be made payable to HADA.

Thank you again for your support and encouragement.

Peter Moody

NGO - Non Government Organisation



The sun beat down on the dry earth. There was not a breeze and the date palms stood starkly against the dark blue skies. The ground was littered with plastic bags. People walked about slowly, most wearing jalabas, the dress of both men and women in **MOROCCO**. We were there to look at opportunities within the country, both from a business point of view, and also for Humanitarian Aid work.

We commenced our investigation in **Marrakech**, holding talks with expatriates who were involved in business as well as a sports centre, holiday and tour organisation. They explained the difficulties they had experienced in trying to become established in the community.

In **Casablanca** we were very mindful of people moving about us as we sipped cool drinks in a quiet corner of a hotel and had lengthy discussions with an American who introduced internet facilities to the country. He was held in high esteem and because of his close association with the government officials, his endeavours to build an international school were well received.

The train trip to **Rabat** was fast, comfortable and interesting. We were met by a third generation reliable man who made a great impression on us. He has such a passion for his own countrymen. He spoke of 60% unemployment and the need for businesses that could employ local people. Tears welled in our eyes as we sat in a delightful garden of flowers, sipped our cool drink, and realised that many Moroccan people had not eaten a meal this day because of their poverty. We have so much, and many of these people have so little.

After falling asleep in the huge marble railway station, we boarded a train at 12.45 am which raced through the remainder of the night to reach **Tangier** by daylight. The morning sun shining on the Atlantic ocean with the back drop of old buildings on the cliff faces was spectacular. After being jostled by a dozen or so locals, all anxious to carry our bags, we made our way to a ferry which would take us to **Algeciras**, a Spanish port near Gibraltar. The crossing was smooth, the seats reasonably comfortable and we found

ourselves dropping off to sleep again trying to keep hold of our bags, not really knowing if they would still be there when we awoke.

Spain was modern, hot and sunny. We sat in a cafeteria talking to and taking notes from a New Zealander who has worked in the area for many years. He spoke of his experiences in setting up an NGO in Morocco. He is involved in an agricultural project. Prior to commencing, he asked official permission to survey the farming community. This was not well received initially, but with a bit of persistence, permission was granted and some of the officials from the agricultural department joined in. Answers to a variety of questions from hundreds of farmers were collated. The authorities were impressed. One of the alarming statistics showed that many cattle were not dying from disease, but were choking on plastic bags left strewn in the grass they were eating. What appeared to be a big problem to the Moroccans had a simple solution.

As a result of such interviews we believe there is a real opportunity for humanitarian aid in this country. There are many skills needed to improve the present situation and we believe the people would welcome and appreciate assistance given. The use of HADA was discussed as the authorities prefer that a local NGO be linked with one from outside the country.

**MOROCCO** is but one of the countries where they need hands-on help. Be it in agriculture, education, medicine or community health, there is a great need and the doors are open for organisations to provide personnel, expertise and funds so that local people can be trained and equipped to relieve their poverty, manage their resources and improve their standard of living.

Neil & Jeanie Young  
International Directors