

Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha

Registration No. S/56375 of 1987-88

Vill. Ghosaldanga, P.O. Sattore 731 236, Dist. Birbhum, W.B., India

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Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha

Registration No. S/88087 of 1997-98

Vill. Bishnubati, P.O. Sattore 731 236, Dist. Birbhum, W.B., India

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ANNUAL REPORT

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1. Introduction

The Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha (GASS) works in two Santal villages, viz. Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati, situated about 10 km away from the town Bolpur and the University of Santiniketan. Twelve years ago, Bishnubati founded the registered society Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha (BAMS). Hence, the activities at Bishnubati assume their separate identity. However, the two villages continue to cooperate closely. The funding continues to be entirely routed through GASS.

In 1996, the Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (RSV) was founded, a non-formal tribal day school, situated between Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati.

The aim of the Sanghas is the all-round development of the tribal population in these two villages. Its main thrust, however, has been education. The last page presents an overview of the results GASS has achieved in the last 24 years. Other areas of work have been: medical aid, family health and hygiene, fishery, vocational training, museum of Santal culture, bio-farming and, last but not least, the maintenance and dissemination of Santal culture.

The Sangha has been enlisted under Section 80 G of the Income Tax Act, 1961, by which anybody donating an amount to the organisation, can receive exemption from income tax in India.

In 2002, the Ghosaldanga Bishnubati Adibasi Trust (GBAT) has been founded at Kolkata. The primary intention of the Trust is to provide continuity to the work and security to the employees of GASS and BAMS, and also to give occasional assistance to various Non-Governmental Organisations working with the needy, poor, destitute, downtrodden people, primarily of rural India (for details see Deed of the Trust). The Trust members are the senior members of GASS and BAMS and some prominent and like-minded personalities from Kolkata. The Trust continues to support these two tribal organizations ideally and financially.

2. Managing Committees

The Managing Committee of **Ghosaldanga** has been constituted on 12th June 2008. Given below are their name, designation and profession:

Mohan Hembrom	President	Farmer
Dudu Murmu	Vice-President	Farmer
Sona Murmu	Secretary	Social Worker
Nilu Murmu	Assistant Secretary	Farmer
Lakshmiram Tudu	Treasurer	Social Worker
Bijoy Tudu	Member	Farmer
Dhona Hansda	Member	Farmer
Dasarath Murmu	Member	Teacher
Balui Murmu	Member	Tailor

The Managing Committee meets whenever the need arises to take decisions.

The Managing Committee of **Bishnubati** is given below with their names, designation and profession:

1. Boro Baski	President	Farmer
2. Dhona Soren	Vice-President	Artist
3. Ramjit Mardi	Secretary	Teacher
4. Gobinda Baski	Assistant Secretary	Student
5. Bimol Baski	Treasurer	Social Worker
6. Suno Mardi	Member	Farmer
7. Mongla Mardi	Member	Farmer
8. Jithu Baski	Member	Farmer
9. Sanyasi Lohar	Member	Farmer

3. The Sangha Council

The Managing Committees are supported by the Sangha Council which meets once a month and discusses all vital development problems and future projects of GASS, BAMS and RSV. It consists of the educated members of the Sangha who assume leadership in the process of decision-making and the execution of these decisions.

- > Sona Murmu, Ghosaldanga, Secretary GASS, in charge of all activities at Ghosaldanga, overall in charge of the RSV Bio-Orchard.
- > Boro Baski, Bishnubati, President BAMS and Founding Teacher of RSV; also in charge of RSV Hostel (till Sept, 2009) and of correspondence.
- > Gokul Hansda, Dhanyasara, Founding Teacher and teacher-in-charge of RSV, also in charge of Santal cultural programmes and excursions.
- > Monotosh Das, Bolpur, full-time worker of the RSV Bio-Orchard and marketing.
- > Snehadri Sekhar Chakravarti, Asst. Engineer, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan; in charge of construction and repair work as well as of the financial management of GASS and BAMS.
- > Sanyasi Lohar, Bishnubati, artist and art teacher, social worker.

- > Bimol Baski, Bishnubati, kindergarten teacher, Treasurer of BAMS and in charge of Vocational training Centre, Bishnubati.
- > Pintu Ghosh, Bishnubati, teacher of the Secondary Coaching Centre and co-ordinator, BAMS.
- > Lakhiram Tudu, treasurer of GASS and teacher of the evening school (Primary section).
- > Ramjit Mardi, Secretary of BAMS and teacher of secondary Coaching Centre,
- > Martin Kämpchen, Santiniketan, advisor to GASS and BAMS; link to the "Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati" (Germany).

4. Education

Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati each run a Kindergarten (with lunch), a Primary Coaching Centre (for students of class I to IV) and a Secondary Coaching Centre (for students of class V to X) in their respective villages. The Kindergartens operate in the mornings, the Coaching Centres work in the early mornings and in the evenings. In addition, the Sanghas run a day school, i.e. a non-formal Santal school called the Rolf Schoembs Vid-yashram (RSV).

Participation:	Ghosaldanga	Bishnubati
Kindergarten	18 (male 10, female 8)	33 (male 20, female 13)
Primary Coaching Centre	25 (male 12, female 13)	43 (male 18, female 25)
Secondary Coaching Centre	19 (male 7, female 12)	43 (male 17, female 26)

- * Lunch was given to all kindergarten children for six days a week.
- * Four students appeared in the Madhyamik examination from Bishnubati (School Final after class X) last year, in which two have passed.
- * Asha Murmu (Ghosaldanga) is studying in B.A degree in second year.
- * Ramjit Mardi (Bishnubati) is persuing his third B.A degree, now in history, through correspondence, his earlier B.A degree was in physical education from Visva Bharati University.
- * Gobinda Baski, and Uttom Baski (Bishnubati), Mona Murmu and Dasarath Murmu (Ghosaldanga) are studying for their B.A Degree in the final year.
- * Gopal Murmu (Ghosaldanga) is now studying for his M. A. in History (final year) at Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.
- * The teachers are: Parbati Murmu, Bimol Baski (Kindergarten); Lakshmiram Tudu, Narayan Hansda and Suno Mardi (Primary Coaching Centres); Swapan Ghosh, Pintu Ghosh, Bimol Patra, Ramjit Mardi, Mangal Tudu, Dasarath Murmu and Kishor Kumar Saha (Secondary Coaching Centres).

5. Educational, Recreational and Cultural Programmes

(a) VILLAGE EVENTS

- * On 5th September 2009, Teachers' Day was celebrated with a football competition between the students and teachers on the Ghosaldanga playground.
- * From 16th to 18th August and 19th to 26th September, a fishery training programme was organised in Ghosaldanga in collaboration with the Department of Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.
- * On 27th August, a special meeting was organised at Bishnubati on the medical activities in our villages. Apart from all senior members of the organisation, Dr. Monika Golembiewski, Silvia Mangatter and Nico Golembiewski, Germany, were present. Dr. Monika conducted the meeting.
- * On 3rd September, Dr. Monika Golembiewski, Sona Murmu and Boro Baski visited the families of the sponsored children to see their development and to decide whether they needed further support. Besides terminating some old sponsorships, some new children have been included in this scheme. At present, 14 economically needy, orphaned or handicapped, malnourished children / students are being supported by this scheme in various ways.
- * On 19th September, about 16 students of Social Work (IGNOU) from St. Xavier's College, Kolkata came to Bishnubati to gather first-hand experience about village organisations working with tribals. Visiting such institutions is the part of their course.
- * On 29th October, Parboti Murmu of Ghosaldanga and Ramjit Mardi of Bishnubati have joined as new members of the Sangha Council, the second highest decision making group of the organisation. The other two groups are the Trustee Board and the two village executive committees. Parboti is the only female member of the 13-member council board after Leena Murmu left two years ago.
- * On 9th December, Martin Kämpchen's birthday was celebrated at RSV school with joy and enthusiasm. Students and teachers from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati performed a cultural programme.
- * From 5th to 9th February 2010, a three members team of 'Friends of Gosaldanga and Bishnubati in Germany' (FGBG), Marianne Pal Chowdhury, Hedwig Oser and Dr. Ulrich Oser, visited to the villages. They studied the activities of the RSV school, at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. A number of meetings were organised with the teachers, village leaders and students. A special meeting was also organised between the FGBG members and Trust (GBAT) members in Kolkata.
- * On 25th February, as in previous years the 'Adibasi Baha Parab' was celebrated in Ghosaldanga with enthusiasm. Hundreds of people from different parts of Birbhum Dis-

trict participated with their traditional folk groups and musical instruments. The programme started at noon and continued till next morning. This year's 'Baha Parab Award' was given to the renowned Santali traditional singer Sri Lalsushant Soren of Jharkhand. In this occasion, a bi-lingual book 'Ashoorja Thakur-da' was launched. The book, originally written in Bengali by Kumar Rana, was translated into Santali by Boro Baski. This was the 21st year of the festival.

(b) EXCURSIONS – EVENTS – TRAINING outside the villages

* On 10th July, as every year Sona Murmu, Gokul Hansda and Boro Baski spoke on the Santal community and the challenges they face in modern society in front of the Jesuit brothers and priests at Parasmoni (Jesuit Theological Centre), Santiniketan. They also shared the strategies the organisation has adopted to address those challenges. Fr. Solomon of Dumka Jesuit Province moderated the session.

* On 27th August, a community bathroom-and-toilet was inaugurated at Bishnubati Hindu village. On this occasion, a colourful cultural programme was organised by the villagers. Pintu Ghosh, a leader of the village, put up a Bengali street play explaining points of Health and Hygiene, highlighting the importance in the use of toilets. On 1st September, a similar kind of bathroom-and-toilet was inaugurated at Rindanga village, too. Nico Golembiewski and Silvia Mangatter, two German students who were instrumental in building them, were present on both the occasions. Other special guests were Dr. Monika Golembiewski, Dr. Martin Kämpchen (in Bishnubati only), Snehadri Shekar Chakraborty, Gokul Hansda, Sona Murmu and many respected people of the villages. This was the first time that such a community toilet-and-bathroom was started in these villages. They are to be maintained by the community.

6. The Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (RSV)

The Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (phone: 03463-235 258) is a non-formal Santal School situated half a kilometre from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. The school was founded by Boro Baski and Gokul Hansda in 1996, who remain its full-time teachers. The three part-time teachers are Hiralal Khan, Ranjit Khan and Mona Murmu. Barhan Hansda (till August), a Santal artist and ex student of Kala Bhavana, paints, draws and models with the children.

The school organises several regular programmes throughout the year. They include the celebration of Teachers Day (on 5th September), of Rabindranath Tagore's Birthday (in the beginning of May), and of Independence Day of India, which is also the Foundation Day of RSV (on 15th August). Other programmes are organised occasionally.

* On 2nd November 2009, a meeting of the Trustee board was held at Santiniketan. Jaykrishna Kayal, a Trustee of the GBAT board has been deputed as special supervisor and guide for the educational programmes of the organisation by the Trustee board.

* On 3rd November 2009, Mary Ann Dasgupta, a Trustee of the GBAT board and the most senior well wisher of the organisation, visited the school. A colourful programme was organised in her honour.

7. Hihiri Pipiri (Hostel)

Hihiri Pipiri is a students' home situated next to the RSV school. The home started as a Day Care Centre in 2006 and transformed into a full-fledged home for the students in 2007. During the year under review, 12 students (8 boys and 4 girls) were staying in the hostel. All students are former RSV students who come from difficult and deprived family-backgrounds. After passing out from RSV at the end of the 4th school year, they enter the hostel. They study at the near-by government school, and after school they spend the day in the peaceful environment of the RSV campus. There they do their class work under a teacher's guidance, they play, sing, paint and work in the garden of the school campus. Some of the year's extra-activities are given below.

* On 18th September 2009, hostel students took part in the cultural programmes organized by Suchana school, a neighbouring school run by an NGO, on its Foundation Day.

* On 8th and 9th March 2010, the students took part in a feature film being shot in the hostel campus. A team of 60 members based at Ghosaldanga for four days took shots at various locations in and around the village. The director of the film is Shizar Das, Kolkata.

8. Bio-orchard (on RSV Campus)

Biological farming (farming without pesticides and chemical fertiliser) is a great need in our country. To set an example to the farmers in our area and to have a source of income in harmony with village life, this orchard was started four years ago under the guidance of Srikanta Mondal. Hundreds of fruit trees grow on the RSV campus now. Srikanta Mondal has meanwhile transferred his responsibilities to Monotosh Das, a full-time worker. Monotosh tends the entire orchard and regularly sells fruits, vegetables and by-products like jam and jelly at local markets in Bolpur and Santiniketan. The bio-orchard is still growing and developing. So far it has not yet given us sufficient profit in return for our investment.

Since last year, the parents of the sponsored children (.i.e. the children who get financial support for their education) work in the Bio-orchard once a week in return for the support they receive for their wards.

9. Vocational Training Centre (VTC)

The Vocational Training Centre (VTC) was started in 2001 at Bishnubati with the financial support of the German NGO Agape, Heidelberg. The centre organises various kinds of training programmes, seminars and workshops related to income generation activities. At present, ten Women-Self-Help Groups are actively associated with the Centre, which provides them technical and practical support in their initiatives. All the members of these groups have started rearing domestic animals like goats, ducks, pigs in the traditional way to bring extra income to their families.

The Museum of Santal Culture is situated at VTC building and continues to receive visitors.

Some important events of VTC is given below:

* From 13th to 15th April and 27th to 28th June, 2009, Dr. Deboprasad Chatterjee, Maulana Azad College and his student Debkolpa Basu Das stayed in Bishnubati to do an in-depth assessment of the activities of the Women-Self –Help Groups. Initially, there were five groups of 25 women engaged in different income generation programmes, satisfied with the progress of their activities the funding agency proposed to organise five more groups for the programme.

* On 25th July, the vaccination of domestic animals was conducted in collaboration with Block level Animal Husbandry Department of the government.

* From September 2009, a Computer training course is being conducted for the teachers and college students of the organisation.

10. Hospitality and Partnerships

We welcomed to our villages: Dr. Monika and Nico Golembiewski, Silvia Mangatter, Germany; Marianne Pal Chowdhury, Dr. Ulrich and Hedwig Oser, Frankfurt, Germany; Syamoli Tan Khastgir, artist, Santiniketan; Samiran Nandy, photographer, Santiniketan; Barka Soren, Sriniketan; Deboprasad Chatterjee, Maulana Azad College, Kolkata and Debkolpa Basu Das, of Agape, Kolkata; Lalsusant Soren, Dumka, Jharkhand; Theophil Hembrom, Monoranjan Murmu and Joseph Hembrom, Bandel, Hooghly; M. Thung, JNU, New Delhi; Sk Riaz, Bolpur; Shizar Das and his film team, Kolkata.

11. “Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati”, Germany

In 2008, the ‘Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati’ obtained German government registration in Frankfurt. In the past, the group functioned informally, headed by Dr.-Ing. Mandaresh Mitra and his wife, Dipl.-Päd. Roswitha Mitra. Presently, the organisation has a new executive body under the leadership of Marianne Pal Chowdhury. The organisation disseminates information about our work and awareness about the Indian village situation in Germany. They also take the lead in collecting donations for our Sanghas. We are very grateful to them! Only with their help, we can continue to function. We continue to work closely with the Kindermissionswerk (The Pontifical Mission of Holy Childhood) / “Sternsinger” Aachen (Germany), and receive help from them. We also put on record our indebtedness to Dr. Monika Golembiewski for her dedicated medical and social service in our villages.

The Meditation Centre Sonnenhaus in Beuron (Germany) donates a substantial amount every year towards our regular expenses.

Further, Agape e.V., Heidelberg (Germany), headed by Christine Weitmann, has continued to support the VTC at Bishnubati.

12. Sponsorship

For the last several years, Dr. Monika Golembiewski has personally collected money in Germany to support some of the sick and physically weak children and mothers of our villages.

Since the last two years, we have also started the sponsorship programme for needy students. After selecting the students and receiving their personal data, Dr. Monika Golembiewski and Marianne Pal Chowdhury collected a number of like-minded persons who are willing to help these students. This year we have 22 sponsored students who are being supported in various ways. As a policy, any one of the family members of the sponsored child should give one day of work in the campus of the RSV school. The work includes tilling the soil in the Bio-orchard, cleaning the garden or repairing thatched roofs etc.

13. Health, Nutrition and Sanitation

Dr. Monika Golembiewski, Germany, who visits the villages twice a year, also collects donations for medical purposes. Satyaban Ray, a trained homeopath and health worker, keeps direct and regular contact with the patients. He is supported by three health workers, Parboti Murmu, Hiralal Khan and Putul Hansda. From 1st April 2009, Dr. Sitaram Banerjee, a general physician of the Government Primary Health Centre, Sattore, has taken begun visiting our village patients once a week. Dr. [First name?] Ghosh, who had served the villagers for more than two years, resigned. Dr. Banerjee has been treating the patients and helping them to get admission into hospital; he also guides Satyaban Ray in serious medical cases.

As in previous years, Dr. Monika Golembiewski treated patients at Ghosaldanga and neighbouring villages. Silvia Mangatter and Nico Golembiewski, students from Germany, joined her. Silvia and Nico helped us to start the special Nutrition programme at Bishnubati and Ghosaldanga in collaboration with “Manab Jamin”, Bolpur and ‘Indienhilfe’, Herrsching (Germany). This programme was mainly started for the malnourished children of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati in 2007 and after one year Rindanga Korapara was included. The children were selected through special health check-ups camps and then included in the programme. Satisfied with the health improvement of the targeted children and pregnant women who were under this scheme too, the nutrition programme at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati was closed in 2009. But the programme at Rindanga Korapara is continuing because of the children’s lower health improvement. From February 2010, another two villages were included, viz. Panchabanpur and Bautijol.

Supporting villagers to build a community toilet-and-bathroom is another project which we started this year. The project started in Rindanga, Bishnubati Hindu village and Panchabanpur. As mentioned, two community toilet-and-bathroom were inaugurated, viz. in Bishnubati Hindu village and Rindanga.

The following were serious medical cases, which were looked after last year.

* Mausomi Hembrom (10 years) of Bautijol is paralysed in both legs. The organisation has taken the case in March 2009. Dr. Swapan Mukherjee (Neurologist), Kolkata, made an M.R.I. and suggested an operation. Other treatment like physiotherapy is continuing.

* Sanjoy Soren (2 years) of Ram Lakhan Danga village had heart problem. After the check up in March 2010, he was referred to Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Science Hospital, Kolkata. On 29th March, he was operated successfully and now medication continues at home.

* Saraswati Hembrom (27 years) of Bishnubati village had broken her patalla (Knee) and was operated on 1st November 2009. The pain has eased, but she is not fully cured.

* Puja Hembrom (8 months) had Pnurothrox and was in very serious condition. She was taken to Burdwan and had a successful operation on 25th May 2009. Unfortunately, her father died four months later due to a tetanus infection.

* Maloti Hembrom (4 years) of Khelodanga has got spinal TB and paralysis. She was admitted to Puspa Child Centre, Kolkata, in February 2009 is still under treatment.

* Sukurmoni Murmu (26 years) of Bishnubati had got burns. For three months her parents did not accept medical treatment and fully depended on the treatment of an Ojha (traditional medicine man). After her condition worsened, her parents allowed Dr. Monika to treat her. Sukurmoni is almost cured now.

* A Tuberculosis eradication drive has been launched by the Sangha's medical practitioner Satyaban Roy in collaboration with Government health centre through Direct Observed Treatment with Short Course Therapy (DOT). In this programme the medicine is being provided by Government health centre. The health worker has to follow up every case until the patient is cured. It is a course of six months. At present there are 12 patients, among them three are almost cured, and 9 are under medication.

14. Births and Deaths

BIRTHS

At Bishnubarti/Ashadullapur:

* Sanchita Hansda-	D/o Rupai Hansda
* Rajdhani Baski-	D/o Mithun Baski
* Raimoni Murmu-	D/o Thakur and Saraswati Murmu
* Lakhi Hembrom-	D/o Sukol and Golapi Hembrom
* Pallabi Hembrom-	D/o Mongol and Dasi Hembrom
* Shubho Baski -	S/o Chandan Baski
* Kalisa Baski-	D/o Barka Baski
* Sabitri Soren-	D/o Gupin and Fhuli Soren
* Priti Baski -	D/o Balai Baski

At Ghosaldanga:

* Palas Tudu- M - (30/4/2009)-	S/o Budon and Sundari Tudu
* Abhijit Tudu – M - (01/05/2009)-	S/o Rentu and Basanti Tudu
* Nilanjan Murmu – M – (26/05/2009)-	S/o Narayan and Putul Murmu

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|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| * Akash Murmu – M – (09/10/2009) - | S/o Bului and Budin Murmu |
| * Kabita Murmu – F – (21/09/2009) - | D/o Robi and Sumoti Murmu |
| * Pranoy Murmu – M- (05/02/2010) - | S/o Sunil and Maloti Murmu |
| * Kanchan Tudu – M – (17/03/2010)- | S/o Basudev and Sundari Tudu |
| * Barsha Murmu – F – (23/03/2010)- | D/o Mongla and Makhani Murmu |
| * Kobita Kisku – F- (24/02/2010)- | D/o Sokol and Rashmoni Kisku |

DEATHS

At Bishnubati:

- * Mohini Murmu (F-72 years)- Late Rosik Murmu's wife
- * Sundari Tudu (F- 75 years) – Late Ram Tudu's wife
- * Charan Murmu (M- 65 years)- Sarmoni's father
- * Hopna Murmu (M-60 years)- Thakur Murmu
- * Budin Mardi (F-65 years)

At Ghosaldanga:

- * Bhairov Murmu (M- 45 years, 18/06/2009) elder brother of Sona Murmu
- * Monui Murmu (M-65 years, July 2009) father of Bului Murmu
- * Monjoy Tudu (M-65 years, February 2010)
- * Hopna Murmu (M-70 years, 09/09/09) father of Nilu Murmu

Educational Achievements at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati

An Overview

The *Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha* and *Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha*, two registered organisations, work in the two Santal villages Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati for the last 24 years. From their inception the Sangha's main focus has been education. When they began, each village had only one single student who had passed the Madhyamik Examination. They were Sona Murmu in Ghosaldanga and Boro Baski in Bishnubati. No other student attended High School then. Since Sona and Boro began to organise the educational activities in their respective village, the picture gradually changed. Each of the two villages now operates

- * one kindergarten (with lunch),
- * one coaching centre for Primary School pupils (evenings),
- * one coaching centre for Secondary School students (mornings and evenings).

Since 1996 the Sangha runs the *Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (RSV)*, a non-formal Santal School situated between Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. Children from these two villages attend classes during the day. The main aim of our school (RSV) is to develop an appropriate teaching method and syllabus suitable in a Santal village context.

The following statistics represents the *combined total* of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati.

Total population : 769 persons.

Ghosaldanga: male 156, female 131 = 287 persons

Bishnubati : male 258, female 233 = 481 persons

Kindergarten: male 30, female 21 = 51 pupils

Coaching Centres:

Primary Level: male 30, female 38 = 68 pupils

Secondary Level: male 24, female 38 = 62 pupils

Since the beginning of the Sangha's educational activities, the following number of students passed the following examinations:

Madhyamik 20

Higher Secondary 7

B.A. 2 (Ramjit Mardi and Gopal Murmu)

B.S.W., M.S.W. 1 (Boro Baski)

Post-Diploma in Fine Arts 1 (Sanyasi Lohar)

13 students have passed the examinations of class IX. 7 students are presently in College and preparing themselves for graduation.

Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram: 5 classes, 83 pupils (male 37, female 46)

The *Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha* and *Bishnuabti Adibasi Marshal Sangha* have 7 full time teachers and 11 part time teachers. This excludes unpaid volunteers recruited from the senior students of both villages.