

# PAPA'S HOUSE MAGAZINE

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OPENING DOORS: WELCOME TO CHELSEA

PHOTO: PRASHANNA BISTA





## INTRODUCTION

Meenashi Pokhrel joined the teaching staff at the Chelsea Education and Community Center two years ago and has just recently completed her Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology. She resigned from her teaching position in order to begin work in her field of expertise. During her tenure, Meenashi taught classes for Papa's House children as well as daytime classes for local women. As her parting gift to the Chelsea Center, Meenashi offered an opportunity to the daytime staff and adult students to write about their experiences at the Center. As you will read, their participation in classes has profoundly affected their lives—offering new experiences, fostering cooperation, opening eyes to the world around them, nurturing friendships, providing support to face challenges, and ultimately empowering them to affect their own families and communities.





AMBIKA ACHARYA



BHAGIRATHA KADARIYA



BHAWANA BADU



KALPANA ALE



SUSHILA ADHIKARI



TARA SHRESTHA

In August of 2016, the first meeting of the Chelsea Center's Women's Council was held. It consisted of five local women recommended by the instructors of the adult education classes. The council meets regularly with Chelsea leadership as an advisory group for the curriculum and schedule for the classes, as well as initiating and planning new program ideas.

New students are given an opportunity to join the Women's Council to replace current members after two years of service. The nomination of a new council member is primarily based upon the recommendation of the instructors and that of the previous council members. Currently, we have six council members.

## THE YOUNGEST IN THE CHELSEA CENTER

Namaste everyone. I am Anu Basnet. I have been living at Papa's House ever since I was a child. Presently, I am working as an adult instructor at CECC. Soon after I completed my grade 10, I started my work as an intern here. When one of our previous team members, Puja Bista, left her job, I got the opportunity to work here. This really makes me feel proud about myself because I am working with a wonderful team and more than a hundred women from different communities in and around the Dhapasi area.

*Anu Basnet*



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PAST



By the time this magazine reaches you, I will already be an ex-teacher of Chelsea Education and Community Center.

Two years and a lifetime full of memories. Chelsea Center has helped me grow into someone who is a bit more vibrant and a bit more compassionate than yesterday.

Over time, I have taught 150 women, made hundreds of amazing relationships and have a bundle of memories that I will cherish for a lifetime.

For a person who came to Kathmandu and left her family back home, I found the lap of so many mothers and also got an opportunity to give something to this community from all that I knew.

To all those who are reading this, who are a part of the Chelsea Center right now, be you teachers, students or board members: Thank you for making me a part of your family. And to those who I haven't gotten to meet: Remember, when you enter the Chelsea Center, you are already blessed to be working at such an amazing place. On the days when you feel low, remember that you are cherished at this place with love. Thank you.

*Meenashi Sharma*



## FROM PAPA'S HOUSE TO CHELSEA CENTER

Namaste, I am Kabita Mahato. I am one of the kids of Papa's House. I joined the Chelsea Education and Community Center in the year 2017 as an adult education instructor. Being part of this organization was my biggest opportunity in the beginning of my career, and I got to learn so much from it. I have completed four years of teaching adult students and I have learned many things from this organization, team members and also from my loving and caring students.

To all my students, I'd like to say: If you have the eagerness to learn something from your heart, nothing can stop you from doing it. Within the period of these 4 years I have seen the vast growth in aunties and I want them to continue their further studies so that they can achieve more in life. No matter how far I go from Chelsea Center, you will always remain in my heart as the best part of my life.

Thank you,  
*Kabita Mahato*



## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Women students at The Chelsea Education and Community Center are the perfect embodiment of willingness to learn. It's been thirty six months since I started working here. Many new students have joined the Chelsea Center since then, many have graduated, and some, despite deep willingness to learn could not continue because of increased family responsibilities and other obligations.

Chelsea Center has provided an invaluable gift of literacy to the women students in and around Dhapasi Community. Hundreds of them have gotten the confidence that they felt missing their entire life. The stories of their experiences tell us how they have benefitted from them as they are able to read, write and understand. They are deeply grateful for what they have learned. I have always felt proud to be a part of the organization that has had an opportunity to do this noble task.

Every now and then I find myself wondering: Is there a way we can provide this opportunity to more in need?

*Prashanna Bista*



## A ROLLER COASTER JOURNEY IN CHELSEA CENTER

Learning is not a process limited to school and college, nor does it end with the age. It is indeed a lifelong process. The Chelsea Education and Community Center gave wonderful opportunities to the aunties who somehow didn't get a chance to study in their age, didn't know a single letter because of a stereotype mindset. Some got a chance to study, but because of early marriage they had to stop their studies in order to look after their family.

In January 2019, I first came to Chelsea to give an interview. And here I am, still working as an adult instructor. It's been 2 years since I joined Chelsea. My experience with aunties (students) has become an integral part of my life. I have taught and got to learn more from aunties. I feel blessed to share my knowledge with these wonderful students. Chelsea, you have become my inspiration to work for the community. Aunties, you all are my energy to work whatsoever. My team, you all are my backbone without which I cannot move.

At last I want to say: "If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you."

*Monica Guragain*







The Chelsea Education and Community Center is my workplace where I got the platform to grow myself. It's my belief that I am lucky to work and to be a part of CECC. Every year we conduct different events for women and it comes with many difficulties and challenges. Difficulties and challenges help me to build my confidence and encourage me to do any kind of work with perseverance.

I feel proud to be an adult instructor at Chelsea Education and Community Center. All of my tensions and pressures immediately go away after entering CECC and seeing the aunties/students. Even though they are senior in age, their regularity in the class and enthusiasm to learn makes my day wonderful. My students whom I have taught from the beginning still study with me and are able to read and write. I genuinely feel proud of them. I have a bundle of memories working with such a wonderful team and my students.

Thank you.

*Sushma Chaudhary*

Namaste Everyone!

I am Kamal Bahadur B.K., a permanent resident of Kalikot (Karnali) from the western part of Nepal. Currently, I live in Dhapasi, Kathmandu and work as one of the teachers at The Chelsea Center. I am also one of the young adults of NOH. Currently, I am pursuing my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Southwestern State College.

No words can ever describe how joyful and thrilling it is to be a part of and be able to work in this organization. I have been working at the Chelsea Centre as a women's educator since 2018. I work with a group of professional team members and learn a lot from them.

I had the experience of teaching school students, but this is my first time working for women's education. Educating hundreds of women and seeing them taking their stand in the society has given me a sense of achievement. Chelsea Centre has been an amazing platform for me to grow personally and professionally. Chelsea has taught me to be patient, to learn more and give back to the society. Seeing women striving for knowledge and willing to learn gives me a lot of positive energy to work and to step forward in my life. Their zeal and interest is very inspiring. They are all fantastic people and



are the best example to those who might give up in life. This diversified group of women have made the Chelsea Centre a colourful garden.

My message to aunties is to "Keep going. The optimistic vibe you have will surely influence others." And I want to thank all of them for their warm love.

To conclude, I want to express my gratitude towards Chelsea Centre for being my second home and my team who have become my second parents for their continuous support and encouragement.

Regards,  
*Kamal Bahadur*



## FIRST 21 DAYS OF EXPERIENCE AT THE CHELSEA EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER

First of all, it is an absolute honor being a part of Chelsea Center. I have always wanted to work in a diverse community helping others to bring about a progressive change, and for me Chelsea is the platform to bring change, not only in the lives of others but for myself.

Coming to talk about my experience in the first days of my probation, it's going well and I am delighted by the acceptance of both the teachers and students as well. What I have done for 3 days is basically observation. Tone of language, bodily gestures and basic methods of teaching are some things I have observed so far. Also not forgetting to address that the methodology of teaching differs according to students and for teachers as well. What I want to do for the future is to treat our elders with respect for their own individualism and dignity, and teach accordingly.

To conclude, till now I am enthusiastic and at the same time nervous because being a teacher is a tough job and there is always a doubt whether I am teaching correctly or not.

*Pragya Rajbhandari*



My name is Nima Sherpa. I am a student of Chelsea. I am very thankful to this organization. This organization has helped a lot of illiterate people like me, who were not even able to hold a book in the correct manner, and were unknown about alphabets. But now, with the help of Chelsea Center, I have gained a lot of knowledge and I am able to read alphabets, words and basic sentences quite fluently,

I am very much grateful to this school. I would also like to thank the founder of this organization, Papa and the Director. I also want to remember and mention Miss Hillary, who is also a major member of this establishment. And last but not the least, I would like to thank my dearest teacher Miss Sushma, who teaches us very nicely. And I am also very thankful to other teachers of Chelsea.

Thank you.

*Nima Sherpa*







My name is Dhan Kumari Sodari. I am 50 years old.  
I am from Sankhuwasabha and live in Dhapasi.

Mero bidhyalaya ko naam Chelsea Education and Community Centre ho. Mero bidhyalaya ma 8 jana teacher hunuhuncha. Hami yo bidhyalaya ma padhna pauda dherai khushi chhau aru pani didi baini haru padhna aaunu bhayo bhane ramro hunchha. Yaha sir miss harule ramrod bujhayera padhaunu huncha. Hamro bidhyalayama teejko karyakram pani hunchhaanni picnic pani lanu hunchha ra aru karyakram apni bhai rakhcha. Hami yaha oadhna pauda dherai khushi chai. Hamile fee pani kei tirnu pardaina. Pahila padhna man lagda pani padhnu payena, tara Chelsea ma padhna pauda dherai khushi lageko chha. Huss ta sir miss, aile lai yeti nai janey.

My school's name is Chelsea Education and Community Center. We have 8 teachers in our school. We are very happy to study in Chelsea and it would be better if more women like us would come and learn. Our teachers are very nice and use the best methods to make us understand the subject matter.

Our school also celebrates a Teej program, takes us on a picnic once a year, and also gives a chance to participate in other programs as well. We are delighted to study here free of cost. Although I didn't get a chance to study when I was young, now it has given me a second chance to be educated. Thank you!

*Dhan Kumari Sodari*



My name is Bishnu Shrestha. I am 54 years old. I am from Kathmandu. I live in Dhapasi, Kathmandu. I am a student and a housewife. My school's name is Chelsea Education and Community Center. I have 5 members in my family. My husband's name is Gore Shrestha. My son's name is Aayush Shrestha. My daughters' names are Bina and Jina Shrestha. I have one granddaughter. Thank you so much, everyone.

*Bishnu Shrestha*



कोरोना

न त हेरछ धर्म यसले, न त कुनै जात  
अनायसै सरनसक्छ, मलाउदा हात।  
नमलाई हात अब, नमस्कार मै टारौ,  
सेनटाइज प्रयोग गरी, कटाणुलाई मारौ।  
सकेसम्म भडिभाड हुने, ठाउँ मा नजाऊ,  
जतासुकै हिँड्दा पनि, सबैले मास्क लगाऊँ।  
जोरो अनखिकी लगाई, सताउने काम,  
डरलाग्दो बन्दैगाको कोरोना यसको नाम।  
गाउँ शहर छरछमिकमा, चेतना जगाऊ,  
आजै अनअहिले देखिसबैले मास्क लगाऊ।

Starting with the idea that COVID-19 does not discriminate people over religion or caste, this poem is about its influence and suggests preventive measures to protect one's self and others. The second stanza suggests the idea of greeting with Namaste rather than shaking hands. And the later ones recommend other measures that can be taken to keep safe.

*Laxmi Gurung*





मेरो नाम बुद्धमाया गुरुङ हो। म ५७ वर्षकी भएँ । म चेल्सी एजुकेशन एण्ड कम्युनिटी सेन्टरको वदियार्थी हुनुको साथसाथै एक घर गृहणी हूँ । मेरो पुरानो घर गोरखा जिल्लामा हो । म हाल पासिकोट काठमाडौं मा बस्छु । म चेल्सी पढ्न थालेको २ वर्ष भयो । मलाई पहिला देखि नै एकदमै पढ्न मन थियो तर परस्थितिले साथ नदिएको हुनाले पढ्न पाइन र अहिले आएर चेल्सीले मेरो पढ्ने इच्छा पूरा गरिदियो । मेरो नन्द अनु गुरुङले मलाई चेल्सीको बारेमा भनिदिनुभयो अनिमैले पढ्न सुरु गरेँ । चेल्सीमा पढ्न थालेपछि, मैले धेरै कुराहरु जान्न, बुझ्न र सिक्न पाएँ । मेरो सर र मसिको सहयोग र हौसलाले गर्दा आज मैले धेरै कुराको ज्ञान पाएँ । मलाई पढ्नका लागि मौका दिनुभएकोमा म धेरै धेरै आभारति छु ।

धन्यवाद॥

My name is Buddhamaya Gurung. I am 57 years old. I am a student of Chelsea Education and Community Center and also a housewife. I am from Gorkha and currently I live in Pasikot, Kathmandu. It's been 2 years since I started studying in Chelsea. I wanted to study a lot but I was not able to because of the circumstances, but Chelsea fulfilled my desire to study. My sister in law, Anu Gurung told me about Chelsea and I started my journey since then. After studying at Chelsea, I got to know and understand many things. Thank you for the continuous help and encouragement to my teachers. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to read and write again.

*Buddhamaya Gurung*



चेल्सी तमि मेरो प्यारो साथी

स्कूल तमि मेरो शिक्षाको भण्डार होउ । स्कूल तमिले म जस्ता धेरै साथीहरुलाई शिक्षा बाँडेरिहेको छौ । स्कूल तमिले गर्दा हामीहरुले धेरै शिक्षा पाएका छौ । स्कूल तमिले नै गर्दा मैले धेरै साथीहरु पनपाएकी छु । स्कूल तमि कतिसल छौ । आँखा नदेखनेलाई आँखा देखाइदियो । स्कूल तमिले बोल्न नजान्नेलाई बोल्न सिकायो साथ साथै तमिले समाजमा बोल्न र हिँड्न पनसिकायो । स्कूल तमिरो साथ पाएपछिबै कम खाता पनखोल्न सकि । स्कूल तमिरो साथ भएपछिछोरा-छोरीलाई म्यासेज लेख्न पनजाने । स्कूल तमिलाई पाएपछिखुशीले सुन्दर सन्सार देखे जस्तो लाग्यो ।

स्कूल तमिलाई भेटेर कसैले नदिएको शिक्षा पाएकी छु । स्कूल तमिलाई र मलाई कोरोनाले एक वर्ष बछिोड बनाइ दियो तर पनमि डराएको छैन कनिकी तमि मेरो मोबाइलमा सधैंको लागि बेकी छौ । स्कूल तमिलाई मैले १० वर्ष अगाडि भेट्न पाएको भए सायद मैले पनयिस.एल.सी दिन्थे होला । स्कूल तमिरो र मेरो कुराहरु आदान प्रदान गरेर पढाउने सरहरु र मसिहरुलाई कोटी कोटी

नमस्कार गर्दछु ।

उही तमिरो साथी शिला आचार्य ।

Chelsea, you are my dear friend

School, you are the storehouse of my education.

School, you are imparting education to many friends like me.

School, we have gotten education because of you.

School, I have gotten a lot of friends because of you.

School, you are so good, you have given eyes to the blind.

School, you taught us to speak who didn't know how to speak, as well as you have taught us to speak and walk in society. After getting to study here, I also learned how to open a bank account.

School, after being with you, I can write messages to my children who are far away from me. When I got you, I felt happy to see a beautiful world.

School, you gave me an education that no one has given me.

School, although Corona separated us for a year, I'm not scared because you're on my cell phone.

School, if I had met you 10 years ago maybe I would have taken SEE [Secondary Education Exam] too.

School, our conversation was only possible through teachers. And I want to thank all of them.

Your Loving Friend,  
*Shila Acharya*





मतिरि०७२ सालको बे लामा भुकम्प गएर सबैलाई अस्तव्यस्त बनाएको थियो र मान्छेमा धेरै डर फैलाएको बे लामा आफुलाई समाल्न गारो थियो । त्यस समयमा, म लगायत मेरा वभिन्न मतिहरुले एउटा आफुलाई समाल्ने बाटो पायौ । आफ्नो अमूल्य समयको सदुपयोग गर्ने एउटा राम्रो अवसर चेल्साले दियो । हामी पढ्न नपाएका नारीहरुका लागि चेल्साले ठूलो अवसर दियो, जहाँ धेरै नारीहरुले पढ्न लेख्न र शुद्ध बोल्न शक्ति का छन । हामीले चेल्सी पढेपछी आफ्नो बारेमा लेख्न अनि अङ्ग्रेजीमा लेख्न र बोल्न सकिने का छौ । यस्तो सुनौलो मौका मिलाइ दिएकोमा चेल्सालाई धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद दिने चाहन्छु । यहाँ पढ्न पाउँदा म धेरै खुशी छु ।

धन्यवाद!!  
कान्छी श्रेष्ठ ।

An earthquake hit Nepal in the year 2072 and everyone was in a state of panic. It was very hard for me and my family to take care of ourselves. At that time, my friends and I got an opportunity to know about Chelsea. Chelsea gave me and my friends a chance to utilize our free time. For women like us who are not educated or literate, Chelsea has been a platform and has given voice to voiceless women. After studying in Chelsea we are able to read and write in both Nepali and English fluently.

I genuinely want to thank Chelsea for providing such a golden opportunity. I am delighted to be a part of Chelsea.

Thank you!  
*Kanchi Shrestha*



सर्वप्रथम म यो स्कूललाई धन्यवाद दिन्छु ।

हामी जस्ता अशिक्षित व्यक्तिहरुलाई केही मात्रामा भएपनि शिक्षित बनाउन खोज्नु भएको छ । केही पढ्न लेख्न आउदैन थियो, समयहरु यतकै खर्च भइरहेको थियो। यहाँ आएर समयको राम्रो सदुपयोग भयो र म धेरै आभारी छु। चेल्सी स्कूल बाट म जस्तै अनपढ व्यक्तिलाई अहिले नेपाली, अङ्ग्रेजी पढ्न आउँदछ । नाम लेख्न आउँछ, बाइबल लगायत पुस्तकहरु पढ्न सक्छन । म पढ्न चोकमा रहेका साइन बोर्डहरु पढ्न सक्छु । म नेपाली पढाउने मिस मनिशी र अङ्ग्रेजी पढाउने सर कमललाई धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद दिने चाहन्छु।

कुमारी जैरु

First of all, I would like to thank Chelsea for trying to educate, uneducated women like us. I didn't know how to read or write and my time was being wasted. I am very grateful towards Chelsea because I am utilizing my time by studying here. An illiterate person like me now can read and write in Nepali and English. I can read books including the Bible and I can read the sign boards. I would like to thank Miss Meenashi and Kamal sir for teaching Nepali and English respectively.

*Kumari Jai*





चेल्सी

चेल्सी जन्मयो २०७० सालमा, पढ्न पाइयो यो बुढेसकालमा ।  
फुलमा भमरा आउदै गर, चेल्सीको माया नमारा  
लकडाउमा पढ्न पाइयो सर र मसि सँग, अनलाईन कलास,  
फुलमा भमरा आउदै गर, चेल्सीको माय नमार ।  
सालको यो हो पात, पापाजीलाई मुरिभुरिछि धन्यवाद ।  
फुलमा भमरा आउदै गर, चेल्सीको माया नमारा  
अध्यारोलाई उज्यालो टुकी, पापाजी हो हाम्रो मुटुको ढुकढुकी ।  
फुलमा भमरा आउदै गर, चेल्सीलाई माया नमारा  
यो चन्द्रागिरीमा, ददिबहनी पढियो फरिमा ।  
फुलमा भमरा आउदै गर, चेल्सीलाई माया नमारा  
धान कोदो गोडेर, ज्ञान बाढियो चेल्सीमा पढेर ।  
फुलमा भमरा आउदै गर, चेल्सीलाई माया नमारा  
सालको यो हो पात, सर र मसिलाई मुरी मुरी छ,  
धन्यवाद ॥  
ललि थापा

CHELSEA

Chelsea was born in the year 2070, I got to read it in my old age  
Don't forget to fall in love with Chelsea.  
We got a chance to read during the lock-down with sir/ma'am in online class.  
Come bumblebee in the flowers, don't forget to love Chelsea  
Shorea Robusta's leaf, we thank Papa from the bottom of our heart.  
Don't forget to fall in love with Chelsea.  
The light to the darkness is a lantern, Papa is our heartbeat.  
Don't forget to fall in love with Chelsea.  
In Chandragiri, sisters we got a chance to read for free  
Don't forget to fall in love with Chelsea.  
Growing knowledge is like cultivating rice and millet, we got to study in Chelsea  
Come bumblebee in the flowers, don't forget to love Chelsea  
This is the leaf of Shorea Robusta (sal tree).  
Thank you very much Sir and Miss.  
Lila Thapa



मेरो नाम मधु लामा हो । मेरो घर महाराजगन्जमा पर्छ । मेरो विद्यालयको नाम चेल्सी एजुकेशन एन्ड कम्युनिटी सेन्टर हो । मेरो विद्यालय धापासीमा पर्छ । मलाई पढाउनु हुने अनु मसि र मीनसी मसि असाध्यै मनपर्छ । मसि हरूको पढाउने शैली मलाई धेरै मनपर्छ । मलाई पढिदिने धेरै मन लाग्छ, समय परिसिथिति मलिन्जे ल सम्म यस विद्यालयमा आएर शिक्षा हासिल गर्ने छु । मलाई यस विद्यालयमा पढ्न पाउँदा धेरै खुसी लागेको छ । सर मसिहरूमा समान पुरस्क बोलाउनुहुन्छ । सर मसिहरूको व्यावहारले हामी विद्यार्थी धेरै खुसी छौं ।

My name is Madhu Lama. I live in Maharaajgunj, Kathmandu. My school's name is Chelsea Education and Community Center and is located in Dhapa-si, Kathmandu. My favorite teachers are Anu ma'am and Meenashi ma'am. I really like their teaching style. I also like to read and write. If circumstances allow, I will be learning ceaselessly from this school. I am glad to see the equal and caring treatment towards every student by our teachers. Thank you.

Madhu Lama





## अनुशासन

अनुशासन मानव जीवनलाई सुखी र समृद्धिशाली बनाउने ठूलो बुटी हो । यसर्थ यसको पालना हामीले गर्नु पर्दछ। अङ्ग्रेज भन्ने अनुसार “बालक काल देखिनै अनुशासनमा बस्ने बानीले जबिनमा ठूलो कल्याण गर्दछ” । अनुशासन बुझ्नेको व्यक्ति र अनुशासन अनुसार चल्ने व्यक्ति बिडो योग्य व्यक्ति हुन्छ । ऊ हरदम सफा सुगर रहन्छ । सक्छ वचार गर्छ हक्की मजिासको हुन्छ । सबैसति मजिासल्लो बन्छ । आफूभन्दा ठूलो व्यक्तिको आदेश आज्ञा पालना गर्दै गर्दछ सधै हसल्लो, रसल्लो र फुर्तल्लो भइरहन्छ । आफूलाई देशको सेबक सम्झी आत्मसम्मानको ख्याल राख्दछ ।

## DISCIPLINE

Discipline is one of the assets that make human life happy and prosperous. Therefore, we must follow it and be disciplined. According to an English saying, “The habit of being disciplined from an early age brings out a great fortune and progress.” However, a person who understands and follows discipline is always an able and deserving person. He/She is always neat and clean and has pure thoughts. He/She is always fun to be around and always obeys their elders. He/She is agile and patriotic, and prioritizes their dignity.

*Bishnu Gurung*

## कविता

दउसो लग्नेरी घाम, राती लग्ने जून ।  
एकै चोती लते, कस्तो हुन्थ्यो भन ।  
यती कुरा हेर्न, कती छ रहर ।  
चेल्सीले गरेको, कामको वर्णन ।

चेल्सी तमिी रहेछौ धन्य ।  
गरेछौ सबैलाई शक्ति र सभ्य ।  
सधै यसतै मङ्गल गरिरहनु ।  
यसरनि रहनेछ तमिी नाम अमर ।

चेल्सी तमिी काम देखेर सबै हुन्छन मक्ख ।  
त्यसैले त तमिी चारचा छ विश्वभरमा ।  
टमिले गरेको कामको, छैन कुनै मल्लि ।  
त्यसैले त तमिीलाई भन्छन सबैले, धन्य छौ धन्य

This poem describes the poet's experience of studying at the Chelsea Center, the value it has created in her life, what she has learned, how it has changed her life, and how valuable this opportunity has been for her.

*Bhawana Badu*







मेरो नाम बष्णिमाया मल्ल ठकुरी हो। मेरो घर पाल्पा जिल्लामा परछ र म यहाँ बसुन्धरामा बस्छु। मेरो परिवारमा एक छोरा र श्रीमान हुनुहुन्छ। म घरमा हाल एकलै छु। मेरो छोराको नाम वीरेन्द्र मल्ल ठकुरी हो। मेरो एकलौ छोरा हो। एकलौ छोरा भए पनि धेरै राम्रो र असल बुद्धिमान छ। मेरो साथमा बाबु हुदा, बाजर जादा कुनै पनि साथी खोज्नु पर्दैन। मेरो श्रीमानले पनि पढाइ जस्तै ठूलो कुरा केही होइन भन्नुहुन्छ। यो उमेरमा कहाँ गएर कसरी पढ्ने केही थाहा थिएन। एकदिन एकजना छिमेकी दादीले थापासीमा एक घण्टा मात्र पढ्ने स्कूल छ भन्नुभयो। अनि कहाँ कस्तो स्कूल रहेछ भने खोज्दै हिंडे र भोलिपल्ट फेरि खोज्दै जाँदा बल्ल फेला पारियो र सर मसिसँग कुराकानी गरियो। हामीले सम्ग्रह पुगेपछि बोलाउछौ भन्नुभयो। एक हप्ता पछि फोन गरेर बोलाउनु भयो।

त्यसपछि डेढे देखि महिनाको बीचमा लक्डाऊन भइहाल्यो तर पनि हाम्रो सर मसिहरुले अनलाइनबाट भएपनि दिनै नकि पढाउनुभयो। हाम्रो चेल्सीको सर मसिले आन्टीहरुको मर्म बुझेर आ-आफ्नो ठाउँबाट भएपनि पढाउनुभयो। यदी अनलाईन क्लास नभएको भए कोही कोही त डिप्रेस्नमा पनि जान सक्थे। कहिले बत्ती हुँदै नथ्यो, कहिले नेट हुँदै नथ्यो तर पनि हाम्रो अनु मसिले डाटाबाट भएपनि दिनै हुँ पढाउनुहुन्थ्यो। मनाकषी मसिले त झन् A, B, C, D नजानेको आन्टीहरुलाई आज आफ्नो नाम, थर, ठेगाना लेख्नसक्ने सम्म बनाउनुभयो। केहिदिन पछि बिदाई भएर जाँदै हुनुहुन्छ भनेको सुन्दा कति निरमाइलो लागिरहेको थियो। तर के गर्नु मसिको भविष्यको लागि हामीले बिदाई गरेर पठाउनुपर्छ। हाम्रो स्कूल सर मसि सबैजना राम्रो हुनुहुन्छ। आन्टी भनेर मान सम्मान दिएर पढाउनुहुन्छ। यो उमेरमा यस्तो स्कूल पाउनु भनेको आफूलाई म एकदम भाग्यमानी ठान्छु। हस्त एती भन्दै विदा हुन्छु धन्यवाद!

My name is Bishnumaya Malla Thakuri. My home is in Palpa district and I live here in Basundhara, Kathmandu. I have a son and a husband in the family. I am currently alone at home. My son's name is Virendra Malla Thakuri. He is my only child and is very good and a wise man. When he was here I didn't need any friends after that. When he went abroad for further studies, I had to go to the market and had to seek help from others. My husband also thinks that study is very important. But I was very ashamed and didn't know where to go and how to read at this age.

One day one of my neighbors informed me about Chelsea which teaches women like me in Dhapasi, Kathmandu. I tried looking for the school, but I couldn't find any information nor any location. When I searched again the very next day, I finally found it and talked to sir and miss. They said we will call when the group gets completed and they rang us another day and our classes started.

After that, Coronavirus Pandemic took place and the whole country was under lockdown. Despite the ongoing situation, our teachers taught us through online. If there were not online classes then some of us would even go into depression. When there was no access to electricity and internet, Anu miss used data pack and taught us. Meenashi miss started teaching aunties who didn't even know A B C D but now we can write our name, surname and place and many more. Meenashi miss will be leaving soon and I will be missing her, but she is leaving us in order to make her future.

I have found good teachers in Chelsea. With love and respect, they call us aunty and teach us nicely. At this age I consider myself very lucky because I got an opportunity to study.

With these words I would like to conclude here.

Thank you.  
Bishnumaya Malla Thakuri

## मेरो विद्यालय

मेरो स्कूलको नाम चेल्सी एजुकेशन कम्युनिटी सेन्टर हो। २०५७ साल जेठ २८ गते म चेल्सी स्कूलमा

पढ्न आएको हुँ। म चेल्सी आउँदा नेपाली, अङ्ग्रेजी केहिपनिपढ्न र लेख्न जानेकी थिएन। स्कूल आउन थालेपछि, अहिले आफ्नो नाम, ठाउँको नाम, मान्छेहरुको नाम लेख्न जानेकी छु। मलाई बेसिक देखिसिकाउने सुशमा मसि हुनुहुन्थ्यो। उहाँले A देखि सम्म राम्रोसँग पढ्न लेख्न सिकाउनुभयो। सुशमा मसिलाई धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद छ। त्यसपछि अंकित सरसँग तीन महिना पढ्ने मौका पाएँ। अंकित सरले पनि धेरै राम्रोसँग पढाउनुहुन्थ्यो। अहिले अनु मसिसँग पढ्ने मौका पाएकी छु। अनु मसिले पढाउनुभएको तरिका धेरै राम्रो छ। उहाँले धेरै राम्रोसँग बुझाएर पढाउनुहुन्छ। नबुझ्नेको कुरा फेरि फेरि बुझाउनु हुन्छ। अनु मसिले हामीलाई धेरै महिनेत गरेर सिकाउनु हुन्छ। अनु मसिलाई दिन धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद दिन चाहान्छु। पूजा मसिले पनि हामीलाई नेपाली विषय राम्रोसँग पढाउनु भएको थियो। पूजा मसिलाई पनि धेरै धन्यवाद छ। अहिले अहिले मेरो नेपाली मसि मीनाशी हुनुहुन्छ। उहाँले हामीलाई राम्रोसँग पढ्न लेख्न सिकाउनुहुन्छ। नबुझ्नेको कुरा सोध्दा राम्रोसँग बुझाइ दिनुहुन्छ। मीनाशी मसिलाई पनि धेरै धन्यवाद छ। मलाई गणित विषय पढाउने टिचरको नाम कमल सर हो। उहाँले मलाई

एक देखिसि सम्म अङ्क पढ्न लेख्न सिकाउनुभयो। योभन्दा पहिले मैले अङ्क पढ्न लेख्न जानेकी थिइन। अहिले त मलाई सरले राम्रोसँग जोड, घटाउको गुणन सिकाउनुहुन्छ। हामी नजान्नेलाई सरले जान्ने बनाइदिनुभएको छ। सरलाई पनि धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद दिन चाहान्छु।

माया रानामगर



My school's name is Chelsea Education and Community Center. I joined Chelsea School on Jestha 28, 2075 B.S. When I came to Chelsea, I did not know how to read or write anything in Nepali or in English. After starting my classes at Chelsea, now I can write my name and the names of people and places.

Sushma Ma'am was the one who taught me from the basics (A-Z) and I want to thank her for her effort. Likewise, I got an opportunity to study with Ankit sir for three months and currently I am studying with Anu ma'am. Her teaching style is very good and effective. She keeps on teaching us until and unless we understand the subject matter. I also want to thank her for her continuous attempt to make us better. Similarly, I am studying Math and Nepali respectively with Kamal sir and Meenashi ma'am. I want to thank my teachers for helping me.

Thank you very much!  
Maya Rana Magar





मलाई पढ्न लेख्न ठुलो ईच्छा थियो। ईच्छा पुरा गर्दनुभयो, चेल्सी लाई धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद। चेल्सी खोल्नु भएकोमा पापालाई पनधिरै धेरै धन्यवाद, पढ्न लेख्न सकिउनु भयो। पहिले केही जानेको थइन। अहिले दुइचार अक्षर भएपनी जानेको छु। चेल्सी आएर पढ्न, लेख्न यती भएपनी मैले जाने। धन्यवाद चेल्सी एण्ड पापा!

I had a great desire to read and write. Chelsea fulfilled my wish, and I am very thankful to Papa for starting Chelsea. You taught me to read and write. I didn't know anything before, and now I can read and write in English. By coming to Chelsea I am able to read and write and I want to thank Chelsea & Papa from the core of my heart.

*Manu Tamang*



## THE CHELSEA CENTER

Studying in Chelsea has made and brought a lot of changes in many women's lives. The ones who were unable to write, study and speak for themselves are able now. Chelsea is a place where women like myself are getting opportunities that we didn't get in our childhood. I feel very blessed to study at Chelsea and be a part of it.

To teach old women is not like teaching kids because kids and women's minds do not work in the same way. The teachers at Chelsea are patient, kind-hearted, who always teach us in a peaceful way which encourages all of us. I am really thankful to Chelsea and its members. Thank you!

*Dhan Kumari Gurung*



*Meenashi and Malati*

## KNITTING THROUGH THE WEAVES OF LIFE

When I first began to teach at the Chelsea Center, it got difficult for me to remember the names of all the women who came to learn. However, one name was stuck with me since the beginning the name was Malati Pun.

Malati Aunty is one of the students who has come to the Chelsea Center since long before I joined. Malati Aunty is not just a student, but was an amazing inspiration to me one afternoon during the lockdown when we had online classes. I noticed that Malati Aunty had been fidgeting with needles when I asked her what she was doing. She told me that she was knitting.

This is the first time I had ever seen someone knit. And as I saw her fingers running through the knits and purls of the muffler along with the needles in her hand, I knew I had to learn this, getting inspired from this amazing knitter. As I began to learn knitting, words would fall short to express what a therapeutic experience it has been for me from my dearest student Malati auntie. I learned what determination means every day: consistently going to learn, willing to grow and so undistracted in her efforts. Auntie has inspired me and I feel blessed to teach her and many others like her at the Chelsea Center.

*Meenashi Pokhrel*





Hello everyone. My name is Sushila Adhikari. I study at the Chelsea Education and Community Center. It is located in Dhapasi. This school was established in 2013. This school is running till now and I hope it will continue to run in the future.

Just like everything else, this school was also affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. All the women wanted to study, but we could not go to school for so many months. But the teachers helped us so much by teaching online classes. There are 7 teachers in this school. We study many kinds of subjects and also gain a lot of outside knowledge. We can learn singing and dancing and other programs. This school's co-ordinator is Prashanna Bista; he is a good person and always has fun.

Thank you.

*Sushila Adhikari*

### मेरो गाउँ (My Village)

हरियाली छ डाँडाकाँडा, रमाइलो छ गाउँ ।  
एक नम्बरी नुवाकोट समुन्द्रतार हो ठाउँ ।

वरिपरि खोलानाला, सुन्दर छ झरना ।  
हठिचुलुमि हठि पग्लियो, सकदिन बयान गर्न ॥

सारै राम्रो लाग्छ मलाई, कोइली कराएको ।  
डलिमा बसिँदै रहिन्छु, डाँडा सुसाएको ॥

जंगलको बचितीर, डाँफे मुनाल नाच्ने ।  
रमणीय दृश्य देख्दा, साह्रै खुशी लाग्ने ॥

गोठ भरि गाई भैसी, बाछा कराएको ।  
अहिले सम्म याद आउछ, बाख्रा चराएको ॥

समर्थल रमाइलो छ, धान झुलेको बाला ।  
भूभु गर्दै जान्छ गाडी, ठूलो डबिबा वाला ॥

जन्म दिई हुरकिएँ म, त्यही सुन्दर गाउँ मा ।  
भुकम्पले कषे त गिर्यो, म बसको ठाउँ मा ॥

सुरक्षाको लागि म त, झर्ने बेसी गाउँ मा ।  
सारै नौलो लाग्दोरहेछ, नचिनेको ठाउँ मा ॥

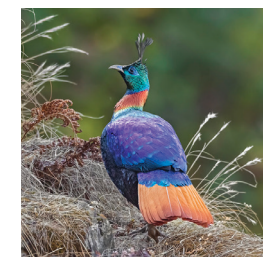
गोसाइँ कुण्ड छेउमा बस्थे, अहिले भन्दा पहिले ।  
बस्न योग्य छैन त्यहाँ, बेसी झर्ने अहिले ॥

नयाँ नौलो नचिनेको, अहिले बस्न ठाउँ ।  
सधैँ झल्को आईरहन्छ, आफु जन्मेको गाउँ ॥

हरियाली बोटबिरुवा, पन्छि झुलिएको ।  
डाडा भरिलाली गुराँस, रातै फुलिएको ॥

कहिले पनि बिसिनिम, त्यो सुन्दर ठाउँ ।  
सधैँ मलाई झल्को आउँछ, म जन्मेको गाउँ ॥  
धन्यवाद

अम्बिका आचार्य



Lophophorus,  
national bird of Nepal



### MY VILLAGE

The mountains are green, the village is fun.

The number one place is Nuwakot Samundratar, where I am from.

Around the stream, there is a beautiful waterfall. As the snow of the Himalayas melts, I can't explain how it feels.

I feel very good, when the birds sing.

As I sit in the edge at home I love to watch the intoxicated hills swaying.

In the middle of the forest, the Lophophorus dance,

And at the sunset feel joyous to watch the divine view.

A herd of cows, buffaloes, calves.

I still remember the days I used to play with the goats grazing the grass.

I was born and raised in the same beautiful village.

An earthquake hit the area while I was travelling to the bus place.

I had to leave my home and live in a strange unfamiliar place.

I could never forget my home, where I belong, the village where I was born.

*Ambika Acharya*





### नमस्कार

मेरो नाम तलिमाया राई हो। म एक गृहणी साथै चेल्लीको वदियार्थी पनि हो। यस चेल्लीमा वी १ स २०७५ वैशाख ८ गते का दिन भर्ना भए र नरिन्तर अध्ययन गरिरहेको छु। यस वदियालयको प्रधानाध्यापकको नाम प्रशान्त वष्टि हो। यस वदियालयमा धेरै शिक्षक-शिक्षिकाले अध्यापन गराउँदै आइरहनुभएको छ।

जस्मा गुरुआमाहरु मोनिका गुरागाई र सुष्मा चौधरी ज्यूले मलाई र मेरो साथीहरुलाई नेपाली वषिय र अङ्ग्रेजी वषिय अध्यापन गराउँदै आइरहनु भएको छ। म यहाँ आएर धेरै कुरा सिकिने मौका पाए साथै शिक्षक शिक्षिकाहरुले धेरै कुरा सिकाउनु भयो। मैले यहाँ आउनुभन्दा अगाडिकै हेर्ने जानेको थिइन, यहीँ आएदेखि यसरी पढ्न र लेख्न सक्षम भएको छु। त्यसै गरी नयाँ साथीहरु सँग भेट्ने मौका पाएँ र आफैँले आफैँलाई भाग्यमानी ठान्दछु। कतिभने यतको उमेरमा हजुरहरु सँग अध्ययन गर्दै विभिन्न क्रियाकलापहरुमा सहभागी हुने मौका पाए। यस्तो महामारीको समयमा पनि अनलाइनमार्फत अध्यापन गराई नै रहनुभयो त्यसमा म हृदय देखिने आभार प्रकट गर्न चाहन्छु, धन्यवाद!

Hello,

My name is Til Maya Rai. I am a homemaker as well as a student of Chelsea. I have been studying in Chelsea since 8th of Baishak, 2075 B.S. The name of the headmaster of our school is Prashanna Bista. Many teachers teach in this school. Likewise, Monica Guragain and Sushma Chaudhary ma'am have been teaching me Nepali and English respectively. I got a chance to learn a lot at this school. Before joining Chelsea I didn't know anything about it. I have been able to read and write after I joined this school. I also got an opportunity to meet new friends. I consider myself as one of the luckiest students of Chelsea because I got a platform to study as well as being able to take part in different programs.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude towards my dear teachers for continuing online classes during the lockdown.

*Til Maya Rai*



चेल्लीमा आएर मैले धेरै कुरा सिकिने मौका पाए पहिलो पटक म ज्यास्मिन मसि सँग पढ्ने मौका पाए। मैले इङ्लिस पढ्न थाले, ६ महिना पछि अचानक म चेल्ली आउन सकिने त्यसपछि दुई वर्ष पछि फेरि आएर चेल्लीमा सुष्मा मसि सँग अब्कड देखि दुई वर्ष सम्म पढ्दा र लेख्दा पनि धेरै राम्रो बढाई दिनुभएको थियो। नेपाली बसिए अनुजा मसिले धेरै राम्रो सँग पढ्दा आउनु भएको थियो र पछि मोनिका मसिसँग पढ्दै छु। नेपाली मीनासी मसिसँग पढ्दै छु। चेल्लीमा आएको ३ वर्ष पुरा भयो। नरिन्तर बढिरहेको छु बती नहुँदा पनि अनलाइनबाट पनि नरिन्तर पढिरहेको छु। चेल्लीमा विभिन्न कार्यक्रम जस्तो नारीदिवस तीज अनहारेक कार्यक्रमहरु भैरख्छ र एक साल नारीदिवसमा गुरुङ्ग ड्रेसमा नाचेको र मञ्चमा गएर बोल्ने मौका पाएकोमा धेरै खुशी छु। चेल्लीले गर्दा मोबाइलमा म्यासेज लेख्न सक्ने भएको छु। चेल्लीले गर्दा धेरै दिदीबहिनीहरुले पढ्न पाउनु भएको छ उनीहरुले पनि राम्रो मौका पाएका छन। मलाई त एकदमै खुसी लागेको छ। चेल्ली परिवारलाई धेरै धेरै धन्यवाद

नानीमाया श्रेष्ठ

After I came to Chelsea, I got an opportunity to learn a lot. The first teacher I learned from was Jasmina ma'am who taught me English. Studying for 6 months with her I suddenly could not continue my classes at Chelsea. Again after two years I joined Chelsea and started from basic (A-Z) with Sushma ma'am and upgraded myself to the next class with Monica ma'am. Later I studied Nepali with Anuja ma'am. After she left the school I started Nepali class with Meenashi ma'am.

I am still a student of the Chelsea Education and Community Center. I have been progressing a lot with my studies. I have many friends at my school. We celebrate different events like Diversity Day, Teej, International Women's Day, Picnic and many more. I also had an opportunity to participate in those programs. I sometimes danced and delivered speeches on stage. This is how I am growing as an individual.

धन्यवाद चेल्ली  
*Nani Maya Shrestha*



## अनुशासन

अनुशासन भन्ने बारे, बुझौ पहिले साथी ।  
यसले नै बनाउछ रे, सबैलाई जातजाति॥

अनुशासन वदियार्थीको, गहना जस्तै हो रे,  
यसको पालना गर्नुपर्छ, यो नै राम्रो हो रे ॥

गुरुलाई आदर गर्नु, अनुशासन हो रे।  
सानालाई माया गर्नु, यो नै राम्रो हो रे ॥

अनुशासन भयो भने, असल हामी हुन्छौ ।  
अनुशासनको अर्थ बुझ्दा, सफल बाटोमा पुग्छौ ॥  
माया देवी श्रेष्ठ

## DISCIPLINE

Understand about discipline, friends.  
That's what makes everyone good.

Discipline for students is like jewelry.  
It must be followed for one's good.

Respecting teachers is discipline.  
Loving the little ones is even better

Discipline makes us a generous person.  
Understanding it leads one to a path of  
success.

*Maya Devi Shrestha*





