Presentation Proposal for Middle School Students

Presentation Topic: About following dreams and living a successful life

Information About Presenter

Name: Dorje Gurung, ScD (h.c.)

Education Program Director

<u>COMMITTED-Nepal</u>, Kathmandu, Nepal

Education:

BA, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, USA (1994)

Dip. Ed., University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia (2000)

Born into a low socio-economic background in



Nepal, I was not expected to even go to school. But, not only did I attend school, I graduated from the premier school of the time in Kathmandu, Nepal—St. Xavier's. Following that I had a full scholarship to the United World College of the Adriatic, which was followed up by yet again a pretty much a full scholarship to Grinnell College.

After a few years of international teaching experience and another year and a half more of teaching and working in Kathmandu, following graduation from Grinnell I decided I would pursue a career in international teaching which took me to Sydney for my teaching qualification.

Between 1994 and 2013 I taught in ten different countries and travelled to over three dozen countries. Since, returning to Nepal in May 2013, I have been running an NGO, COMMITTED-Nepal, with a good friend.

Presentation Objectives

- To inspire middle school students to chase their dreams and live life in their terms instead of following others
- To engender confidence in middle school students to believe in themselves
- To inspire them to believe that following their dreams, whatever they may be, makes their life meaningful

Presentation Description

- Duration: Between 30 to 45 minutes with another 15-30 minutes for Q&A.
- Target Audience: Middle School Students between the ages of 12 and 14

A <u>multimedia presentation</u> about a life which had a very very humble beginning--not expected to even go to school--but ends up with academic, personal and professional success as a result of dogged pursuit of apparently <u>impossible dream</u>: to complete school and to get a qualification from an educational institution in the US so as to return to Nepal <u>to provide the same kind of opportunities</u> to children born into the kind of context he was born into.

The dream leads to completion of school in Nepal, then high school diploma in Italy, then tertiary education in the US and Australia, an international teaching career and then back to Nepal to run a not-for-profit organization implementing <u>education-related projects</u> at severely under-funded, under-resourced government schools children from poor families attend.

Equipment and Room/Venue

- Data projector
- Speakers with audio cable
- Microphone if in a big auditorium, otherwise I can project my voice sufficiently to make myself heard!
- Internet access

Honorarium and Expenses

Negotiable depending on the number and duration of the presentations.

In the past, honorarium for a single presentation was US\$500.00. When the visit involved more than just a single presentation, if it involved interactions and other activities for instance, then honorarium paid as been as much as US\$2000.

Travel, food and accommodation expenses as appropriate.

Additional Information and contact details

COMMITTED homepage:	http://www.cmiNepal.org
Personal homepage:	http://www.dorjegugurung.com
Personal blog:	http://www.dorjegurung.com/blog
Science blog:	http://www.dorjegurung.com/sciblog
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/dorje.gurung.73
Email:	dorje.gurung@gmail.com / dorje@dorjegurung.com
Phone (C):	(347) 822-3015