

# Friends of Himalayan Sherpa People Earthquake Relief Effort Update



Our efforts at earthquake relief have come to a conclusion. And thanks to the many generous donators, we have helped over 60 families with re-building stipends and have distributed over 100 large tarps to help so many families make it through the monsoon season. These images show some of the many families that received our aid. They all lost their houses due to the earthquake and were living in temporary “shelters” as seen. While the stipends (\$250 US dollars) would not pay for a

new house it did help to get them on their feet and begin the re-building process. Photographs and a fingerprint of each recipient were taken along with a distribution log. 100% of your donated funds went to these people; only transportation and security costs were taken out.



Tears of joy were our thank you notes.....  
your donation truly made a difference.



The school that many of you donated to fared well throughout the earthquakes and we are delighted to report that it's finished! Wood floors, walls and ceiling bamboo mats are in place along with windows providing for a healthy learning environment!!



We have begun to implement a *vented* wood stove program in order to diminish the horrible health cost of cooking/heating smoke in the home from unvented stoves. We've furnished demonstration stoves in two homes with nearly 100 "orders" for additional units. Many of these families can barely afford food and basic living expenses, let alone replacing their stove.

Our work on this project is just beginning.....

Watch for details of our up-coming fundraisers in Bishop and Lee Vining. We will be trying to raise funds for our *vented* wood stove replacement program AND hopefully encourage caring friends to join us in a small monthly pledge program to hire a trained headmaster and certified teacher for the school. We can truly make a difference in the lives of so many children: quality education.

**Lee Vining Fundraiser: May 19th**  
**Bishop Fundraiser: May 23rd**

***Thank You*** for your interest and support!

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## *Nepal Today*

If the earthquake did not tear the fabric of Nepalese society enough, the political stand-off with India had Nepal on the ropes of economic and human suffering. A new constitution apparently did not provide enough recognition and political power-sharing to the Madhesi peoples of the low lying areas near the Indian border. This caused the Indian government to blockade fuel and supply trucks bound for the landlocked Nepal.

Geographically, there was no other practical way for the people of Nepal to receive desperately needed supplies, especially fuel for heating and cooking. This resulted in compounding the already dire situation caused by so much earthquake damage.

While a solution appears to be holding, it continues to be a complex situation involving ethnicities that may be more Indian than Nepalese.

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