Celina: These kids are a part of our sangha, and of my heart

written by Jitka Polanská

When Celina Mejia was at Shenten Dargye Ling, last autumn, as a participant of Gomdra (seventy day long teaching and practice retreat), she was invited by a friend to give a donation for TISE Himalayan International School. “With this, I became more interested in the school, one of the heart projects of Yongdzin Rinpoche and Khenchen Rinpoche – and I decided to visit. Since then, the children that I met there have not left my heart,” she says.

These children are a part of our sangha

In March 2023 I visited THIS, the school in Siliguri founded and supported by Khenchen Rinpoche. I spent a few days there. It was a very touching experience to see how much all the staff of the school care about the kids, how much they are engaged. Norbu Lama and his team – they do a wonderful work, they are there for the children every moment, with all their energy.

I was talking to the kids, watching them playing, happily, I took many pictures and videos. It was a period just after the exams.

I was impressed. Older children are like brothers and sisters to the younger ones. All of them are kind and so polite, every time they met me they were showing me joy and interest.

Since I left the school I am thinking about how to transmit the feeling of closeness and connection that I took with me. Now I feel those kids are a part of our sangha. We should include them in our hearts.

Celina

Picture and video: Celina Mejia

More about the school:

Khenchen Tenpa Yungdrung: I am inspired to help those children