

Ganson Street Baptist Church <church@gansonstreet.org>

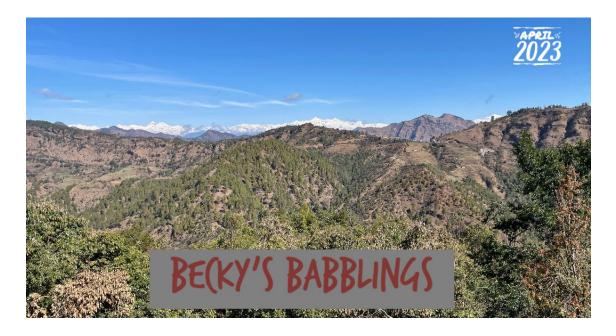
Becky's Update

2 messages

Becky <himalyabecky@gmail.com> Reply-To: himalyabecky@gmail.com To: church@gansonstreet.org Tue, Apr 25, 2023 at 8:33 AM

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Finally Made It

Finally, we were able to make a trip out to visit the site for my planned research survey. It ended up being a long 12-hour day adventure to traverse the roads (with construction delays), visits at the nearest health post and local government offices, get to where the road goes near the edge of the village, and visit at the local school. This was the only way to get the information needed to develop a plan for the actual survey program. For instance, finding out that there is 200-250 'very' spread-out houses, means more time needs to be planned then we thought. The road difficulty and needing to spend a few nights, also means needing a vehicle to get back and forth throughout the time. Getting back to the semi-paved main road took us an hour just to cover the 20 miles. The nearest hotel/food was a 30 minute drive. And we definitely can't do it during the monsoons, as neither the roads or walking will be doable for us amateurs.

We had perfect weather and "Wow" was it full of amazing views. Such crazy rugged country.

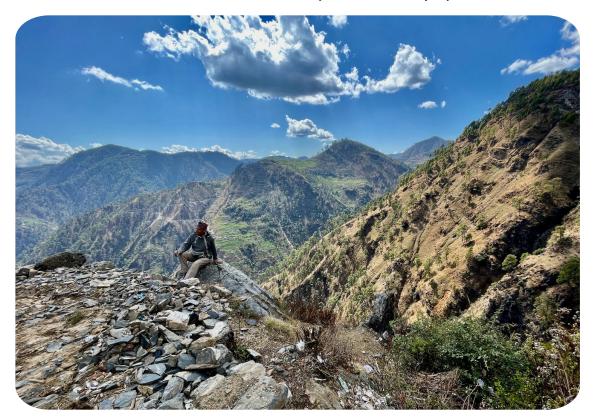
Have to just admire these people, who rarely have the luxury of any kind of vehicle to travel in,

have to walk over an hour to the nearest store, health care, or higher level school (11th-college). While the wires are being strung, they still don't have electricity either. But I'll admit what hit me the hardest was general area with over 4000 scattered people has '0' known family members. The nearest small village body took us 2 hours by vehicle (but not an option for most of the time). I'll admit it felt overwhelming. How?? How will they ever have the opportunity - much less the thousands of other communities just as hard to reach in the region? I just had to lift my heart up to the One that loves them and longs for His Body to be in this area. He is up to the job, so looking to Him.



Distant view of the village chosen for the survey. The village school (K-10th) mid-right is really the only community building, except a small 'birthing center'.

The winding rough road took us 30 minutes from the main town.











Best-laid Plans

Yep, once again the unexpected has struck in numerous ways and plans have fallen through. We scheduled to go do the survey the first week of April. Unfortunately my research partner has had to make trips away to sort out some personal problems, and then he got very sick in the midst of it all. I can't do this without him because of his needed expertise. He (and actually me too) was not physically up to the

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amount of hilly hiking at that planned time.

Sadly this ran me out of time before I had to leave to come into the city. My visa needs to be renewed, and I was told to plan a month for the multi-step process this is going to take. So there wasn't enough wiggle room before having to travel. Now we'll have to see if I can manage a quick enough turn-around and get back out to get this done before the monsoon season starts.

And then started the next "kinks". Bank holidays delayed getting the mandatory bank statement. I did finally get to the first office, only to find I need to add an additional visit if I want to try to get a full year renewal instead of just 8 months. OK.... but by then feeling lousy enough to check the next day and find out I caught Covid on the way in. So..... I've been down and recovering for a week now. It's coming, but I'm sadly still positive right now and run out of energy quickly.

The next plan was to find someone to run for me to get the paperwork and take it to the office. All well and good, except to find out my advisor, while willing to write the required hard-copy letter for me, is gone on vacation for over a week. Well, maybe I'll be well enough to go get it myself by the time he gets back. But, the days are counting down fast...... we'll see what the next hurdle brings.

Please be praying for the favor needed to allow me to get the full year (not what they wanted to do) renewal and to get it through on time so I don't have to pay penalties for being late. There are a number of steps still pending, any of which can be delayed......

Here's hoping that I will be physically doing well and have a visa to be able to return by mid-May.

Thanks for continuing on the journey with me. Sure can't do it alone!

Let's keep seeking His grace in all circumstances.

Becky

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Ganson Street Baptist Church <church@gansonstreet.org>

Thu, Jun 1, 2023 at 11:27 AM

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