

Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha

Registration No. S/56375 of 1987-88

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Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha

Registration No. S/88087 of 1997-98

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Annual Report

1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013

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. Thirteen 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 SchoembsVidyashram (RSV) was founded, a non-formal Santal day school, situated between Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati.

The aim of the Sanghas and of the school is the all-round development of the tribal population in these two villages and in many neighbouring villages. Its main thrust, however, has been education. The last page presents an overview of the results GASS has achieved in the last 27 years. Other areas of work have been: medical aid, family health and hygiene, fishery, vocational training, maintaining a Museum of Santal Culture, bio-farming and, last but not least, the maintenance and dissemination of Santal culture.

GASS 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 Organizations 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 the names, designation and profession of its members:

Name	Designation	Profession
1. Mohan Hembrom	President	Farmer
2. Dudu Murmu	Vice-President	Farmer

3. Sona Murmu	Secretary	Social Worker
4. Nilu Murmu	Assistant Secretary	Farmer
5. Lakshmiram Tudu	Treasurer	Social Worker
6. Bijoy Tudu	Member	Farmer
7. Dhona Hansda	Member	Farmer
8. Dasarath Murmu	Member	Teacher
9. Balui Murmu	Member	Tailor

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

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

Name	Designation	Profession
1. Boro Baski	President	Teacher
2. Dhona Soren	Vice-President	Farmer
3. Ramjit Mardi	Secretary	Govt. employee
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	Artist

3. Forums of Decision-Making

(a) The Sangha Council

The Managing Committees are supported by the Sangha Council which meets as often as possible and necessary 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 In-charge of RSV and of correspondence.
- > Gokul Hansda, Dhanyasara, Co-founder of RSV and 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 (VTC), Bishnubati.
- > Pintu Ghosh, Bishnubati, teacher of the Secondary Coaching Centre at RSV and co-ordinator, BAMS.
- > LakhiramTudu, treasurer of GASS and teacher of the evening school (Primary section).
- > Ramjit Mardi, Secretary of BAMS and teacher of Secondary Coaching Centre,

- > Parbati Murmu, health worker in Ghosaldanga.
- > Martin Kämpchen, Santiniketan, advisor to GASS and BAMS; link-person to the "Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati" (Germany).

(b) The Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meets regularly to formulate and discuss programmes, take decisions on policy and financial matters and supervise village work in general. The matters discussed are generally placed before the Council. The members of the Finance Committee are: Sona Murmu, Boro Baski, Gokul Hansda, Snehadri S. Chakraborty and Martin Kämpchen.

(c) The Junior Leaders

It is imperative that leadership qualities are being developed in the second generation of students who follow the seniors Sona Murmu, Boro Baski, and Sanyasi Lohar. Under the guidance of Martin Kämpchen a group of seven students meet regularly to discuss programmes and projects which they begin to conduct and execute responsibly and independently from the senior leadership.

4. Education

Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati each run 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 Bishnubati the Kindergarten has merged with the government-run Anganwadi Centre. The children get the benefit of two teachers. In Ghosaldanga the Anganwadi Centre works without the support from a Santal teacher. 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 Vidyashram (RSV).

Type of School	Ghosaldanga	Bishnubati
Kindergarten/Anganwadi centre	63 (M-31, F-32)	57 (M-29 ,F-28)
Primary coaching centre	21 (M-9, F-12)	34 (M-20, F-14)
Secondary coaching centre	18 (M-8, F-10)	42 (M-14, F-28)

* Lunch was given to all Kindergarten/Anganwadi children for six days a week.

* From 2013 three more evening coaching centres for primary school students have been opened in three Santal villages. The new centres are Bautijol, Panchabanpur and Bandlodanga. The report of these centres has been given separately.

Students of Class XI-XII and B.A

Villages	Class-XI-XII	B.A
Ghosaldanga	6 (M-2, F-4)	13(M-4,F-9)
Bishnubati	21 (M-10, F-11)	14(M-8,F-6)
Total	27	27

* The above students' number is of the current year. The students who have passed class X and above and have left studies or have been absorbed in various jobs have not been included here. Their figure has been given at the end of the report in *The Overview*.

Employees of Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati and RSV at a glance

Sl. No	Department	No. of employees	Name of employees
1	Kindergarten	2	Bimol Baski
2	Primary Coaching Centres	3	LakhiramTudu, Narayan Murmu, Suno Mardi
3	RSV (KG – class IV)	6	Boro Baski, Mono Murmu, Ranjit Khan (also Warden of the Boys’ Hostel), Konika Khan, Pada Murmu (also Warden of the Girls’ Hostel), Uttom Baski
4	Secondary Coaching Centre (Class V – VIII)	5	Dasarath Murmu, Mongal Tudu, Bimol Patra, Ramjet Mardi, Swapan Ghosh
5	Coaching Centre (Class-V – VIII) at RSV	2	Deep Das (Mathematics), Samir Kr. Das (English),
6	Hostel(RSV) Class V–X	2	Pintu Ghosh (morning), Gobinda Baski
7	Health Workers	3	Satyanarayan Roy, Rani Baski, Parbati Murmu
7	Cooks	2	Dhona Hansda, Shusila Hansda
8	Garden/Bio-orchard	2	Monotosh Das, Mongal Tudu
9	Night Guards	2	Rupai Hembrom, Nobin Baski
10	Administrator	1	Sona Murmu

* Most of the teachers are part-timers. The full-time teachers perform administrative duties besides teaching. For example, Pintu Ghosh, who teaches at the hostel in the morning, also looks after the accounts of BAMS at Bishnubati in the evening. Bimol Baski, Ramjit Mardi and LakhiramTudu too perform other duties besides teaching.

5. Educational, Recreational and Cultural Programmes

(a) VILLAGE EVENTS

* On 9th April 2012, the Annual ‘Children Fair’ was organised at Bishnubati. This year also members of several ‘Self-Help Groups’ put up their food shops at the fair. A cultural programme too was organised at the fair. The whole village, especially the children, enjoyed the evening thoroughly. The special attraction of the evening programme was the musical performance of the newly founded Santali orchestra by the village youth.

*On 14th July, a group of seven teachers from ‘Mongal Deep Ashram’ Jhantipahari, Bankura visited RSV school and other village works. The group was accompanied by Fr. Moli Sj, the director of the Ashram.

* On 20th November, a team of scientists from the Bose Institute, Falta, Dist. 24 Parganas, came to visit the organisation. They saw the fishery pond of Bishnubati, Ghosaldanga and RSV school campus to assess the feasibility of starting the income generation programmes like fishery, bee keeping, mushroom etc. The visit was organised by Dr. Hirak Ghosh, a former Secretary to the government and teacher of Bose Institute.

* On 9th December, as every year, the villagers of Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati and the friends of Martin-da (Martin Kämpchen), Santiniketan, celebrated his birthday. This year the celebration was organized at RSV. On this occasion the new Girls' Hostel was inaugurated at RSV campus by Sushanta Dattagupta, Vice-Chancellor of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan. It is the first time that we have a concrete flat-roof building in our organisation. Till now we always had houses covered with a tin, tiles or thatch. The Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operation (BMZ) of the German government had provided most of the funds to construct this building, and our German support group 'Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati' played a big role in getting this project sanctioned. Snehadri S. Chakraborty, Santiniketan, an engineer, planned and executed the construction.

* On 19th – 20th December, a two-days Youth Leadership Camp was organised at the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) at Bishnubati. 30 youths from Bishnubati and Ghosaldanga took part in this brain-storming session on Santal development, problems and its solutions. Fr. D. Soloman Sj and Dr. Shusil Marandi from Dumka, Jharkhand were the main instructors of the workshop.

*From 27th to 31st January 2013, the 'Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati' Frankfurt (Germany) made their annual visit. They saw the projects of Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati and RSV and had several meetings and discussions with the senior and junior leaders of the organisation. The members of the team were Marianne Pal Chowdhury, with Hedwig and Dr. Ulrich Oser (all from Frankfurt).

* On 14th February, Alik Habigt, a German student volunteer who stayed three months in the organisation last year returned for a month again this year. She had come with a photographer. Alik prepared a wonderful gymnastic dance with the hostel students as she did in the last year.

*From 14th to 27th February, a group of thirteen German university students came to study the activities of the organisation. Ronald Kurt, the professor of the students, was the organiser of this tour. The group was based at Santiniketan and used to come to the villages by cycle regularly. They were divided into several groups according to their interest and interacted with people accordingly. One group joined the music class with students, another the art class or some of them preferred simply to visit the villages observing the daily lives of the villagers. Both, the German students and the villagers enriched each other by sharing and interacting in these two weeks. On 25th Ronald Kurt and Boro Baski visited Bandel, a small town near Kolkata where Boro Baski's family lives. This is part of the documentary film that Ronald Kurt prepared on the work of Ghosaldanga-Bishnubati and its people. Rajen Sarkar supported the group coordinating the activities in Santiniketan and the villages.

* On 17th February, the farewell of Jakob Dörr, a German student volunteer, was held at Bishnubati. Hundreds of villagers gathered at the old campus of BAMS for this occasion. Jakob stayed at Sanyasi Lohar's family for five months and integrated well with all sections of the community. He had a children's group at RSV and used to make handicrafts and play football with them regularly. There was also a High School group to whom he used to teach English and give computer lessons. He attended various football matches in the neighbouring villages. Because of his jovial and fun-loving personality everybody in the villages liked him. The students of Ronald Kurt also attended the programme and sang a song for the audience.

* On 24th March, the **Twenty-Fourth Annual Adibasi Baha Parab** (Santal Spring Festival) was celebrated in Ghosaldanga with great enthusiasm. Like every year hundreds of people from different parts of Birbhum District participated. This year 18 Santal folk groups with their traditional dress and musical instruments took part. The special attraction of this year's folk dance was the participation and performance of the Santal folk group from Dumka, Jharkhand. The festival started at noon and continued till next morning. Six Santali drama groups performed their plays throughout the night. This year the 'Baha Parab Award' was conferred on the well-known Santal writer Saradaprasad Kisku of Purulia, presently residing at Kolkata. Krishna Mardi, Additional District Magistrate of Birbhum (Development), was the chief guest of the programme.

* On 15th March, International Women's Day was celebrated at Bishnubati with a theatre play and various cultural programmes. The students of the Social Work Department, Visva-Bharati, were the main organizers of the programme in which several professors and staff members of the Department took part.

* On 20th March, Mukhi Tudu (Marango), former cook and one of the oldest employees of GASS was given a formal farewell at the RSV Girls' Hostel building after 28 years of dedicated service. In the beginning the kitchen was run in her family and she used to serve food to Martin Kämpchen (Martin-da) and all friends and guests of the organisation in a homely manner until the kitchen shifted to Shantiban in 1996. Because of her motherly behaviour she is loved by all.

* Santal musical programmes, computer training for senior teachers of the organisation continued for the whole year at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. These programmes were supported by the Tribal Cultural Heritage in India Foundation, The Netherlands.

(b) EXCURSIONS – EVENTS – TRAINING outside the villages

* On 22nd May, Boro Baski gave an interview on the village work at the FM radio channel of All India Radio, Santiniketan.

* On 27th July, Boro Baski submitted the translation work of Rabindranath Tagore's play 'Raktakarabi' from Bengali into Santali to Samantak Das, professor at Jadavpur University, Kolkata. The work was one of the projects of the Tagore Research Centre of the university headed by Ananda Lal, professor in the English Department of Jadavpur University, to commemorate 150th Birth-anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. 'Raktakarabi' is one of the famous plays of Tagore. This is the first time the play has been translated into Santali.

* On 6th August, the senior students of RSV school attended a workshop on painting at Shymali Khastgir's (Shymali-di's) residence at Palash, Purvapalli, Santiniketan. Shymali Khastagir was an artist by profession and a well-known face of the Ashram in Santiniketan. The workshop was organised by her group of friends in remembrance of her 1st death anniversary (15th August 2011).

* On 29th August, the annual Trust Board Meeting was held at 'Bingsho Shatabdi' book house, Park Street, Kolkata. Sandhi Mukherjee (Rtd. IPS), one of the Trust members, had organised the meeting there. All seven board members were present.

* From 7th to 15th October, Monotosh Das went to Bose Institute, Falta, for training in Mushroom Cultivation, Beekeeping and Vermiculture. Along with him went Mongol Tudu and Narayan Hansda of Ghosaldanga.

* From 11th to 15th December, the girls of the RSV Girls' Hostel went on an excursion to the Bose Institute at Falta (District South 24-Parganas) on the bank of the Ganges, to Sagar Dwip and Kolkata, accompanied by the German volunteers Judith Drexler und Hannah Beckmann (who sponsored the trip) and Pintu Ghosh.

*On 24th – 25th January, Boro Baski attended the Santal Literary Meet at Dumka, Jharkhand. Ivy Hansda, Associate Professor of English, Jamia Millia University, New Delhi, and Fr. D. Soloman, Director, Human Resource Development, Dumka, were the main organisers of the meet. More than hundred Santali writers and students gathered from various parts of Jharkhand and West Bengal. Tribal Cultural Heritage in India Foundation of the Netherlands had financed the meet through the Ghosaldanga Bishnubati Adibasi Trust.

*On 22nd and 23rd February, Boro Baski delivered two lectures at Visva-Bharati University. On 22nd he presented a paper on the educational experiment of the Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram at the national seminar organised by Patha Bhavana to mark the 150th Birth-anniversary of Tagore. On 23rd February Boro Baski gave a special lecture on the experiences of translating Tagore's famous play 'Raktakarabi' into Santali at Patha Chakra in the Central Library hall.

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. Gokul Hansda was its full-time teacher until June 2010, Boro Baski remains its Principal to date. The three part-time teachers are Mono Murmu, Uttom Baski, Konika Khan. Two full-time teachers, Ranjit Khan and Pada Murmu (from April 2013), are also the Wardens of the Boys' and Girls' Hostels respectively. Pada Murmu, an ex-student of RSV, and a resident of Bishnubati, has joined as a teacher and Girls' Warden in place of Sumoti Mardi who left this post in March 2012. Baidyanath Murmu, a Santal artist and ex-student of Kala Bhavan, had painted, drew and made models with the children until February 2013 and then left due to personal reasons. Since then Sanyasi Lohar, and ex-student of Kala Bhavan and resident of Ashadullapur, joined. There are also two cooks, Dhona Hansda and Sushila Hansda, who cook for the school and hostel students.

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. This year RSV had 81 students (M-41, F-40).

In July 2010, a special Coaching Centre for classes IX to X has been started at the RSV campus. The idea behind this Centre is to provide quality teaching and guidance to the students who prepare themselves for their final examination (class X). Another reason is to reduce the pressure of the teachers in the village centres at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati who already suffer from the shortage of quality teachers. This year there were 26 (M-10, F-16) students and three teachers in the Coaching Centre. Some of the activities of the RSV are given below-

* On 1st May 2012, the demolition of the oldest and first building made of sun-dried bricks at the RSV school campus was started. In the beginning the building was used as teachers' quarters. Gokul Hansda and Boro Baski stayed in it for several years. Later, it was also used as classrooms during the rainy season and of late as a Girls' Hostel. The building had become dilapidated and has to be demolished. A new building was started with the financial support of the Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) of the German government. The 'Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati' (Frankfurt), especially Manfred Watzke and Dr. Ulrich Oser, were instrumental to obtain the funds. Snehadri Chakraborty was the architect and supervised the construction.

* On 6th May, five girl students of RSV school went to Bandel to attend a family function of Boro Baski. The group was accompanied by Bimol Baski and his family from Bishnubati. After visiting Bandel church, the river Hooghly and Imambara Masjid, the group also went to Kolkata next day to see Howrah Station, Howrah Bridge and the Millennium Park. It was a great experience for the students of the village.

* On 15th August, the Independence Day of India and the **Foundation Day of RSV** were celebrated. Solo and group songs and a dance competition were the main attractions of this year's celebration. Students and villagers from neighbouring villages participated with great enthusiasm.

* On 19th January 2013, a farewell programme for two German student Volunteers, Hannah Beckmann and Judith Drexler, was organised at RSV school in the morning and at Ghosaldanga in the evening respectively. They stayed three months at Ghosaldanga and helped students in teaching English and other extra-curricular activities like music, dance, sports and organised excursions with the students to Santiniketan and the Sundarban. The Hostel students also separately got together on the next day morning to express their love and gratitude for having taught them so much in three months.

* On 1st February, a three member team from Loreto Day School, Sealdah came to RSV to follow up the implementation of the teaching method in the school that they had organised last year. Soumitra Bhattacharya, the principal instructor of the training, brought two Canadian friends with him who support the innovative teaching method project at Loreto School.

* On 9th March, the students of class X who gave final examination were given a formal farewell from the RSV hostel in a small ceremony. Seven students had appeared in the examination this year and all of them have passed. They will continue their studies from home and the respective village organisations will support them in their need.

7. RSV Extension - Educational Programmes: Evening Coaching Centres (ECC)

While evaluating our village work of 25 year in 2011, we found some imbalance in the educational development among the RSV students. Most of the children of our school are first-generation learners and their parents cannot guide them in their studies at home. Thus many students either drop out or become very poor in their studies. In Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati there are evening coaching centers that help these students in their studies but for the other five villages, from where RSV students also hail, have no support system.

Therefore from this year we have started three evening coaching centres in three villages. The three new centres are at Panchabanpur, Boutijal and Bandhlodanga. The centres begin everyday at 6 pm and continue until 8 pm, except on Sundays. There are two teachers in every centre except in Bishnubati, where there is only one teacher. The duties of the teachers, apart from teaching, is to guide the parents so that their wards go to school regularly. An attendance register is kept for every child. If anybody skips school the parents are informed immediately. There are also regular parents meetings and health checkups for the children and their parents. Gobinda Baski, an ex-student and the Teacher-In charge of Bishnubati, is the supervisor of these centres who is supported by a teacher of RSV, Mono Murmu. Some news of the centres are given below.

Short description of Evening Coaching Centres:

Village	Boys	Girls	Total student	Teacher	Remark
Bisnhubati	20	14	34	Suno Mardi	Old center
Ghosaldanga	9	12	21	Naran Hansda & Lakhiram Tudu	Old center
Panchabanpur Started 1 Jan.2013	19	17	36	Kalidasi Mardi & Somnath Murmu	New
Bautijal Started 21 March 2013	19	15	34	Parbati Kisku & Kalichoron Murmu	New
Bandhlodanga Started 1 March 2013	32	31	63	Mridula Tudu & Gopal Mardi	New

* On 20th December 2012, a village meeting at Bautijol was organised to discuss the opening of an Evening Coaching Centre. Several Managing Committee members from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati, too, attended the meeting. About 50 villagers gathered and took the resolution to start the centre as soon as possible, and they agreed to provide support to run it. Bharat Murmu, the leader of the village was chosen the Secretary of the centre.

* On 4th January 2013, the meeting regarding starting of Evening Coaching Centre was held at Panchabanpur village. All the villagers unanimously agreed to start the centre. Suklal Kisku was selected as the Secretary of the centre. Managing Committee members from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati were present at the meeting.

* On 11th February, the village meeting at Bandlodanga was held to start the Evening Coaching Centre. Jetha Murmu, one of the parents of an RSV student offered his spacious courtyard to start the centre. Two college students, Mridula Tudu and Gopal Murmu, were selected from the villages to teach at the centre.

* On 21st March, the inaugural function of the new Evening Coaching Centre (ECC) was held at Bautijol village. Visva-Bharati University has kindly agreed to provide the funding for this ECC. This is the outcome of the interaction between the teachers of the organisation and Sushanta Dattagupta, Vice-Chancellor of the university, last year at RSV. Tapati Mukherjee, Director of Rabindra Bhavan, presided over the colourful function organized by the villagers of Bautijol.

8. Hihiri Pipiri (Boys' Hostel)

Hihiri Pipiri is the Students' Home situated next to RSV. The home started as a Day Care Centre in 2006 and transformed into a full-fledged home for the students in 2007. This year, 27 students (13 boys and 14 girls) were staying in the two hostel buildings. The students are mostly former RSV students and hail from an economically weak or disturbed family-background. Students of Class IV to X stay in the hostel; they study at various government high schools within a ten km radius. Besides studying under the guidance of our teachers, they play, sing, paint, perform theatre sketches and work in the garden of the school. This year they performed a number of dances and a drama in three different programmes in our villages and outside.

9. 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 nature and village life, this orchard was started in 2001 under the guidance of Srikanta Mondal (of Manab Jamin). Hundreds of fruit trees grow on the RSV campus now. Monotosh Das, a full-time worker, tends the entire orchard and sells its produce regularly: 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.

After Monotosh Das received training at the Bose Institute, Falta, he began Beekeeping and Vermiculture at the Bio-orchard, aided by the Bose Institute which kept regular contact with him.

Rolf and Anne Bucher, organic farmers from Stuttgart (Germany), visited us in July/August 2012 for a second time to proceed with their aim to plant Moringa trees and reap their leaves which have specially rich nutrient value. They pulverised the leaves and prepared "Moringa-biscuits" for the consumption in the hostels, in our RSV midday-meals and in our Nutrition Centres in the neighbouring villages.

Since several years, 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.

This year a hand-tractor (power-tiller) has been bought to till the land of GASS and BAMS. Villagers also use it by paying moderate fees.

10. Vocational Training Centre (VTC)

The Vocational Training Centre (VTC) was started at Bishnubati in 2001 with the financial support of the German NGO Agape, Heidelberg. On the ground-floor coaching classes for standard V to XII are being conducted every morning and evening. One room is reserved for Computer training. The students maintain the garden and the pond. The Museum of Santal Culture is situated on the first floor of the building and continues to receive visitors.

11. Health, Nutrition and Sanitation

As in previous years, Dr. Monika Golembiewski treated patients at Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati, RSV and neighbouring villages. After establishing the 'Mother and Child Care Centre' at Mokrapur, Bolpur town two years ago which is 10 kilometers away from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati, she gives more time treating patients there. The hospital has not only been useful for villagers to get good health care services but equally useful for the people of the town.

Satyaban Ray, a trained homoeopath and health-worker of GASS and BAMS, keeps direct and regular contact with the patients in the villages and the hospital. He is supported by two health workers: Parboti Murmu at Ghosaldanga, Rani Baski at Bishnubati and Sumoti Mardi at RSV school. Dr. Sitaram Banerjee, a general physician of the Government Primary Health Centre, Sattore, has attended our Ghosaldanga Health Centre to treat village patients once a week. Emergency and serious medical cases are referred to the 'Mother and Child Care Centre' at Mokrapur, Bolpur.

The Nutrition Programme and Sanitation Programme continue at Rindanga, Pachabanpur and Bishnubati Hindu village under Dr. Monika Golembiewski's guidance. It is run by Sanyasi Lohar of Bishnubati. He has founded his own registered society which works closely with GASS and BAMS and with our donor agencies.

12. Hospitality and Partnerships

- Mrs. Marianne Pal Chowdhury, Dr. Ulrich and Hedwig Oser, Frankfurt (Germany) of the "Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati.V." came on their annual visit to discuss our work.
- Dr. Monika Golembiewski, of "Shining Eyes e.V." (Germany) continued her services in the fields of health, nutrition and sanitation.
- Ludwig Pesch with the Tribal Cultural Heritage in India Foundation (Amsterdam/Netherlands) continues to support us to strengthen and revitalize traditional Santal culture. He funds the collection of musical instruments for the Santal Tribal Museum at Bishnubati, helps to document Santal culture and to create awareness among the youth of the community by funding seminars, workshops and cultural tours.
- Several German volunteers stayed with us for several months and worked at RSV, Bishnubati and Ghosaldanga with the children teaching English, songs and games, giving computer training, playing with the kindergarten children and organising festivals. Jakob Dörr who stayed for almost six months, lived with Sanyasi Lohar at Bishnubati; Judith Drexler and Hannah Beckmann stayed at the guest-room at Prantik in Ghosaldanga.

Here is a list of some of the guests who we welcomed to our villages and RSV: Ranu Dattagupta, Santiniketan; Ronald Kurt and family, and 13 of his university students, Bochum (Germany); Alik Habigt and Marie Theres Herbst (German student volunteers); Soumitra Bhattacharya (Loreto Day school, Sealdah/Canada); Sarada Prashad Kisku, Kolkata; Krishna Mardi, Additional District Magistrate of Birbhum District, Suri; Rolf Bucher and Anne Bucher, organic farmers (Germany); Kathrin Klein-Zimmer (who lived and worked with us before) and her husband Torsten (Germany); Erna Lutz and Elfride Woerz (Germany); Thilo Löhmer, a German student whose parents, Rüdiger Standhardt and Cornelia Löhmer, visited our villages over two decades ago, spent a day with us.

13. “Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati.V.”, Germany

In 2008, the ‘Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati’ obtained German government registration in Frankfurt. In the past, the group had functioned informally, headed by Dr.-Ing. MandareshMitra and his wife, Dipl.-Päd.RoswithaMitra. 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 the day-to-day of our Sanghas and of RSV. 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.

14. 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 four 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. Since last year we have 11 more new educational sponsorships from Merck in Darmstadt/ Germany, a pharmaceutical company. Arun Kapur, Vasant Valley School, New Delhi also has sponsored three high students of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. Altogether 33 sponsored students are being supported in various ways. As a policy, any one of the family members of a sponsored child should give one day of work in the campus of RSV. The work includes tilling the soil in the Bio-orchard, cleaning the garden or repairing thatched roofs etc.

15. Births and Deaths

Births: Bishnubati/Ashadullapur

Sl. No	Baby’s name	M/F	Parents’ name	Date of Birth
1	Suroj Murmu	M	Babulal and Sumi	11/01/2012
2	Micheal Hansda	M	Dataram and Putul	27/01/2012
3	Anjali Soren	F	Sukumar and Sumi	28/07/12
4	Tanushree Murmu	F	Kalicharan and Shuili	27/07/12
5	Rajib Mardi	M	Sukol and Rashmi	29/10/12
6	Mallika Murmu	F	Raju and Maloti	01/01/13
7	Churki Hembrom	F	Samu and Rubi	09/08/12
8	Papiya Murmu	F	Sunil Murmu	10/05/12
9	Megha Baski	F	Shivshankar and Sukhi	2012
10	Daughter of Kalo Murmu	F	Kalo and Geda	2013
11	Daughter ofRupai Hansda	F	Rupai and Minoti	2013

Deaths: Bishnubati

Sl.No	Deceased person's name	M/F	Date of Death	Close Kin's name
1	Sabitri Hembrom	F	12/8/2013	Subol Hembrom (Father)
2	Child	F	14/6/2013	Gopal Mardi (Father)

Births: Ghosaldanga

Sl.No	Baby's name	M/F	Parents' name	Date of Birth
1	Joydhan Murmu	M	Sanat and Sarbani Murmu	08/9/2012
2	Shibnath Murmu	M	Somnath and Sosita	26/10/12
3	Bapi Hembrom	M	Chand and Kobita	24/10/2012
4	Bishnu Murmu	M	Baburam and Doli	17/11/201

**No death in Ghosaldanga this year.*

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 26 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 organize 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. A hostel and a special coaching centre for class X and IX have been started since 2007 and 2009 respectively at RSV campus.

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

Total population: 822 persons.

Ghosaldanga: male 162, female 138 = 300 persons
Bishnubati: male 270, female 252 = 522 persons

Kindergarten/Anganwari:	male 60, female 60 = 120 pupils
Coaching Centres:	
Primary Level:	male 29, female 26 = 55 pupils
Secondary Level:	male 22, female 38 = 60 pupils

Since the beginning of the Sangha's educational activities, the following number of students passed the following examinations and placed in various job and professions:

Madhyamik	10
Higher Secondary	7
B. A.	3
B.Ed	1
B.S.W., M.S.W.	1
M.A.	1
Post-Diploma in Fine Arts	1

Rolf SchoembsVidyashram:

Primary School (Class KG to IV):	male 41, female 40 = 81 pupils
HihiriPipiriAdibasi Hostel (Class V to X):	male 13, female 14 = 27 pupils
Special coaching centre (IX and X):	male 10, female 16 = 26 pupils

The *Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha* and *Bishnuabti Adibasi Marshal Sangha* have 12 full-time teachers and 18 part-time teachers. This excludes unpaid volunteers recruited from the senior students of both villages.

For further information about the organization and recent publications please log on to our website-

Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati e.V., Frankfurt (Germany)

<http://www.dorfentwicklung-indien.de>(in German; English version under preparation)

Links to recent publications

<http://www.dandc.eu/articles/220714/index.en.shtml>(English)

<http://www.dandc.eu/articles/220714/index.de.shtml>(German)

Publications

1. _____ (Santali Primer, Part-I)
2. _____ (Santali Primer, Part-II)
3. _____ (Santali Primer, Part-III)
4. _____ (Santali Primer, Part-IV)
5. _____ (Santali Drama)
6. _____ (Santali Songs)
7. Celebrating Life: The Santal Experiment in Freedom
8. _____ (SoantalMuktadharaiprobesh)
9. _____ Our Village Ghosaldanga (Photo book)
10. _____ Our Village Bishnuabti (Photo book)
11. _____ Our School RSV (Photo book)
12. _____ A Journey of Ghosaldanga and BishnubatiSantal Village
13. _____ Activities and Achievements of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati
14. Photos and Cards on Santal lives