



**Paadhai**



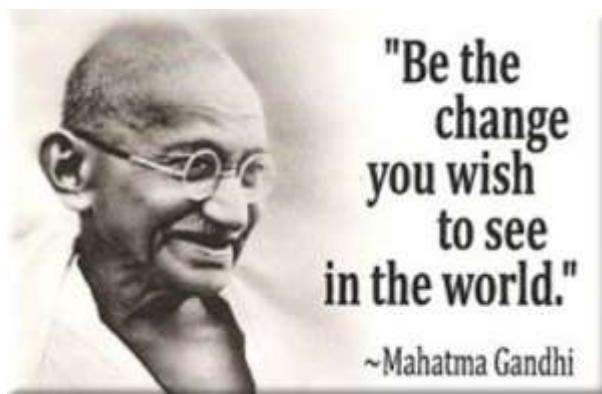
*Education,  
Training and  
Empowerment of  
Communities*

by Ramesh Santhanam

# Paadhai philosophy

Paadhai is a unique, transformative social purpose enterprise that focuses on improving the lives of those less fortunate.

Our organization aims to guide disadvantaged and underprivileged Indian populations out of the cycle of poverty and deprivation. We do this through education and targeted skills training, increasing individual and community resilience, independence and self reliance.



## What we do?

PAADHAI serves as a catalyst for social and community services, bridging the gap between those who are in need and those willing to lend a helping hand.

We connect donors and impoverished groups ensuring that worthy projects get the deserved attention and that funds are properly utilised. We play a crucial role in project identification, planning, implementation, reporting and monitoring.

At PAADHAI, we focus on the three E's -

*Education*

*Empowerment*

*Environment*

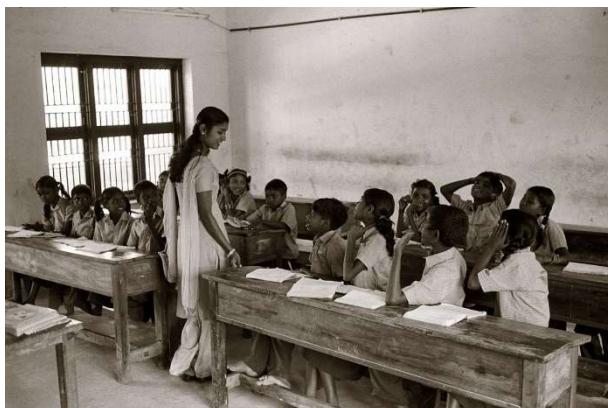


# Paadhai History

PAADHAI came into existence following the worldwide shock provoked by the devastating Asian Tsunami in December 2004. A network of people with different national identities joined hands with a strong will to bring their energies together, into a significant endeavor and a meaningful commitment.

Initial efforts were on education centers for Dalit villages around Tiruchendur (Tamilnadu). These were supplementary education centers which helped tutor the children of these villages. Over the years, PAADHAI has expanded its projects towards Community Based Rehabilitation efforts, Tribal schooling, Mental Health in Rural villages, Production centers for women, Placement of challenged people in Urban Industries, Nature conservation and other Environment related projects.

These project implementations have been realized through local partnerships with dedicated and effective NGOs and their relentless efforts.



# Our Purpose

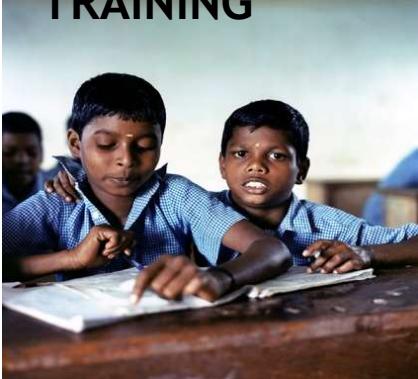
PAADHAI's purpose is to facilitate community connections to achieve successful outcomes. We bring together the following groups who with mutual goals, collaboratively implement meaningful projects :

- ▶ A large population who by circumstance beyond their control, are poor, disadvantaged and sometimes demoralized. Their need is for supportive solutions to improve their conditions and achieve a more reasonable life.
- ▶ Those who have been fortunate to have greater life opportunities and who seek to support projects that will provide opportunities to reduce social inequity.
- ▶ International philanthropic and humanitarian individuals who have a deep commitment to social justice and understand the complex nature of global inequity and strive to improve human dignity and resilience



## Key Efforts

### EDUCATION & TRAINING



### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



### SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT



# Our Programs

Our work is based on the needs of local populations. We identify the needy in a particular geographical area and the project to be executed. We then work with reputable local NGOs for implementing these projects. Sample of projects, over years:

**Educational Projects** particularly in the form of supplementary education centers or evening schools for children

**Tribal School and Training Centers** to impart vocational skills to children and women that potentially opens doors for employment

Supporting **Ecological Activities** like water conservation and Re-forestation

**Counseling and Placement** for those who are employable

Encouraging women towards self-reliance through **micro-credit programs, production centers**, formation of self-help groups, entrepreneurial activities like herbal farming and handicraft production

**Community Based Rehabilitation** for the differently abled

**Health and Hygiene** work by setting up dispensaries, building toilets & rainwater tanks, running medical camps, and promoting the rediscovery of traditional medicinal herbs

Create a market for goods made by **rural and tribal production centers**

**Infrastructure Support** such as solar power in remote communities

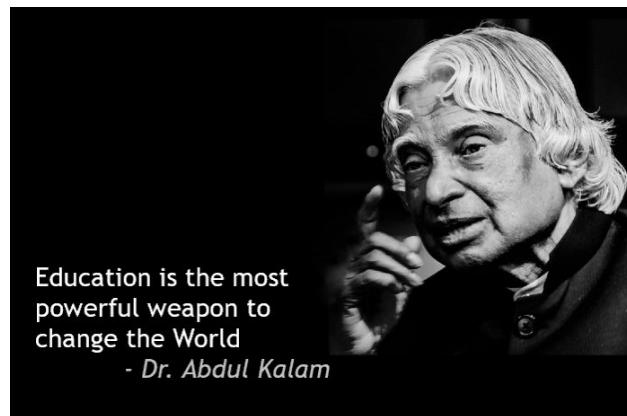


## Education and Training

Education not only provides knowledge, but also serves as a gateway for financial sustenance. PAADHAI holds this view to heart and works towards building a sustainable community, especially in remote areas.

We have been involved in setting up education and training centers in rural and tribal regions by providing the required infrastructure such as buildings, housing, libraries, science laboratories, and transportation.

Paadhai is also involved in mentoring schools and teachers as well as creating content that could be used by all.



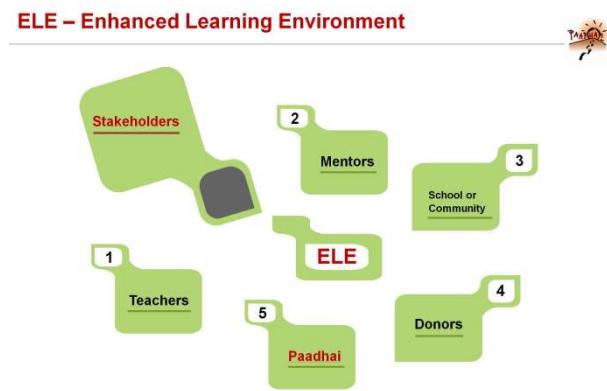
# Enhanced Learning Environment (ELE)

PAADHAI's latest project is "Enhanced Learning Environment". The site of the project is a school in rural Channapatna. Initially, we piloted a volunteer tutor, both for teachers and students. This resulted in a significant increase in student performance.

Buoyed by this success PAADHAI has now a group of mentors to handhold the teachers of many schools and communities. These volunteers are educated professionals from diverse fields with decades of experience.

PAADHAI also supports the students and teachers with curated and customized content.

Our vision is to replicate and scale this to support schools and communities in different regions, over the next few years.



## Other Educational Projects

Mentoring teachers so that they could impart high-quality education to children, immaterial of where the school is or what they

Setting up supplementary education centres. Four centers Tamilnadu

Supporting Tribal school in Wayanad in Kerala, with infrastructure, operations, mentoring and other educational needs - for over a decade

Providing Merit-cum-means scholarship under SCHOOL FOR ALL project at Lakshmi Vidya Sangam, Madurai.

Karka project in Chennai that mapped global content to local syllabus

Providing informative, effective and reusable educational content for primary and secondary school children in association with other NGO's.

Providing English education material for schools and communities who feel left out by the “foreign” language.





NGOs we work with



JungleScapes



Bhoomika

# Community support & development

Paadhai has been supporting initiatives to develop independence and self determination among women and children. These projects are undertaken for schools or communities that we work with.

Our Community support and development efforts can be grouped under,

Skill development - production centers

Capacity building - training and empowerment of women

Community based rehabilitation efforts

Counseling and Placement



## Skill development

We work with NGOs and communities to produce and market products. These start with skill development efforts, where we train local teams. We also help them set up production centers, operate them and create business, till the centers can run on their own.

*A few skill development and production center projects worth mentioning are:*

*WGST - Tailoring efforts - Production of Masks, shopping bags & Women's wear*

*DSS projects - Customized Craft work for Europe*

*Anawim production - Soap making, Palm Leaf products , Spirolina*



## Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)

The ground reality is that there is much need to improve the opportunities for the differently abled in order to enhance their quality of life, as well as that of their families. Paadhai worked with a few communities on CBR projects.

PAADHAI supported a Bangalore based NGO, working on rehabilitation and empowerment of mentally challenged children and young adults. This motivated us to undertake rural CBR efforts in Tamil Nadu. The project supported differently abled children in Twenty villages. The initiative ran for a few years and was managed by a well-known local NGO specializing on CBR implementation in that region.

Mental Health camps were conducted for the Dalit villages where PAADHAI had its education centers. Ongoing day care for the challenged children was also carried out in some of our centers.



## Sustainable environment

We firmly believe that we must leave behind a habitable, serene planet for our future generations. For this, we need to make Mother Earth sustainable in all aspects with proper conservation and optimal use of our rich natural resources.

PAADHAI has taken up ecological activities such as organic farming, water conservation, and re-forestation. Here are a few representative projects ...

- > Associated with 'Junglescapes' in the Lantana projects across different geographical locations. These were reforestation and livelihood support efforts
- > Collaborated with 'One Million Lights' on distribution of solar lanterns to rural villages. Initial distributions were in rural Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.
- > Active on the 'Seed Ball' projects - a reforestation initiative - around Bangalore.



# Our Stories



**SUPPLEMENTARY  
EDUCATION CENTERS**  
- Thiruchendur, Tamil Nadu



**TRIBAL SCHOOL &  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**  
- Wayanad, Kerala



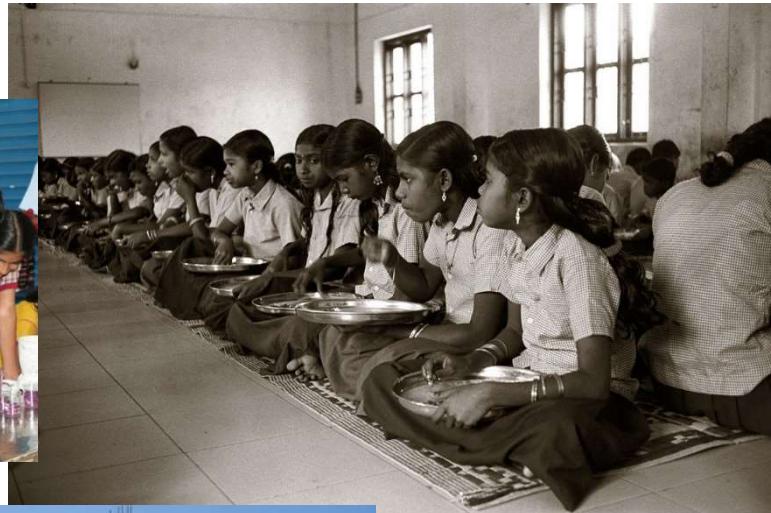
**REFORESTATION &  
EMPLOYMENT**  
- Bandipur,  
Karnataka



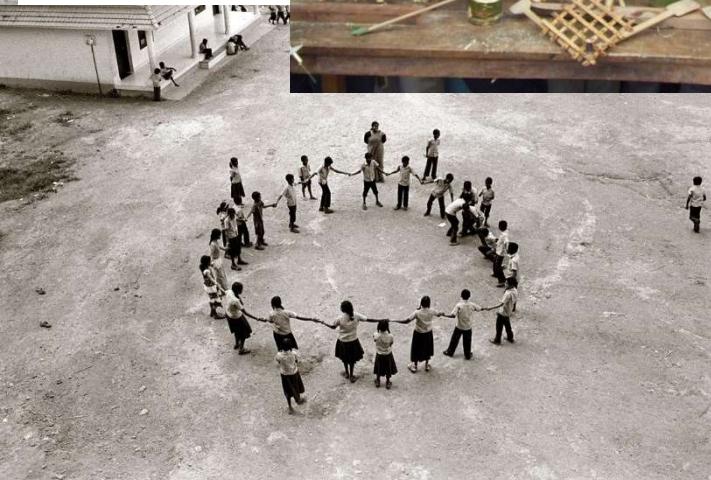
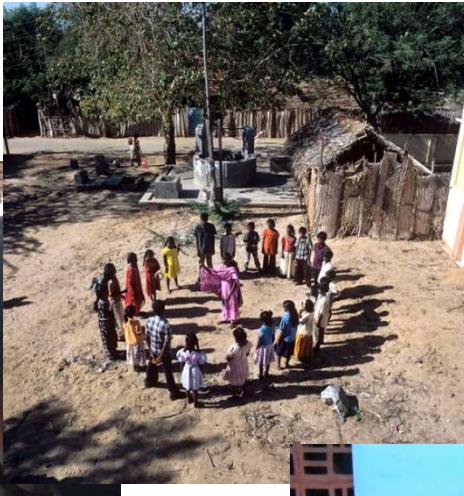
**ENHANCED  
LEARNING  
ENVIRONMENTS**  
- A case study



# Gallery



# Gallery





#### Fund Transfers within India:

##### PAADHAI

Account Number: 625301223439  
Bank: ICICI BANK, No.80/7, Elephant Rock Rd  
3 Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560011  
IFSC CODE: ICIC0000053

(All contributions to Paadhai are tax exempted in India.  
80G receipts are issued)



**PAADHAI,**  
**C/o Ramsoft Technologies**  
**104/A, 4th Cross Phase I Electronic City,**  
**Hosur Road, Bangalore - 560100, INDIA**  
**[accounts@paadhai.org](mailto:accounts@paadhai.org)**