Three Cups of Tea

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Greg Mortenson

- Nurse
- Mountain climber
- Humanitarian
- International peacemaker
- Co-author of *Three Cups of Tea*
Three Cups of Tea

1992:
- Younger sister, Christa died of severe epilepsy

1993:
- Embarked on K2 climb
- Rescued by the Korphe village
- Promised to return and build a school

1994-1995:
- Raised funding for the school

1995:
- Central Asia Institute (CAI)
- Pennies for Peace

1997:
- Korphe school opened

1997-present:
- Built over 131 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan

2006:
- Three Cups of Tea

Importance of Education

- Means for improving overall quality of life
- Equal opportunity for all children
- Positive impact for future
Discussion:
What are you passionate about?
How can you use your passions to help others?

Back on my Feet
- Non-profit organization to aid the homeless
- Uses running to build confidence, self-esteem, and strength
- Philadelphia, DC, Baltimore
Students Run L.A. (SRLA)

- Challenge at-risk high school students
- 19 years, 34,000 students
- >90% marathon completion
- > 90% of seniors in program graduate from high school
- College scholarship program

Pakistan Today

Religion
- Muslim: 95%

Literacy
- Male: 63%
- Female: 36%

School life expectancy
- Male: 7 years
- Female: 6 years

Poverty
- 24% population
Discussion:
What kind of obstacles would you face, both in the U.S. and abroad, when completing a project like this?

Cultural Challenges
- Communication
- Religion
- View of educating girls
  - Fatwa
- Western management techniques
- Addressing most basic needs first
Additional Challenges

Financial
- Support letters
- Speaking engagements
- Bartering in Pakistan

Managing the CAI
- Lack of formal management training
- Limited funds to hire staff

Personal
- Constant travel
- Physical health

Discussion:
What are the cultural challenges faced while establishing an educational program in an Islamic country?
Westernizing Education

Language
- English
- Native tongue

Religion
- Islam
- Comprehensive
- Absence of religion

Culture
- Boys only
- All-inclusive

Current Status
- Central Asia Institute is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- 130 schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan
- 51,000 students
Women’s Vocational Centers

- Started with the Korphe women
- Serves as a community center
- Sustainable skills passed on through generations

Other Sustainability

Public Health
- 5-10% of resources
- Clean water supply

Education of women
Conclusion

Sources

- https://www.ikat.org/about-cai/history/
- http://www.backonmyfeet.org/index.html