

Tuesday, 19. May 2015

We met Bijay from the Lions club of Kathmandu Chabahil. He was the president of Lions club while Kritan was the president of LEO club; therefore they know each other very well.

Bijay was interested in the biosand filter and he said it could inspire the others too. He said he would talk about this with other LIONS and would check with other LIONS and see whether they could support us in the distribution of biosand filter in the villages where they are active.

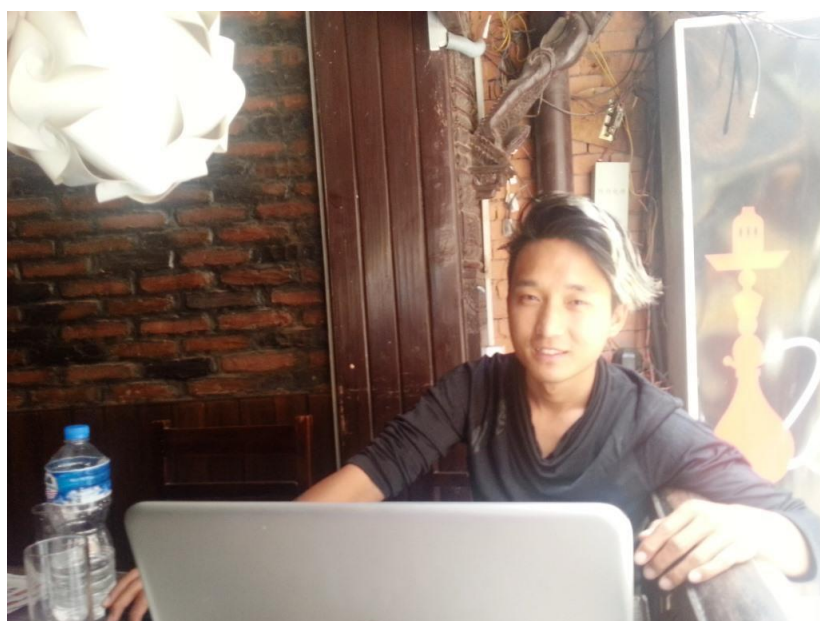


A little later, we had a meeting together with Suresh, Kripa, Santosh, Kritan and I. We talked about open NGO GESINAS-Nepal, to be established in Nepal. For me it is important that when this NGO is named GESINAS, it is then committed to international education and health, and there is no restriction on the religion, culture, nationality and gender.

The task now is to establish GESINAS-Nepal. With 7 founders they will submit an application for establishment of the NGO.



Later while we were walking around in Thamel we met Sudan with whom we together with the French TV crew filmed a report for ARTE, on May 11, were on their way. Even during the filming unfortunately it became clear that they did not shoot it quite naturally. I think you already have a story on your mind where I talked about their behavior during the shooting of documentary in Sindhupalchowk. I put my view and told them that what they were doing was not right. Although we said each other a nice goodbye after a hard day in the district Sindhupalchok but the bad feelings didn't go away.



ARTE has telecasted a five-minute film. One can argue about the authenticity of the clips shot from May 12th. In the scene one could see, Sudan is running around, the people around him are the volunteers of his team, they had a sticker of membership attached in their chest. The scene looks dramatic, a young woman lying unconscious on the ground, has this sticker this shows that she was pretending just for the shooting.

Although I appreciate the efforts done by Sudan for the earthquake relief the decision from Sudan to act on such manipulative clip was not beautiful. Since the film crew were not present during the earthquake, they somehow wanted to shoot the earthquake and ended up somehow manipulating the clips which is rather unfortunate.



Since we were here with the team of Sudan during the earthquake, we could clearly say it the clip was distorted. After watching the video we could see that, ARTE completely manipulated the sequence of the events too. The video shows that the team reached to Sindhupalchowk after the earthquake on May 12. If that was true Sudan would be with his team, including Kritan and myself (we are a few seconds in the film) on May 13 in Sindhupalchowk because there was a big landslide and the motorway was blocked.

This of course was absolute nonsense, because by the many landslides caused by the earthquake on May 12, the roads were blocked in the district Sindhupalchok and it was not possible to get there on 13 May.

It is true that we were there on May 11, one day before the second strong earthquake with magnitude 7.3. We were very glad that we made it back from the mountains back to Katmandu. It is a pity that one cannot rely 100% even on brand like ARTE.

On May 13, we were at the German Embassy and we got constant warning not to go to certain district after this earthquake including Sindhupalchok. I supported the advice, because not following the advice would be reckless and negligent.



In the evening I walked alone out of Thamel to Kalanki chowk and saw how people set up their tents on the footpath and on the free areas. I could see them getting prepared for the night. They understand it very well, it would have been more devastating had the earthquake occurred in the middle of the night on 24th April. They assume, there would have been more than 100,000 deaths.

Translator: Kritan

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