



Sangama & Abhinaya Present A Cultural Evening
by **Visually Impaired And Disabled Artists From SAMARTHANAM**

Sangama would like to THANK the following SPONSORS for making this event possible,

Asha Prem, Dances of India	Prasanna Kasturi, Soorya Dance Company	Sujatha Venjamuri, Kuchipudi Academy of St. Louis
Smitha Rajan, Nrithyakshetra	Sudha Srinivasan, Nrithyalaya Dance School	Ranjana Gupta, All State Insurance

Donations are Most Welcome and Appreciated



Samarthanam (Trust for the Disabled)

<http://www.samarthanam.org>

BANGALORE, INDIA.

Samarthanam is a **VISION** born out of the difficulties faced by the three founder trustees while they were students in Bangalore . Instead of letting themselves be eaten up by frustrations they decided to fight the difficulties straight out on behalf of the future generations of visually challenged. They started out by identifying as many visually, physically and economically challenged youngsters as they could and tried to give them a chance to lead a life as any other normal individual by equipping them with knowledge and support. The trustees wanted to give anyone with a will, to fight out the age old notions about visual impairment, a chance to come out and prove to the world that they could achieve anything once they are given an opportunity to do so.

Samarthanam Trust For The Disabled was registered as an NGO on February 26, 1997 with the initial objective of providing hostel and education facilities to visually impaired girls pursuing their studies after tenth standard. Over the years the Trust has expanded its horizon to include various projects for the benefit of physically and economically challenged student. Besides getting them admitted in various prestigious colleges in the city of Bangalore, the trust also provides the visually challenged students with reader, scribe services and opportunities to pursue their other extracurricular interests like music, dance or sports.

Education being the main focus, **Integrated Education of the Disabled (IED)**, a government of India initiative to encourage schools to integrate physically and visually challenged children with normal students has been adopted by the trust. As an upshot to this policy, Samarthanam has been participating in the Akshara Dasoha program of the Government of Karnataka to encourage primary education. In its' own right Samarthanam has adopted a government school in rural Bangalore not only to provide them with nutritional supplements but also provided the students with tutorial support. A computer cell trains the visually impaired to use computers and access documents, mails and information in the Internet using software called JAWS (Job Access With Speech) and KURZWEIL, which converts scanned material into text.

There is no better way to thank God for your sight than by giving a helping hand to someone in the dark” - Helen Keller.
Your support for **“Samarthanam”** the Trust for the Disabled is Appreciated.

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