

# GONPA GAZETTE



*Fake glasses, real mask!*

First they came and locked the monastery, then they came and locked the state, then they came and locked the country...for at least 21 days!

Buddhists believe samsara (suffering) is everywhere. There is nothing like living in India to bring that reality home every day. There is nothing like a pandemic to experience what Buddhists call 'interdependent origination': everything is connected to and dependent on, everything else.

Saddest for me, is that the poor (most of India) are effected the most. Perhaps not sick or dead; but loss of livelihood which disrupts their precarious lives.

Meanwhile, inside the monastery, life goes on pretty much as usual. So far, deliveries of eggs, propane cylinders and twice daily milk direct-from-the-cows, seem to be happening same as before.

It is quieter because more neighbors are in their homes, less vehicles are on the monastery road and construction of the new temple has come to a halt.

In all honesty, if I did not have information from outside the monastery (or know Indians who have lost their income), I would not know there was pandemic.



*One of so many who may not understand what is happening but is deeply effected by it.*

# MARCH 2020 IN PHOTOS

