

The Indian Thread

Examining the Greater
Beauty of Kachhwa



'We try to examine everything we do in terms of how it can benefit the poor and the oppressed.'

A man that knows the work of an electrician takes students from among the poor and oppressed and teaches them that trade. He does not teach them to be handymen who can fix broken tube-lights and earn ten Rupees here and there, since he thinks they deserve something more excellent, he teaches them the science and the practice so that the poor and oppressed can command thousands in India and abroad. And he glows when he talks about his boys: Like the one who recently got a position in Punjab for Rs. 3500/- plus benefits per month, or the one who got a position with a big company in Mumbai, or the one who made it in Dubai.

Listen to how he thinks: On his birthday it was humid outside; everyone was tired after a long day when we gathered for a dinner party



Birthday cake

to celebrate with him. It was just when everyone was starting to head home that he sat down next to me and asked me a question: "I saw you measuring the land these last few days. How does it work? I want to learn so I can teach it to my students."

We are sitting on a wooden bench in the garden eating his birthday cake at around 10.30pm, we are both tired and sweaty and right there and then he wants to learn how to survey.

And it happened this way because he wants to offer more to the poor and the oppressed.



Electrical engineers from different places

'An upper caste woman is sitting on the ground writing out her exam. Sitting next to her, a Dalit woman is sitting on the ground writing out her exam. It is a revolution.'

And it is a greater revolution than those sentences or words themselves can possibly add to because the greater beauty is not in those words nor in mechanisms just as a body is not only bones and sinews. Have we seen the body with the skin on or have our eyes become like x-rays?

Listen to the lesson: The ministry leader was once teaching God's Word for leadership training among the poor and the oppressed. He was speaking in front of the group, reading from God's Word, and writing certain words and sentences on the blackboard with chalk. After he was finished, as is their custom, one student was chosen to teach the same lesson back to the group by speaking in front of them, by reading from God's Word, and by writing certain words and sentences on the blackboard with chalk. As the

ministry leader was listening to the student re-teach the lesson, he began to correct him about a particular matter. One of the students who was an older man leaned over and told the ministry leader quietly,

"Brother, don't correct him too much, for before this I have never in my life seen a Dalit teach a group of people like this man is doing right now..."

And he said this because he saw a greater beauty...

Matthew Coffey
Director, eMI²

Reflections on eMI²'s visit to Kachhwa Christian Hospital, Mirzapur, U.P. June 2008



Leadership training

After being transplanted out of the front range of Colorado, Matt Bolt has seen how Asia does mountains. Upon completing his junior year of Environmental Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado, Matt has found himself surrounded by the mighty Himalaya Mountains. Along with the change of scenery, Matt has also had to learn to cope with the change in technology... there isn't so much of a market for nano-filtration and reverse osmosis in the villages of India. He has learned to fall back on basic engineering principles and tries to recommend relevant technology to those in need. In his off time he enjoys marveling at the monkeys, getting to know some his fellow interns, and breathing in fresh mountain air.



MATT BOLT



CALEB & ANGELA WALDER

Caleb and Angela Walder from Illinois have been in India and Nepal for a month. They are both recent graduates from the University of Illinois, Caleb in Architecture and Angie in Special Education. During their time in India, they have enjoyed learning to survey, taking pictures of monkeys and being rocked to sleep on the train. They are both grateful for their time at eMi² and look forward to seeing how God will use their experiences in India to influence their future.

PROJECT + INTERN'S

Yvetta had no idea what Environmental Engineering was when she chose it. But freshman year of college, just after she became a believer, she realized that God could use these skills to meet a global need for clean water. Ever since then she's been feeling a tug to go serve. And here she is in India! She loves the rain here and it reminds her of the year she spent at school in New Orleans before the hurricane made her move back to her home state of California. She's about to finish up her last year at Cal Poly, SLO, where she studies and dances Lindy Hop swing.



YVETTA SUROVEC



HEIDI CHAN

After living in 3 different continents, 'project+' architect intern Heidi Chan made her way to South East Asia, this time to India to serve with eMi² on the KCH project trip this summer. Heidi has been working in an architectural firm after graduating from the University of Virginia in 1995. On this project trip, Heidi not only used her architectural talent to design the future master plan for KCH campus, she also played the keyboard, guitar and tabla as the team sang during the devotion time. She was also inspired to write a song after her time in the eMi² office.

Oaklands, Landour Cantt, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand 248179 India www.emi2southasia.org

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This picture was taken on a project trip in Nepal. Our jeep of 11 people had just arrived at a site in the mountains with our survey equipment and food for a cookout at the neighbor's hut. This woman happened to be passing by with her herd of goats as we were unloading the car. The rain wasn't conducive to surveying that day, but we had a great time eating fiery food and watching the local mountain people go about their day to day lives.

Photo taken near Harre, Nepal by Yvetta Surovec on June 20, 2008