Ramakrishna Mission LP School: KHLIEHSHNONG

Dist: East Khasi Hills: Meghalaya

If there were no light, the world would be full of darkness, gloom, fear, confusion, apprehension, superstition and the list would go on and on and the very beauty of life and the promise of its future would be just stake. Same is the case with a man who does not have or is deprive of education. What more could we say or expect of the future of a community or a society as a whole when a basic right viz the right to education is not made available to is to be able to avail or to enjoy it? Thanks to the Ramakrishna Mission, Sohra for with the initiative of its dedicated Secretary namely Swami Bhuteshanandaji Maharaj, primary education in Khliehshnong village which is one of the big and popular village in Shora Syiemship, could actually take place. This primary school the Mission had set up was given the name "Ramakrishna Mission LP School, Khliehshnong" and since the time of its inception it has been a TORCH BEARER and MODEL of primary Education in Shora area.

As mentioned above, Khliehshnong village was then without any primary school until the year 1936 when Swami Bhuteshanandaji Maharaj took the pain and praise worthy initiative in reaching out to the then village authorities sharing with them his altruistic dream of setting up a Khasi primary School in the village for the education of the village kids. On being inspired by the warm co-operation offered by the village authorities, formal classes were

kick-started in the morning shift in the residence of (L) Mrs. Lakermon Nongkynrih in the very same year (L) Kong Trisina Nongkynrih was the founding head teacher of this school when bougainvillea gives forth its lovely fragrance, it does surely attract one and all to be under its soothing and wonderful refreshing influence. So it was this school when with the tact, pleasing personality and dedication of its teachers compounded with the all out support of the Swamiji and the Mission as a whole, huge number of pupils thronged and attended the classes. One Bramachari Maharaj called Sutesh Maharaj by nickname added to the taste of lively education by teaching and incorporating music classes in the daily routine of the school. Good and intelligent students were produce even during this initial period.

Due to space problem, the school was shifted to one rented house of Mrs. (L) Twir Phanbuh. But this had caused much inconvenience. In order to solve this problem of shifting the school from one place to another place, in 1938 the Mission manage a plot of land in the heart of the village and with great effort and sacrifice it could however erect a humble building for the school on this very piece of land.

On the retirement of (L) Mrs. Trisnia Nongkynrih, one (L) Mrs. Bilo Diengdoh took over the charge as the head teacher of the school.

It is worth to mention here that on hearing about the name and fame of the school, the then Assam Govt. officials from the education Department caused their inspection of the school in 1940. The discipline, manners and candid nature displayed by the

students plus the sizeable roll strength persuaded all these officials to promptly grant recognition to the school in the very same year.

Late Mrs. Kriantiment Syiemlieh took over the charge from Late Mrs. Bilo Diengdoh, retired. Late Mrs. Syiemlieh was found to have displayed genuine love, passion and devotion in her task as the Head of the School. This teacher did not confine her time and responsibility to school hours and four walls of the school only but spared her time out and went in search those students who were absent for a couple of days. In this way, students who were about to drop their studies were brought back to school. Intelligent hostellers like Shri Dilip Singh, who later became an IAS officer, now retired, Shri Arun Roy, who later became a gazetted officer (BDO, now retired) and others from RK Mission Hostel, Khliehshnong, were also actively involved in the teaching activity during their free time. Late Babu Govinda Charan Roy Syiemlieh, staff of the Mission, affectionately recreated the students with music classes.

With the retirement of Late Kirantiment Syiemlieh, a sincere, hard working and devoted Head Teacher, there was sad drop of roll strength and there came a point of time when there were only around 10(ten) students in the whole school. It is inspiring that Smt. Melinbon Lyndem, HT and her colleagues had tried hard to retrieve it however there was no sign of improvement at all. The school management was in a fix at this downfall and all it could do during such a critical period was to "Just wait and see".

On seeing that no improvement at all happened to the school Swami Isthanandaji Maharaj's creative mind, the then secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Cherrapunjee made him feel that the school must be changed to English medium school which was then the need of the hour. This was eventually materialize in 1993. It interesting to mention here that this vision of the Swamiji worked majic as in the beginning of this English medium school itself, in 1993, around 71 (seventy one) students were enrolled right from classes KG-A to class-III. Smt. Byona Lyndem, Smt. Sulata Bhattacharjee, Smt. Elmora Nongbri and Smt. Wadhavan were the Assistant Teachers under the abele leadership of Smt. Seema Das, Honorary Head Teacher. The school building was then without basic amenities like toilet, water supply and electricity. However, (L) Mrs Creamletnola Dohling is to be appreciated for her generous heart in meeting the cost of laying pipeline for water supply and also the construction of the school toilet. (L) Mrs. Siiolet Lyndem too was found to have a big heart for the school. She gave free temporary power connection to the school from her residence whenever needed it. She always took active part and played a major role in arranging different activities of the school like sports, picnic and other functions. Minor repairs of the school building were often voluntarily carried out by her. May their generous hearts inspire us all to be a blessing to the needy world around us?

As year passed by, the school once again started to bloom and this time kids from far and near of Khasi and Jaintia Hills Districts came and had their education here. About learning reputation of the school, the deputy inspector of the school Mrs. S Rapthap came and inspected the school by herself on 29.05.2015. When Smt. Seema Das Head teacher, got and joined permanent post in the R K Mission HS School, Cherrapunjee, and Smt. Byona Lyndem appointed Head Teacher in her place to look after the daily affairs /

management of the school. The latter took over the charge on 01.06.1999.

Circumstances like space problem, dilapidated condition of the tin roofed building, the ever expanding roll strength, etc. made then secretary of the Mission Swami Devamayanandaji to shift the school to the building of the +2 section of the R K Mission HS School in 2004. In order to lay a more concrete and strong foundation to ease kids in their next higher classes, nursery class was then introduce. An apt Assistant Teacher, Smt. Giraldine Sawian, was accordingly appointed for this.

Teaching staff of the RK Mission LP School, Kliehshnong are well known for their discipline, hard work, dedication and resourcefulness. It is because of them that the school has been producing many eminent personalities like Shri Mawkorhipor Nongkynrih, MBA (IIM) and others. Many others hold responsible posts in the state government and various cooperate. It may be placed on record that the students of this English Medium school RKM, LP School, Khlieshshnong, always reap the harvest of satisfactory success in their matriculation and higher class examinations and some of them were toppers like Shri Hamekisan Nongkynrih both in SSLC (2013, 13th Position) & HSSLC Science (2015, 10th Position), Smt. Alphilarisha Diengdoh, in SSLC (2013, 18th position), Shri Surav Pathak, in SSLC (2014, 1th Position) and Miss MIllenium Nongrum, in HSSLC Commerce (2015, 6th position) – just to name a few. The school proud of them all.

The present teachers of the school consisting of Smt. Beona Lyndem (HT), Smt. Sulata Bhattacharjee (AT), Smt Elamora Nongbri (AT), Smt. Sama Chakraborty (AT), Smt. Ailytnti

Wanwar, (AT), Smt. Daihun Kising (AT) and Smt. Graldine Swain (AT) are giving there all in order to upload the prestige of the school. They have no stone unturned to make the dream of the parents and that of the mission come true by way of imparting the best possible quality primary education to the latter. Smt. Bandarity Mylliemgngap and Smt. Dabrian Nongkynrih very helpful assets as helper roll strength of the school in 2015 from nursery classes to Class III.

The UDISE no. of the school is 17060600201.

So it is obious that the school has been very much instrumental in bringing about hope and positive changes in the society it is located. The school remain indebted to all concerned the founding Swamiji, the school Management Committee, Teachers, donors, village authorities and the local people parents etc., whose heartiest involvement in this noble cause have bought the school to its present status. Pray that the school will progress by leaps and bound in this noble altruistic service but to make this to happen, active co-operation on the part of the management, teachers, parents and well-wishers is very much essential.

"Man may come, man may go but with your valuable inspiration, I, the Rama Krishna Mission Lower Primary School, Khliehshnong, will go on forever".