

## uTurn Project Inc.

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*building communities of excellence...  
one stone at a time!*

We're on the web  
[www.uturnproject.net](http://www.uturnproject.net)

  
We are a Canadian  
registered non profit agency

## Mark your calender

Celebrate Family Day with our extended Bhutanese/Nepali families living in Alberta. Find out about their journey from the hills of Bhutan to the foothills of the Rockies over the last 2 decades.

Over 6000 refugees have been adopted by Canada. A number of them have moved to Alberta as there are more jobs available here as more employers are willing to give them an opportunity to prove themselves.

Way to go, Alberta!

Let's celebrate their journey together. We will see some of the art on display, enjoy ethnic snacks and enjoy the richness of their heritage that makes our Alberta communities stronger and close knit.

Get a glimpse of the Bhutanese culture and come with us to visit the country of Bhutan in the Spring of 2015!

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since joining uTurn Project in 2009, I have enjoyed working with a tremendously hard- working board and seeing results from work done by supporters and volunteers who are **passionate** about helping people in need and building a better tomorrow.

This teamwork is the foundation of our success and of the positive momentum we've built, all of which will carry us forward as we embark into 2014 and beyond.

This is our **5th year** of key accomplishments in Canada, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. From teaching English to integrating New Canadians into our Canadian society, from sanitation infrastructure protecting vulnerable young girls to providing safe drinking water for many desperate families in India - **your support has been vital.**

Your support has also enables us to conduct **valuable research** that identify and implement tangible and sustainable projects that will accurately address the needs of the diverse communities that we serve.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support in our vision of **building community and focusing on the under-privileged.**

Sincerely,

*Jay Chowdhury*

President , uTurn Project Inc.



uTurn Project presents  
**BHUTAN FESTIVAL**  
Monday, February 17, 2014  
Admission Free  
3pm - 7pm  
Marlborough Park Community Centre  
6021 Madigan Dr. N.E. Calgary, AB T2A 5G9  
Ethnic Food, Cultural Art Performances  
Bhutan's History, People and Tourism  
Children's Workshop and Activities  
Martial Art Demonstration  
For further details Contact:  
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## uTurn Project Inc.

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January 25, 2014

## Banjara community in India

Nomadic communities said to have originated from Afghanistan are dispersed in many parts of India. The Banjara community in Jagdishpur is 150 family strong living in mud huts with very little support from the local governments. They support themselves using skills creating beautiful art work and colorful clothing. A distinct community, they have found common roots as followers of Jesus.

They sang songs of Jesus and joined in prayer in the strong name of Jesus when we visited them last October.

From the eldest to the youngest child, they greeted the Yeshu Darbar ministers like David Philips and his colleagues eagerly.



An in-depth analysis was commissioned by uTurn Project in November. Debasis Palit, who was involved in the toilet project in Kalinagar, was sent to conduct a feasibility study. We hope to adopt a project to construct several communal washing, toilets and bathing facilities in partnership with Yeshu Darbar to bless this special community in central UP, India. [More details](#) (pg.3)

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### Check it out

- Our focus on helping youth in 2013
- Coming soon on Family Day
- A glimpse into a volunteer's life
- How you can get involved

## Caroling in Calgary

About 20 to 25 enthusiastic carolers set out in several cars visiting friends in NW and NE Calgary braving icy conditions and unfamiliar routes.

Many were new Canadians and showed amazing resilience to the elements as they excitedly shared in the joy and warmth of the Christmas story

through songs and dance. I certainly enjoyed hanging out with each one and hope we can do this again!

**Fel iz Navidad!**

# A Tribal Story from West Bengal

While attending a conference in Toronto, a friend shared about Satyendra Basumata and his unique community work in the foothills of West Bengal, India. In October, Jay and I decided to visit this region and meet Mr. Basumata. The first night we went to assist at a youth conference deep in the forests where over 600 youth had gathered for a long weekend from India, Bhutan and Nepal. The next day we drove through the areas where Satyendra grew up as a tribal and now after a successful career in communications, he has chosen to resign and return to help these tribal regions discover the blessings of God .

One such village, that once drove out those that had gone to build schools and clinics has now invited Satyendra and his team to use donated land to rebuild a school for their children and a place of worship. As Satyendra went to meet with the village council, he saw a rainbow in the sky which reminded of God's



Youth rally in West Bengal tribal region

promise to not destroy the earth but offer grace and mercy to everyone who would turn to the true God in true worship. We will share the 'Diamasa Project' with you detailing how you may be involved in this school project.



A rainbow of promise on the way

## New Friends—Fresh Inspiration

The key inspiration for the uTurn Project team has been in making new friends who believe in the work that UTP is trying to do in Jesus' name around the globe. For every project that has been brought to completion we can tell you of ten other attempts that seem to

*"We love Him because He first loved us"*

have gone no where. If we were to measure our success by the number of attempts then we indeed may have failed. However it is the encouragement and support of our friends that continues

to spur us in doing good work in the name of Christ wherever we can. It is you who we

have come to treasure and measure our success by. Thank you!



uTurn Project board and director

## Married with kids

Stawan and Dimple are newly married and just settling into life in Calgary together. They are experiencing all the joys and challenges of balancing expectations of home (India) vs. host (Canada) countries. The price goods in Canada when simply converted into the home currency to the joys of seeing snow for the first time—yes, we had lots of it this

winter, Dimple is quickly absorbing and immersing herself into the new context when she joined Stawan after marriage and came to Canada last summer.

However just as quickly both of them have been surrounded by youth who



Partners of uTurn Project

love music and hanging out with this couple. Every weekend is an excuse for crowding into Stawan and Dimple's small home where many of the youth who are refugees to Canada can indeed find refuge and encouragement and safe surroundings to grow.

# Married with kids (continued)



When Stawan's smaller vehicle broke down beyond economical repair, he decided to buy a larger vehicle so more kids could get rides at a time!

**This year we are hoping to have a larger regular meeting facility for the youth** where they can come and hang out on the week-ends. These youth are receiving inspiration and becoming an inspiration to the work of uTurn Project and our partners in Calgary.

Last year the youth were at the forefront of many events supported by

uTurn Project. Their inspiration was fueled by the investment Stawan and his friends intentionally and diligently placed within them by being available and sacrificing time and other resources.

You will see them at the Bhutan Festival on Family Day and later in the spring a youth festival is being organized that will include youth from Lethbridge and Edmonton coming together for a weekend of music and dance and learning.

Stawan and Dimple have adopted a strategy that has seen some amazing results in the last year. Their passion is without

question, their commitment is exemplary and their simplicity is reproducible and practical.

If you want to help Stawan and Dimple bless the youth in Calgary, they would love to hear from you. There are several events planned this year where they need help with suitable facility rental, transportation, food etc.

Do you have a story to share that will inspire others? Of course! We would love to hear from you and **you can be an inspiration** to many youth in Calgary.

## The Canadian dollar vs the donor

As we watch the decline of the Canadian dollar just as this newsletter goes to print, we are grateful that each dollar sent from Canada in 2013 allowed us to achieve a little bit more than we had imagined at the beginning of the year. However cost of goods due to high inflation rate in the Indian sub continent continued to challenge initial budgets for various projects.

We did save money as better processes and innovative designs allowed us to see some tube wells at significantly lower costs than others. Terrain and local re-

sources also dictated outcomes. We embrace every project with careful thought to efficiency of process and sustainability of usage so that every dollar contributed may have long lasting benefits to the communities in need. Thank you for support and contributions over the years. We handle each contribution with a great sense of responsibility and gratitude.

*Give and it shall be given to you...*

## Jagdishpur Toilet Project

Jagdishpur Village needs three community facilities. Each UNIT will have 20 toilets (8 covered toilets and 8 bathing areas open and not covered for males plus 4 covered bathroom for females). This includes one jet pump, and 8 overhead water storage tanks.

Each UNIT costs CDN 16,000. **Three UNITS will cost CDN 48,000.** We would like to begin the work on the first unit by March 2014.

