



RUTH MANORAMA

Dr. Ruth Manorama is a well-known Social and Political Activist and a Feminist. She was a student of the Madras University and we are proud to say , she is an alumna of the Department of Social Work, batch of 1975 – 77 MA Social Work and a parent of one of our former students.

She holds numerous positions and is currently the National President of the National Alliance of Women (NAWO), National Convener of the National Federation of Dalit Women and General Secretary of Women’s Voice, Karnataka. She is also the Advisor and founder of Karnataka Gruha Karmikara Sangha, the first Trade Union registered in the country for domestic workers and Vice President of National Centre for Labour (NCL) for the unorganized sector.

With an illustrious career spanning four decades, she has been actively involved in educating, organizing and mobilizing women, Dalits, urban poor and the unorganized sector from the grass-root to the National levels. She has been an advocate standing with the people in their struggle for Human rights, championing their cause to end discrimination and deprivation.

Her passion, lobbying and negotiation skills have earned her positions as a member of several commission and committees such as

Member, National Commission on Population, chaired by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India.

Member, National Advisory Council, Right to Education (RTE).

Member, National Standing Committee for Women Scientists, Union Ministry of Science and Technology.

She has travelled widely as a Resource person to several Asian, global and United Nation's Conferences from 1979 onwards on issues pertaining to Women, Health, Peace, Labour, indigenous peoples, Dalits, Racism and Human Rights.

Recognition for her commitment and contribution to movements for their marginalized, the networks she has established for the empowerment of the poor and her fight for justice has come in the form of numerous awards.

To mention a few, she is the honoured Recipient of

- The Right Livelihood Award, 2006, also known as 'Alternate Nobel Prize'
- Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Award, for doing work among women and Dalits in Karnataka
- Rajyotsava award in 2005, for eminent persons in Karnataka
- SKOCH Challenger Award – 2012 – the highest independently instituted civilian honour

Dr. Manorama is a tireless worker and promoter of justice at National and International forums for the dignified existence of human beings.

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