



"Revitalize Indigenous Culture and
Wisdom through Holistic Education"

Donyi Polo Cultural and Charitable Trust

Governing Body



Er. Katung Wahge
Chairman



Er. Pai Dawe
General Secretary



Dr. Joram Begi
Chief Advisor



Subrata Sen
Coordinator



Donyi Polo Cultural and Charitable Trust (DPCCT) has formed a valuable collaboration with the Vivekananda Kendra Vidhyalya Arunachal Pradesh Trust (VKVAPT) to assist with formal education to the students of the Gurukuls under its wing. We also have been honoured by the constant visits of luminaries such as Shri. S. Gurumurthy (Chairman, Vivekananda International Foundation), Shri. A. Balakrishnan (President, Vivekananda Kendra Kanyakumari) and other dignitaries, who provided us valuable guidance and inspiration.



In a prominent event in November 2022, we saw a gathering of distinguished representatives of all five Indigenous brothers namely, Adi, Apotani, Tagin, Nyishi, Galo tribes of the Great ancestor, Abo Tani, all of whom came forward to profess their full support for Gurukul initiative. Dignitaries from SASTRA University and their expert team also visited our Gurukul in Seppa, and provided their guidance and approval of our model for propagation and promotion of our cultural values, knowledge systems and building future-ready Indigenous youths.

Apart from the formal education, to ensure the students receive indigenous teachings, we have employed capable local language teachers who not only teach the native language but also impart traditional practices to the young learners. Some of these indigenous language teachers are priests (Nyubus) themselves, further enriching the educational experience.

The Journey



In the face of modernization, the rich cultural heritage of Arunachal Pradesh is at risk of fading away, as the younger generation is becoming increasingly drawn to the allure of the modern era. Recognizing the urgent need to revive the once-proud sense of identity and instill a deep sense of pride among the people, a group of social workers from the Indigenous Communities of Arunachal Pradesh, came together to form the trust known as Donyi Polo Cultural & Charitable Trust(DPCCT) in 2019. This initiative was established under the capable leadership of Er. Katung Wahge, with a clear mission to promote and propagate indigenous practices. The trust has dedicated itself to diligently safeguarding the existence and ensuring the smooth transmission of cultural values throughout the state through its innovative Gurukul model for Indigenous Education.

Vision

The Donyi Polo Cultural and Charitable Trust (DPCCT) envisions a vibrant and progressive society in Arunachal Pradesh, where culturally diverse indigenous communities thrive while practicing and propagating their eternal culture, language, ethos, values, and traditions. With a deep commitment to the well-being of future generations, the trust strives towards creating a healthy, equitable, responsible, and sustainable planet.



Mission

Our mission is to work closely with the local Indigenous Communities of Arunachal Pradesh to preserve and promote their unique culture and traditions through various initiatives such as instituting indigenous schools focused on local culture, traditions & values, organizing cultural festivals, research on the dialect, script and language of tribes, conducting indigenous culture awareness programs for both locals and tourists.

We aim to empower the indigenous communities to take ownership of their cultural heritage and to provide them with the necessary resources to ensure that it remains alive and thriving for generations to come. We envision a future where the indigenous cultures of Arunachal Pradesh are celebrated and respected and where the communities are able to maintain a balance between their traditional way of life and modern developments.

We believe that our efforts will contribute to the enrichment of the cultural diversity of our country and promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the unique heritage of Arunachal Pradesh.



Major Focus Areas

Gurukuls

As part of DPCCT, we firmly believe that education is a powerful tool for bringing about positive change. Recognizing the lack of smooth transmission of traditional values among the younger generation of indigenous communities in Arunachal Pradesh, we embarked on a journey to save the rich cultural heritage from fading away. To accomplish our mission, we decided to establish Gurukul-style schools that serve as beacons of indigenous knowledge, and modern teachings. DPCCT is engaging culturally aware indigenous language teachers to help our children learn and practice their traditional rituals, culture, sports, and other activities. With VKV providing CBSE and Modern education through its experienced teachers, our Gurukul Model is well-positioned to provide the education required for building a Future-Ready Indigenous Youth, who is well aware of culture and environmental concerns, for creating a Sustainable World.

We are proud to have successfully established **four** such gurukuls, namely, **Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko at Rang** in East Kameng, **Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko at Mwya** in Lower Subhansiri district, **Menjik Meqkok Rwggu at Basar** in Leparada district and our newest entrant **Nilung Tungko at Pabo** in Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh so far.

In the future, with the support of our esteemed donors, we envision to establish more of such Gurukuls in various parts of the state, to help protect, preserve, and promote other Indigenous Cultures and Traditions.



Blessed Beginnings

Honourable Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu inaugurating the Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko of Rang on March 20, 2021.



Honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh inaugurating the Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko of Mwya on February 2023.



Gurukuls at a Glance

Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko - Rang (Nyishi Tribe)

(Village Rang, Seppa, East Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh)



The establishment of the Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko at Rang village of Seppa town, East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh by DPCCT was a significant milestone for education in the region. Started in the year 2020, the school is currently running classes from I-V with 143 students, and follows a Gurukul-style indigenous education approach, combining the CBSE-based syllabus with classes on indigenous values and teachings. The school is open to admission only to the students belonging to the Nyishi community of the region. By blending traditional and modern approaches, the school aims to equip students with a well-rounded education that encompasses academic knowledge and cultural awareness, fostering a sense of pride and understanding of their heritage. In addition to academics, the school recognizes the importance of co-curricular activities and includes traditional games and sports to promote physical fitness, teamwork and a strong connection to their cultural roots. The school also provides a natural and serene environment, emphasizing discipline and decorum, while promoting self-reliance and responsible citizenship. To address mental and emotional well-being, the school offers meditation and yoga sessions, enhancing students' mindfulness, self-awareness, and emotional regulation skills, creating a peaceful and inclusive community.

Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko - Mwya (Nyishi Tribe)

(Village Pulyi, Mwya Deed Circle, Keyi Panyor District, Arunachal Pradesh)



DPCCT established the Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko school in Mwya, Village Pulyi which is located in the Deed circle of Lower Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh, following the success of its first school in Rang. Started in 2022, the school holds classes for I-III standards and has 75 students. Opened for the Nyishi students of the region, the school follows a gurukul-style indigenous education approach, combining the CBSE syllabus with lessons on indigenous values and cultural practices. Its mission is to provide a well-rounded education that preserves and promotes cultural heritage.

Menjwk Meqkok Rwggu - Basar (Galo Tribe)

(Village Kaadw, Daacw Moorw, Basar, Lepa-rada District, Arunachal Pradesh)



With the successful establishment of the Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko indigenous school in Rang, the Donyi Polo Cultural and Charitable Trust (DPCCT) extended its educational initiative to the Lepa Rada district of Arunachal Pradesh. Started in the year 2022, the school has I-III classes with 75 number of students which belong only to the Galo community of the region. Located in Basar, Daacw Moorw, Kaadw of the district, the school follows the gurukul model and shares the same vision of preserving cultural values and teachings alongside the NCERT-based syllabus. All aspects of the previous gurukuls have been replicated and implemented here, ensuring a holistic education that embraces indigenous heritage and imparts knowledge in line with national standards.

Nilung Tungko - Pabo (Adi Tribe)

(Village Pabo, Komsing, Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh)



DPCCT is proud to announce the establishment of its fourth gurukul in Pabo of Komsing village which is located in the Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh for the academic year 2023-24. Dedicated to the students hailing from the Adi community of the state, the school has began operations with Class-II holding 50 students from July 2023. This indigenous school is following the same syllabus as its predecessors, ensuring a comprehensive education aligned with the CBSE curriculum. The inclusion of indigenous classes taught by native language teachers has been done to further enrich the students' learning experience.

Health



DPCCT is committed to uplifting the indigenous communities of Arunachal Pradesh by promoting a healthy lifestyle. We aim to introduce and encourage yoga and meditation practices which are powerful tools for achieving inner balance, peace and physical vitality. Through workshops, training programs and community sessions, we empower individuals to incorporate these practices into their daily lives, promoting self-care and personal growth.

Apart from supporting the practice of traditional medicines among the local communities, we additionally conduct health camps in collaboration with medical organizations to provide free medical services to remote communities with limited access to healthcare. Recently, in March 2023, we organized successful mega health camps in 10 locations in association with the NIBA hospital, benefiting 1100+ individuals. Our holistic approach aims to enhance the well-being and transform the lives of indigenous communities in Arunachal Pradesh.

Cultural Center



DPCCT is dedicated to the safeguarding, promotion, and propagation of indigenous cultures and traditions. Our mission extends beyond imparting education to the younger generation; we actively participate in the establishment of cultural centers that serve as crucial repositories for preserving indigenous rituals and traditional practices. These centers play a vital role in ensuring the longevity and vibrancy of our cultural heritage.

Through our engagement in various events and initiatives, we contribute to the establishment and development of these cultural centers. We recognize that these spaces serve as focal points for the preservation and celebration of indigenous cultures. By actively supporting their establishment, we provide a physical foundation for the continuation and transmission of our native cultural values to future generations.



Moreover, our efforts are not confined solely to the local community. We believe that sharing our rich cultural heritage with visitors is equally important. By actively participating in cultural events, exhibitions, and festivals, we create opportunities for both locals and visitors to witness and appreciate the diversity and richness of Arunachal Pradesh's indigenous traditions. Through these interactions, we aim to foster understanding, respect, and admiration for our cultural heritage, promoting a sense of pride and unity among all.

All Round Development of the Children



At our school, we value co-curricular activities and have incorporated traditional games and sports to promote a healthy lifestyle and cultural appreciation. Students engage in activities like **Dapo Nyarka Sunam** (Bamboo Wrestling), **Dak-Dal Dakasunam** (Stick Walk), **Upuk Apka Sunam** (Archery), and **bamboo craft-making**. These activities provide a fun experience while instilling traditional values in students.

Here, students not only receive academic education but also actively engage in traditional **craft-making sessions**, learning **techniques like bamboo weaving, handloom weaving, wood carving, and pottery**. These sessions foster appreciation for cultural values, develop artistic abilities, and empower students as custodians of their heritage. Additionally, we prioritize mental and spiritual well-being through meditation and yoga sessions. Our students also participate in environment-related community activities, cultivating a sense of responsibility towards nature.

At our Gurukuls, we empower students through **practical life skills** and a **strong sense of responsibility**. They actively engage in daily chores, **cultivating discipline and self-sufficiency**. We provide a holistic educational experience that blends academic excellence, traditional teachings, and co-curricular activities. Our aim is to preserve indigenous traditions, instill cultural pride, and empower the younger generation to become well-rounded individuals connected to their heritage.



Participations & Appreciations



The students of Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko, Rang had the incredible opportunity to participate in the prestigious Civil20India Summit (C20) held in the captivating Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh from June 9th to 12th, 2023. During the summit, they showcased a mesmerizing performance in front of esteemed dignitaries, leaving a lasting impression.



On December 17th, 2021, a momentous occasion unfolded as the Nyedar Namlo at Mwya (Pulyi) village was inaugurated by the esteemed Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Pema Khandu. The inauguration ceremony witnessed a captivating display of cultural heritage as the students of Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko from Rang showcased the rich cultural practices of the state. Their performance resonated with the dignitaries present, further emphasizing the significance and beauty of Arunachal Pradesh's cultural heritage.



The students of Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko, Rang secured the Second Prize in the Cultural Event organized by DACO, East Kameng, Seppa during the 37th Statehood Day celebrations at Seppa General Ground on 20th February 2023.

Cash?



Blankets?



Stationery?



Books?



Mattresses?



Come Join our Mission!!

While we aim to save our indigenous culture from vanishing away, we also wish to make the dreams and aspirations of our young ones come true. That can only be done if we have your support in this. Help us in this endeavour by donating whatever you can.

We accept donations in cash as well in kind. Kindly refer to the details given below in order to contribute to the cause.

Tax Exemption u/s 80 G

Payment by Direct Bank Transfer

(Netbanking, NEFT/RTGS/IMPS/UPI)

Account No: 14820110028940

Account Name: Donyi Polo Cultural and Charitable Trust

IFSC Code: UCBA0001482

Account Type: Current

Bank Name: UCO Bank

Payment by Cheque / Draft

You may make donation by your personal cheque payable to "Donyi Polo Cultural & Charitable Trust" and mail it to:

**Donyi Polo Cultural & Charitable Trust,
First Floor, HIM Yamaha Motors,
PO Papu Nalah, Itanagar,
Arunachal Pradesh - 791110**

Contact us -

Office Address:

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