

On August 10, 1993, Odanadi Seva Samsthe came into formal existence under the Trust Act (Reg. No. 618/93-94). Its activities, however, had already started in 1990-91.



Odanadi has rescued more than 1800 women and minors from trafficking. 54 rescue operations have been conducted, and 135 traffickers are booked.

In 1994-95, Prayoga Patha (An Experimental Path) was started as a shelter home for the children of prostituted women, with the support of Child Relief and You (CRY). In recognition of Odanadi's service, the Government of Karnataka allotted two plots of land in different places of Mysore in 1998 and 2000 for the rehabilitation of survivors of sexually exploitation and trafficking.

A low-cost and simple shelter home was constructed by collecting recycled and reused materials and by the physical involvement of Odanadi's staff members without any kind of architectural and engineering support. After 6½ years of mobilizing support from all different corners, MADILU (Mother's Lap) was finally built and completed in 2006 as a model rehabilitation home that meets the minimum standards of care and support.



Presently, Odanadi provides education for more than 80 rescued children, and some of the grown children are now working with different concerns. One boy by the name of Nanjunda completed his L.L.B. course and is practicing as an advocate. Nearly 50 children are studying in primary or high school, 16 children are in college, and the rest of are studying in non-formal education provided at Odanadi.

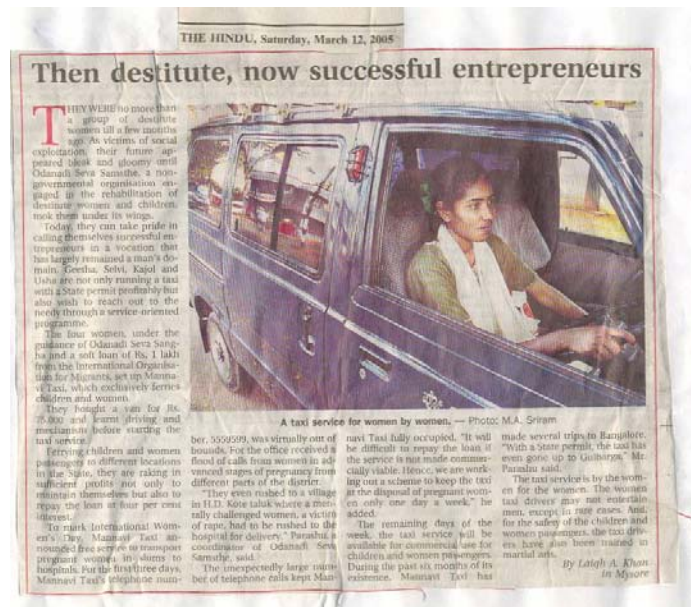
Odanadi has a novel education module for these children aimed at integrating them into the mainstream school curriculum. As an outcome of this, 30% of the children at Prayoga Patha who did not have even rudimentary education have successfully passed out of public examinations conducted by the Directorate of Public Instruction, Karnataka.

Vimochana Mahila Sangha, an association of prostituted women on the streets to fight for their human rights, was formed by Odanadi. It became an umbrella organization for smaller self-help groups, and today in Mysore District alone, the Sangha has a current membership of over 1,300. They are now organized as an independent and vocal group

fighting against exploitation and facilitating the empowerment and rehabilitation of prostituted women.

In 2002, the Government of India decided to launch its progressive prevention and rehabilitation program 'Swadhar' (self-reliance) through Odanadi in Karnataka. That same year, Odanadi was honored with Republic Day Award by the Honorable Governor of Karnataka. Since then, many other awards like the Sarvodaya Kayaka Tatva Award, G. Madegowda Prashasti, and D. Jayaram Foundation Social Award have been given to Odanadi.

The Odanadi initiative, Maanavi Mahila Sangha, is a model for economic self-sustenance of rehabilitated victims leading to successful reintegration with mainstream society. It is a society run by sexually exploited women, all survivors of human trafficking. The society is registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act of 1960. It was officially registered in March 8, 2004 on International Women's Day, though it was functioning for 2 years prior. Maanavi has provided the first all-women taxi service in Mysore city. Other business outlets that Maanavi operates include a travel agency, beauty parlor, emporium, ice cream parlor, and condiments and production unit.



A mass program supported by Indo German Social Service Society (now called Indo Global) was launched and included monthly meetings for the street prostituted women, health camps, legal programs, entrepreneurship training and public sensitization programs.

The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCED), a central governmental organization in New Delhi involved in training officials, chose Odanadi for a training and exposure visit for senior Indian Police Service officers from all over India. They visit Odanadi annually as part of exposures and trainings.

More than 10,000 community members have been impacted by Odanadi's campaigns. The 1-km long Canvas Against Trafficking painted by more than 250 painters, theatre and folk festivals, poets and writers meets, rallies, seminars, consultations, training camps, media and legal sensitizations, posters campaigns, formation of vigilant groups in villages and rescue operations are some of the important programs which are regular happenings through Odanadi.

Odanadi is recognized by the Government of India and also by the United States as one of the best model organizations in the field of rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration, psycho-social therapies and economical activities.