

Short biography



Joanna Lamond Lumley was born on 1 May 1946 in Srinagar, in the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. She was the daughter of Major James Rutherford Lumley, who served the British Indian Army with the 6th Gurkha Rifles. Joanna's own concerns and passions were deeply affected by her father's and in 2008 she became the public face of the Gurkha Justice Campaign. By the end of May 2009, Joanna's strong convictions and capacity for persuasion led to settlement rights in the UK being granted to all Gurkha veterans.

Alongside her professional successes as an actress, Joanna has also been awarded an OBE in 1995 and honorary Doctorates from the University of Kent (1994), University of St. Andrews (2006) and Queen's University Belfast (2008).

In July 2009, following a previous professional collaboration with our Director Dr. Zeremariam Fre, **Joanna agreed to become PENHA's patron**. Her affiliation with PENHA is extremely important to our organisation because Joanna's support for charities is always true, sincere and proactive, as she has clearly demonstrated in the case of Gurkha's rights.

In fact, Joanna has recently mentioned PENHA in an interview in the Guardian.

*Lumley has spoken before about the fact that she has throughout her career played good people, from the crime-fighting Purdey to the Bolly-swigging Patsy, via a brief turn as Ken Barlow's love interest in Coronation Street. Add this to her Gurkha campaign and the 60 charities she supports, from Wateraid to Tibetan refugees, orphanages and schools, **supporting the Pastoralists in the Horn of Africa** and the Born Free Foundation, and you begin to sense that she is acutely aware of the importance of being good.*

To read the entire article, please follow the link <http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2009/aug/31/joanna-lumley-interview>

We all thank you Joanna for your support and the visibility you give to the lives of pastoralists in the Horn of Africa!!