



Karuna-Shechen
Humanitarian Projects in the Himalayan Region



Construction of the new Medical Centre in Bodhgaya

BUILDING A NEW PERMANENT MEDICAL CENTRE IN BODHGAYA, INDIA

THE CONTEXT

- Since 2000, Karuna-Shechen (through the **Shechen Clinic** in India) has provided medical, educational, and social services to the large local community of Bihar regardless of religious, ethnic, or political background.
- The Shechen Clinic, through its Medical Centre and its Mobile Clinic, provides well over **40,000** consultations and services a year; **100%** of which is **free of charge**.
- Until a few months ago the Medical Center in Bodhgaya was a simple dispensary. In order to meet the ever increasing demand for medical care in the region, Karuna-Shechen decided to build a **larger permanent clinic and dispensary**.
- The new Medical Centre was designed as an open, airy building. A **Green Project**, whereby the new center would contribute to the preservation of the environment, was also planned.





THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

Choosing the site on which to build the new Medical Centre

- Different plots in and around Bodhgaya were considered. The chosen site is on the border of the town.
- Although the Shechen Clinic is no longer in the middle of the town itself, it is close enough for people to walk to it. The site is in a quiet, green area.



Building the new Medical Centre

- The walls marking the perimeter of the new site were first put up. These walls are 9 feet high and topped with barbed wire for security reasons.
- The foundations for the building were then laid. The workers had to dig very deeply in order to build superior-quality foundations because of the sandy first layers of earth.
- The ground floor of the building was then laid and the pillars to support the building set up. The walls of the building, starting with the 1st floor and rising to the 3rd, were then gradually put up.
- The roof was built, and the area outside the building and within the perimeter walls was paved.
- Finishing work such as painting, putting in the windows and doors, and installing security bars on 1st and 2nd floor windows, was then finalized, and basic work surfaces built.

Construction timeline:

- April 2008 – February 2009

Construction team:

- An engineer
- A contractor
- A treasurer and an accountant
- A construction supervisor
- A team of 4 workers



Laying the floors of the new building with dark green stone paving



Detail work on the walls of the new building





Painting the walls and putting up security bars on windows



Reception and Pharmacy areas ready to receive patients



THE GREEN PROJECT

Objective of the Green Project

- To contribute to the new Medical Centre's water and power needs in an environment – friendly way.
- Through this project, Karuna-Shechen renews its commitment to the preservation of the environment.

Green solutions for the new Medical Center

- Rain Water Harvesting
- Solar Hot Water system
- Energy Efficient Equipment
- Back Up Lighting
- Energy Efficient Air Conditioning
- Solar Exhaust Fan
- Solar DC Fan
- Energy Efficient Refrigerator
- Desert Cooler
- Grey and Black Water Recycling system
- Wind Ventilator
- Outdoor Solar Light
- Reflective Cooling



The project also includes a green environment for the patients. Plants have been planted in this traditional Tibetan design in front of the new building.

THE NEW MEDICAL CENTRE



FOCUS POINT: A NEW SERVICE AT THE CLINIC

One of the main additions to the Shechen Medical Centre is its new tuberculosis service (DOTS: Directly Observed Treatment Short -course).

- With a bigger building, we are now able to establish a new tuberculosis service, to respond to the growing demand of patients suffering from TB or showing its symptoms.



- This new service will implement DOTS, the internationally-recommended strategy to fight TB. With a new laboratory, the Medical Centre will be able to use appropriate tests on the patients, monitor cases of TB, follow-up on patients, and evaluate the impact of the implementation of the DOTS program.

THE FIVE BASIC COMPONENTS OF THE DOTS APPROACH:

1. Political commitment and funding to fight TB
2. Detection of TB cases through high-quality tests
3. Standardized treatment of TB cases with patient supervision and support
4. Readily available quality anti-TB medication
5. A monitoring and evaluation system for TB cases and measurement of impact of treatment.



INAUGURATION DAY: FEBRUARY 14TH, 2010



Cutting the ribbon and inaugurating the new Shechen Medical Centre



From Ms. Shilpa Sinha, Director of the Shechen Clinic in Bodhgaya:

“The new Medical Centre is a beautiful building; it has been well-designed and is very comfortable. It provides the clinic staff with a very good working environment and the patients will find it very convenient.”



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Final costs of the construction of the new Medical Centre:

- Overall cost of the construction of the building (including purchase of the land) and basic integrated furnishings: **331,273 USD**
- Overall cost of the Green Project: **33,341 USD**

Karuna-Shechen would like to thank Global Healing, friends of Project Respite, and the other generous donors who made this expansion of the Shechen Medical Centre a possibility.





Karuna-Shechen Around the World

Karuna-Shechen Asia ltd

9/F, 32 Wellington St., Central, Hong Kong

asia@karuna-shechen.org

Tel: +852 2520 6191

Fax: +852 2520 6162

Karuna-Shechen USA

511 Avenue of the Americas, Box 339, New York, New York 10011, USA

usa@karuna-shechen.org

Tel: +1 718 846 8981

Karuna-Shechen

20 bis rue Louis Philippe, 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France

france@karuna-shechen.org

Karuna Canada

580 Grand Allée Est, bur, 440 Québec, G1R 2K2 Canada

canada@karuna-shechen.org



Karuna-Shechen
Humanitarian Projects in the Himalayan Region



www.karuna-shechen.org

