

Gedong Gandhi Ashram Educational Fund – GGAEF

Progress Report – May 2010

The past year has seen the completion of GGAEF support to several students. It is very satisfying, especially in times of economic recession, to be able to report that these young people are now in jobs.

One senior ashram member is still being fully funded in her Hindu Studies degree course. She is able to follow her course in nearby Amlapura while still being based at the ashram.

The English language extra-curricular tutoring courses continue. From July-October 2009 the course for district high school students comprised over 25 participants. Our teacher, an ex-ashram member, has been promoted to another school and now has less time to devote to these courses. We have re-scheduled courses in 2010 with an additional teacher and added a Mathematics option in addition to English tutoring. It is interesting to note that, these days, high school students can attend from a distance as they usually have access to motorcycle transport whereas younger middle-school children, though interested, are not so mobile and cannot attend our classes as easily.

Several of our own ashram members are now coming to the end of their time at high school and GGAEF is anticipating requests from them in the near future for assistance with tertiary education. The current fund balance is approximately Euro 2800 (US\$ 3500). As outlined in last year's report, university or technical college fees in Indonesia are in excess of Euro 450 per student per annum. Living costs will more than double this figure so a round figure of Euro 1000 per annum is required to fully fund one student.

It is vital that we build up a healthy reserve so that we can meet upcoming needs. Since GGAEF was set up seven years ago it has rarely been unable to respond to ashram members' educational requests. **With your help we will continue to provide this worthwhile service.**

Please send us a donation **either** as a personal cheque (in any major currency) posted to our office address **or** through the banking system as detailed below.

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Education Fund)

Thank you!