



---

**A CENTRE FOR LEARNING IN SITILINGI**

# Our Journey

Thulir was started in 2004 as a learning centre in the Sittilingi valley with the support of friends at the Tribal Health Initiative.

In the last 16 years, Thulir has catered to the educational needs of around 500 adivasi children and around 70 adolescents.

The main programmes of Thulir were,

- ❖ An after-school programme for the government school going children
- ❖ A full time 'hands-on' basic technology course for adolescents who had opted out of school
- ❖ On-site training of building artisans who specialise in sustainable construction.



## Where is Sittilingi?

Sittilingi valley nestles between the Kalrayan and Sitheri hills in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu (South India) and is home to around 15,000 Malayalee adivasi people.

This area, which is around 75 km each from Dharmapuri, Salem and Thiruvannamalai, was very poorly connected by road or phone until a few years ago.

---

## New School

There is a lack of good quality educational opportunities in the valley. The village community, prompted by Thulir's track record in addressing this gap, requested us to help start a formal school. Prospective parents, teachers and other members of the village community discussed and debated the culture and values of this new school.

- ❖ We envisaged a space where importance is given to the tribal culture & values, agriculture and the environment.
- ❖ We would like to create a sanctuary, where children and adults can learn and explore in an atmosphere of freedom, equality, inclusion, co-operation, dignity and joy.
- ❖ We hope to enable the children to independently forge their futures while taking pride in their roots and heritage.

The school was started on **June 17th 2015** in a friend's house. With your support we have built six classrooms, toilets, office room and a kitchen. The new campus was inaugurated on **Jan 23rd 2019** and now has **53 children** from 7 villages.

---

---

**“A place where education would not be an abstract or cerebral activity but one that integrates our Head, Heart and Hands”**

---



---

## The construction

We would like the new school campus to provide a conducive physical environment for a positive learning process.

We have tried to make the buildings:

- ❖ aesthetically pleasing,
- ❖ structurally sound, child sensitive and environmentally friendly,
- ❖ cost effective while adhering to standards.

The buildings are being built by local artisans in order to boost the local economy. We are using renewable energy sources as far as possible.

### The Need

We provide healthy millet based lunch and snacks for the children. At the moment, we urgently need to build a **dining hall**. A **library-cum-resource centre** for all the children of this valley is also proposed to be set up

The estimated budget for this is **₹30 lakhs**.

---

## Support Us

The school is taking shape brick by brick. With your support, quality education can now be a reality for the children of Sittilingi.

### SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION

₹15,000 will help construct  
10 square feet of the buildings.

### SUPPORT A CHILD

₹3,000/month or ₹36,000/year  
will help support a child's  
education.

### DONATE TO OUR CORPUS FUND

Help us build a corpus fund for the  
long term financing of the school.

Please do join us in this effort to create a more enlightened, equitable, just, caring and peaceful world.

To contribute,

please visit : [www.thulir.org/wp/support-us/](http://www.thulir.org/wp/support-us/)

e-mail us: [thulir@gmail.com](mailto:thulir@gmail.com)

---





THANK YOU!