

# EDUCATION FOR ALL

Free Education for Everyone  
Free Food & Shelter for the Needy  
Values-Based Quality Education



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*"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all."*

— Aristotle

*"The solution to the world's problem is to give every child the right kind of education. If he cannot afford it; make it affordable. If he cannot get it; make it accessible. If he cannot go to a school; let the school go to the child."*

— Madhusudan Naidu

Member - Board of Governors  
SSS University for Human Excellence

# OUR CURRENT PROJECT



**SSS Karunyaniketanam, TUMKUR**

## How it all started?

- Prashanthi Bala Mandir Trust (pbmt.org), with its mission of giving **Free Education** to children from all walks of life and with a vision of one rural school in every district of the nation, ventured to build this magnificent values-based school in Ganadahunase village- a remote village in Tumkur district, Karnataka, India.
- M S Sathyanarayana, an educationist and a selfless social worker played a key role in selecting the land chosen for the purpose. With the guidance of Sri B. Narasimhamurthy sir and help of local representatives, the land in Ganadahunase was finalized. Construction work started on March 24, 2018 and will be completed in 3-5 years. Admission began in June 2018 when 32 English-medium boys & 20 Kannada-medium boys joined
- Currently, this campus has a total strength of 105 students studying in 6th and 7th grades. The second batch of the school with 53 students has been already started in a temporary structure. The first phase of the school/hostel construction has been started and estimated to be completed in 3-5 years.

## Status of the school

- **Plan:** The school will be spread over 40 Acres of land with total built up area of about 120,000 Sq Ft
- **Land Purchased:** October 2017
- **Construction started:** March 2018
- **Temporary structure inauguration:** June 2018
- **First batch admitted:** June 2018
- **Second batch admitted:** June 2019
- **First Phase (Under construction):** Hostel building and class rooms

## Unique aspects of this school

- Residential school imparting **Free Education** for all students. Hostel fees are exempted for financially challenging parents. Most of the children enrolled in the school hail from under-privileged sections of India.
- **Each one educate one:** Self-sustaining model of quality education through support and involvement of alumni, local communities, and society.
- **Highly-nourishing food** and well-designed dormitory facilities. **Digital education, environmental education, sports, community service projects and personal spiritual development**
- All campuses are designed to be **“Green”** with a focus on using solar energy-based power supply, water conservation, tree planting and similar environmental initiatives.
- **The 3H formula:** Empowering the Head, heart, and hands. Holistic education that nurtures a child’s physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual well being.
- A **harmonious atmosphere** where children celebrate diversity of faiths, and develop mutual respect and love through community service and self reliance activities.

## Experiencing the Power Of Love in Education

(A Personal Account on the Influence of the Tumkur Boys' School on 2 Educators from the USA)

By Dr. Shala Deleppo Siew

*"Forever touched and transformed, Sarina and I returned back to the USA, knowing we had experienced a treasure that can be shared with the world, if it is ready to receive what is being offered."*

It was a 3 hour taxi ride to Tumkur from Bengaluru. My dear friend and colleague Sarina and I anxiously awaited our first sight of the boys' school campus that we had learned about and supported its development from the USA over the last year. As 2 of 5 team members of the US Academy of Human Excellence, Sarina and I were filled with jittery excitement to experience firsthand how human values-based education was inculcated in these Indian schools and the transformative effects it was having on the lives it reached. As we peered out the car window, mile after mile of arid, undeveloped land surrounded us. Houses, markets, shopping centers faded into the distance as we became enveloped in the purity of natural, rural India.



Off a dirt road, perched amidst land that extended for acres, lay the school. Ganesha, the elephant god, greeted us upon arrival at the school's entrance, soon sending Sir Sathyanarayana, headmaster of the Tumkur School, to welcome us. As preparations were being made, we witnessed a precious moment of the morning rhythm from the daily routine. Students were finishing breakfast, sitting cross-legged on the pristinely cleaned floor of an open-roofed area. They spoke to each other softly, if at all. They stood up and walked unhurried to clean off their plates, all the while stealing glances, with bright eyes and soft smiles, of their new visitors before returning to their quarters



to get ready for the school day. The calm and serenity of the school soothed my heart and anchored my being as I breathed in what I can only describe as the sacred atmosphere. My soul was comforted by what was being created on the Tumkur Campus.

As Headmaster Sathyanarayana personally escorted Sarina and me to the prayer hall for breakfast, we were seated and served by a gathering of students. The table was laid out simply and beautifully. Such care was taken in the nutritious meal placed before us, the offering of drinks to our taste, and the sweet company and service of our hosts in making sure we were comfortable in every way. The students began our meal with a melodious food prayer. Each syllable and intonation of the prayer was chanted with reverence, patience and serenity....qualities that we found present in every moment and in every person that day.



As we were invited to attend morning prayers, interact with teachers, and interface with the students during classroom lessons, a central theme manifested from this Tumkur experience: "Family based on the oneness of God". From the first moment Sarina and I walked through the doors, it felt like home. The greetings, service, sharing, compassion for one another, lessons, all felt as if they recognized our hearts and wanted to offer theirs in return. The headmaster and teachers shared their personal experiences of what drew them to live and work in this remote village to teach and raise these boys: boys who, without education, would be working in the fields or as laborers with their parents; boys who, without education, would not know when or if they would receive their next meal; boys who, without education, would not know that they were capable or worthy of a different way of life. The headmaster and teachers expressed that they raise these boys as if they were their own children. The boys, in turn, respond as seeing their mentors as gurus who they love, respect and work hard for in every way to not disappoint. The students not only see what their teachers do for them and their families, but they feel it. We saw it and felt it in their

smiles, the gentle touches, and the warmth in their eyes as they looked at each other and then turned their gaze upon us. This gaze, this connection manifested in the smallest of ways, bridging students, teachers and parents together in a moment of sharing. So strong was this experience for Sarina and I as we could feel the immensity of this love in such a small, yet profound gesture of gifting us with mangoes upon our departure. These mangoes were grown by the boys' parents, who had so very little, yet were so filled with gratitude for what Tumkur was providing for their children. The little they had, these parents gave whole-heartedly, which in turn, reached us. So expansive is love, knowing no boundaries, sacrificing itself to touch all who are open to receiving.

And the love for God. Such a fervent devotion to God underlay all at Tumkur. It was evident in the gratitude of the students for what God provided for them in the opportunity to attend school, to be in the hands of such loving, skilled, and devoted teachers; in the humility and dedication of the teachers, administrators and staff for the gift of working with students who will one day change the landscape of society; and from this, the parents, whose lives have been touched because of this bittersweet, yet blessed opportunity for their children, and who offer service and gratitude by supporting the school with the little they have, knowing that their child's life will have been saved from a predestined path they have known for, possibly, generations.



Forever touched and transformed, Sarina and I returned back to the USA, knowing we had experienced a treasure that can be shared with the world, if it is ready to receive what is being offered: a way of life and learning based on the Love of God and of truly believing and experiencing our fellow humans as brothers and sisters born of this Love. We could only imagine the future when these students grow up and pay forward the lessons they are learning to the greater world. We left Tumkur with a hope of what education can do for the world when entrusted to those who see humanity as one family, living from an inner world based on Love, Peace, Truth, Right Action and Non-Violence that becomes reflected in the external world around. Our hearts were filled, our minds stimulated, and our hands ready to serve as we departed India with hope for the United States of America.

## STUDENT'S CORNER



**Sinchan, 6th grade**

My father was working as a physical instructor in a private Polytechnic College. It was a happy life then. Suddenly my father was diagnosed with Cancer and my mother had to spend a lot of money to get him cured. My father, however, passed away and we were very sad and miserable.

Sathya Sai Annapurna Trust was doing service at the hospital where my father was being treated. They met my mother and told her about the Tumkur – SSS Karunyaniketanam School being open in our district and suggested taking me there. My mother took me to the school and met the chairman who heard our sad story. The chairman gave an application. My application was filled and sent to the school, following which I wrote a test. The School sent a teacher to verify our condition. He then later called my mother to share the happy news that they have selected me to attend the school. He further gave us the news that they will also cover the fees.

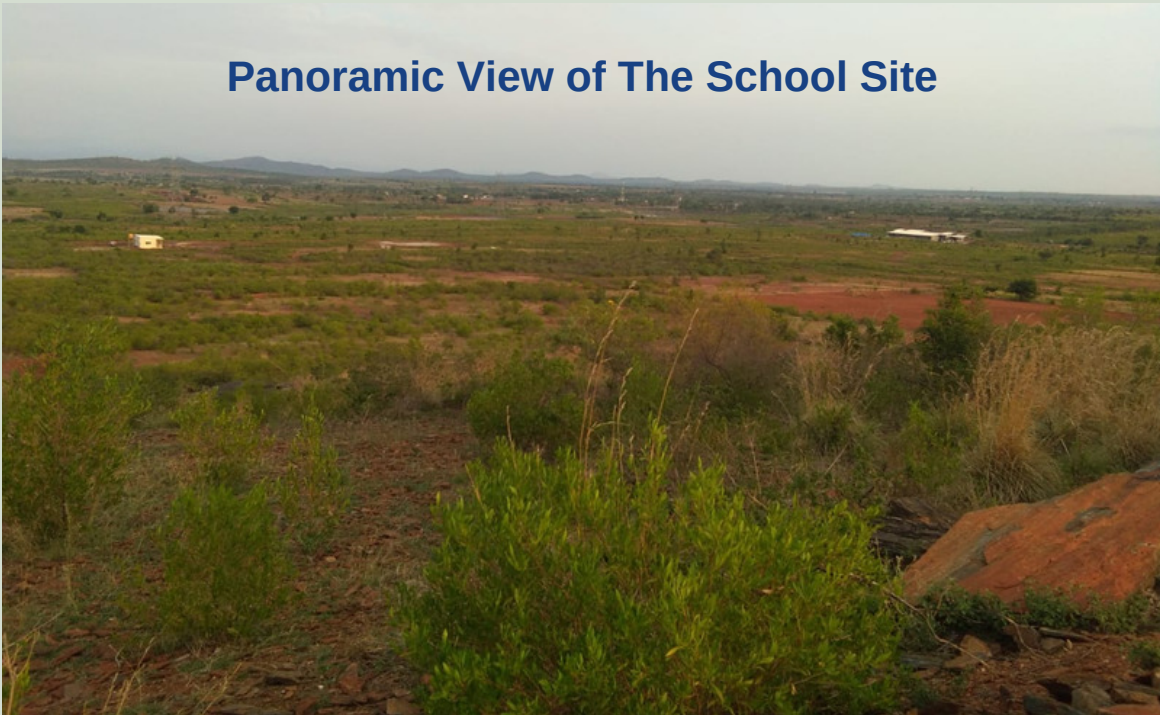
I am very happy here. I learn Bhajan, Vedas, Yoga among many other things. All students are taken care of by the teachers, warden and chairman very well. We are all eagerly waiting to see Swami come to our school. I want to be with Swami only always. My mother also told me that is the right thing to do.





# PHOTO GALLERY

**Panoramic View of The School Site**



**Temporary Structure with First Batch of Students**





**Bend The Body**  
Skillful 6th Graders in the Sports Meet







## Mend The Mind







## Serve The Planet

