

On the Nepal National Children's Day 2064, The ISIS Foundation / The ISIS Children hit major media headlines for meeting with PM Koirala.

---

## Nepal National Children's Day 2064



Back LtoR: Pralhad Dhakal, ISIS Nepal Country Manager, Pema Tsering, Manager - The ISIS Children's Home and 15 children from each of the 10 ISIS homes, with PM Koirala (centre) on Children's Day 2064.

The ISIS office and its staff threw wonderful Children's day celebration for its 136 kids one day ahead of the actual children's day celebration at ISIS- 1 on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2007 owing to our kids meeting with Prime Minister and running free health camp on the actual children's day. Kids enjoyed it very much as Didi & Dhairi, H.P. office and field staff performed varieties of songs, dances and skit. Everybody had very good time and celebrated the day in a very cheerful and high spirited manner.

On The Children's Day Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007, fifteen ISIS Children (Six from Humla and one each from other nine homes ) was one lucky group among other children's organisation like Maiti Nepal, Bal Bandir, Sahara Nepal, SOS, SNV that got the Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala's audience and lovely opportunity to interact with him at his official residence at Baluwatar. Our kids were youngest and the most cute among other children. There were also children from disability and deaf organisation.

At around 6; 30 am all the 15 ISIS kids got assembled at Humla Home. One question was allowed to ask from each children organisations and from our side ISIS-8 boy Pragati Bandari, 7 years old, practised the question "How one can become great man like you?" He had great fun practising this question.

From Humla Home ISIS-10, we went off in a van first to the Bal Mandir Naxal where all the kids who were going to meet PM got together. There we were given permit pass to enter PM Quarter to pin to our shirts. At 10 minutes to 8 o'clock in the morning all the kids entered into their respective vehicles and went to the PM Quarter at Baluwatar.

After passing through two securities gate checks we reached the venue. All the way from the PM's external gate to inside kids kept on asking questions like; now what will happen? To whom we are going to meet etc? Small girl from Humla Home Palden Dolkar asked me; "Are we going to meet the very big grandfather (Thulo Baje)?" I tried to answer their questions as best as possible by saying we are going to meet the greatest person of Nepal etc.

No sooner have we settled than the PM came. He gave a nice and short speech on how kids can contribute to make the constituent assembly a successful." Since you can't vote unless you are over 18 years old, so you as a child what you can do to make the constituent assembly successful is send your parents to vote for the constituent assembly and check them whether they voted or not on the thumb because if they voted then they will have ink mark....."

Then it was time of questions and answer session. Kids from other organisation asked various kinds of questions ranging from PM's food habit to how he got into politics. PM answered the questions very honestly and every one present there was touched by his honest and humanely answers. When Pragati Bandari of ISIS-8 went nearby PM and started his question, he had to stop for a moment because he got startled due to suddenly Medias got closer and clicked cameras, and then again he slowly and clearly asked the question "How one can become great man like you ?" everyone laughed at the way he asked the question and its simplicity of question. PM held him by his shoulder and pulled towards him affectionately. PM answered saying one would have very hard time being great man rather be a common man.

ISIS-10 Humla Home & ISIS -3 kids gave presents and khatas to PM. When Palden Dolkar of Humla Home approached to give the present and khata she was pulled towards him and kept at his lap. After wards we had group photos with the PM. Then we were given snacks, tea and a small note pad souvenir in which PM had signed.

That very Saturday afternoon, our kids meeting with PM was aired in the Nepal Television (NTV) and other TVs later. I got several exciting calls from few ISIS- Children's Home saying that we are shown in the NTV repeatedly on that whole day news schedules. In the next day, photos of our kids meeting with PM with articles were printed in "The Rising Nepal," "The Himalayan Times" and also Pragati Bandari's name and questions in "The Kathmandu Post." And also came into other Nepali dailies.

This was really a big exposure of ISIS name and kids in the Medias and a great life time experience for our kids and for me. I think I got my greatest sense of achievement after working in three different children's organisation in Nepal.

Our kids got selected for National Radio Singing Competition for the children's day. Their song was aired live in the radio, although we did not get into the position of prize recipients it was another big exposure of ISIS name and kids in the children's networks.

Pema Tsering  
Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007

The Himalayan Times:

## PM talks polls, Nepal's future with children



Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala talking to a child during an interaction organised to mark the National Children's Day in Kathmandu on Saturday.

Himalayan News Service  
Kathmandu, September 15

Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala today sat down with children and talked at leisure. It may be noted that save Koirala, no other prime minister has ever found time to sit with children for a talk.

Constituent assembly elections and the process of growing up figured in the meeting organised under the aegis of the Nepal Children's Organisation.

This is the second time in his stint as PM that Koirala found time to sit with children from different parts of the country for a talk.

National Children's Day

this time was a departure from the past. Till 2005 the day was observed on the birthday of Queen Mother.

"You can play a role. While you cannot vote, you can insist that your parents do. Please check their thumbs for customary marks," Koirala told the children, some of whom had come to the capital from remote corners of the country.

The little wonders bombarded Koirala with a volley of questions about his entry into politics, his eating habits, so on and so forth.

A tiny tot asked the prime minister how he was going to realise the dream of making a new Nepal. In his turn,

Koirala described to the child how hard he was working to realise this cherished dream. Koirala was honest throughout the session, which lasted for about an hour. "Do you really want to know what are my challenges? Well, my challenges are how to keep the eight-party alliance intact. All the eight parties are heading towards eight different directions. Therein lies the hardship," Koirala answered. Koirala ended up the session, saying that he never thought of becoming a prime minister and that the fact he has become one was not due to his efforts, but due to forces of circumstance.

Main News The Rising Nepal:



Rupasi from ISIS III draping Khata to PM Koirala

### Send parents to cast vote, Koirala tells children [ 2007-9-16 ]

RSS

Kathmandu, Sept. 15: Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala has said that the children's role would also be important to make the upcoming Constituent Assembly (CA) election a success.

Interacting with children from various sectors at Prime Minister's residence at Baluwatar on the occasion of Children Day-2064, this morning, Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala said, "children should send their parents to cast vote in

the election, however they are not entitled to. They should also keep vigil to their parents whether latter cast vote or not."

Prime Minister Koirala, informing various aspects of own childhood, stressed the need that all sides should work together for children who he said are the future pillars of the country.

Children handed over paintings to Prime Minister on the occasion. Prime Minister was present at the tea reception organised for the children.

Children present on the occasion also asked some questions to the prime Minister on the occasion. The details of the queries are as follows.

Priya Sherpa (Maiti Nepal): How do you enter politics?

PM Koirala: I did not think to enter politics It was the circumstance that brought me into politics. I am a person wishing to get relieved from the politics. I wished it in past and even now. Workers are the teacher of my politics. In the beginning, I had joined a factory for work. I saw there the

exploitation of the Mill proprietor over the prevalence of poverty and dispute among the workers. Afterward, I joined worker's movement. At the moment, I was jailed with the then leaders BP Koirala and Ganeshman Singh. I had thought my responsibility was over when the leaders freed from the jail but I increased my participation in politics with the demand of time. The important days of my adolescent stage were spent in struggle and jail. Thus, I entered politics with the development of such circumstances, not after going through any book. A man who falls on circumstance has to take up more responsibility and pass through the moments of pain and plight. At the unpleasant moments, one wishes that suppression would never take place. The previous movements were also carried out owing to such sentiments.

Goma Lamichhane (Sahara Nepal): Which food do you prefer?

PM: I would like to invite you to have the meal which I take everyday. Then you will find the type of my food. But inform me when you will come to me.

Pragati Bhandari (ISIS VIII) : How can we be a great person like you?

PM: It is very regrettable to be a great person. It is better to be a common people than to be a great person. Don't wish to be a great person.

Sarita Gurung (Balmandir): What is a new Nepal for the children like us?

PM: The elections is scheduled to be held for the development of the country and talks are undergoing for inclusiveness. There are various religious, customs, cultures and ethnic groups which constitute a nation. The need of today is prosperity of all Nepalese. I have dreamt for building an equitable society.

Ram Chandra Thapa (SOS): How the CA elections cover the disabled people?

PM: The CA would ensure the rights of all people. The political parties are wishing to make representation of disabled people in the elections. I have thought that they should have representation in the parliament.

Hom Bahadur Thapa (SNV Norway, Baglung): You became Prime Minister for six times. What was your dream during the childhood?

PM: I had never dreamt to be a Prime Minister at that period. I saw activities of Rana regime in my childhood. After the elections in 2046 BS, I thought I would be a prime minister. At that time, Ganeshman was at the first place and Krishna Prasad Bhattarai at the second and I was at the third place, so, I did not think that my term would come so fast. But fortunately, Bhattari lost the elections and I won. Now all eight parties have been showing their head towards eight different directions, it is very difficult to address them all. While cabinet meeting is undergoing, they give up the meeting and go out. I have to lull them to return back. I have to tolerate abuses. I can not tolerate any sort of abuses but I have to do so for the sake of nation.