

Dear all,

#Women'sHistoryMonth is for celebrating women who choose to inspire, work hard and challenge the norms of this society. Here's an edition of celebrating our women who are creating waves of change in our communities at Oasis!

What do children know about women empowerment?

We asked those in our after-school programme (ASP) to take photos of what women empowerment looks like to them. Here are their amazing, thought provoking photos!



"I chose to take a picture of this aunty in my community because she works as a

sweeper and even at this age, she strives to take care of her family. I believe that she is a superwoman." ~ Shanmuga Priya, ASP, Chennai



"Here's a brave woman who works from home. She makes use of her skill even though she is at home and she said that earning even a small amount makes her happy. I believe she is a brave women." ~ Jai Prakash, ASP, Chennai



"My mother, Kamakshi, is a very responsible woman. She learnt tailoring and does part-time tamarind de-seeding work to support my family. She is my hero." ~ Sowjanya, ASP, Punganur



"My mother, Reddy Sudha, is multi-talented and she plays a key role in running the family and our petty shop." ~ Tejashwini, ASP, Punganur



"My superwoman is my mother. I have seen her struggling very hard to take care of us and she does all the house hold cores alone. She is also working in an automobile Industry as a receptionist. I love my mother." ~ Navyashree, ASP, Bangalore



"My grandmother is a good example of an empowered woman. My grandmother takes care of me and everyone in my family. She works as a housekeeping staff. I have never seen her tired and she always gives the best she can in everything." ~ Varsha, ASP, Bangalore



"I feel like this woman here is empowered. She is self-employed and is financially empowered. When every woman and girl child are given equal opportunities in life, empowerment is done." ~ Chanchal Tiwari, ASP, Nalasopara



"There is nothing that woman cannot do and this picture is a representation of it. Women can take up any challenge and do it." ~ Muskan Dubey, ASP, Nalasopara



Ruby comes from a middle class family in Chennai. When she fell in love with someone, her family disavowed her. Ruby got married nevertheless and they have 2 daughters who are 9 and 7 years old. As a family, they struggled to keep going with

the salary that Ruby's husband gets. During COVID-19, her husband had no income and her daughters had to drop out of school because they had no money to pay their school fees. Ruby wanted her daughters to study well and she saw great potential in her eldest daughter who was one of the bright students in her class. She was determined to find a way of survival and to get her daughters back to school.

Ruby joined Oasis India a few years back and completed the 6-month vocational tailoring course and Blue edge, an employment-readiness programme with us. During the pandemic, she began stitching clothes for those in her neighbourhood and managed her family expenses. Ruby also joined the micro skilling course at our Chennai hub where she learnt how to make chemicals like phenyl, soap oils and daily essentials and started selling the phenyl. This helped in receiving some income to help feed her family every day. Ruby's batch of students from the micro skilling course hope to collaborate together to start a unit of their own. Finally, as things are starting to look up a little for Ruby, she says that these struggles has caused her to become empowered in the face of her challenges.

"There are two ways of spreading light. To be the candle, or the mirror that reflects it." – Edith Wharton

Women are trail blazers everywhere, most importantly at their own adode. Here are stories of some women who have inspired their children especially, young girls at home. #TeachingThemYoung



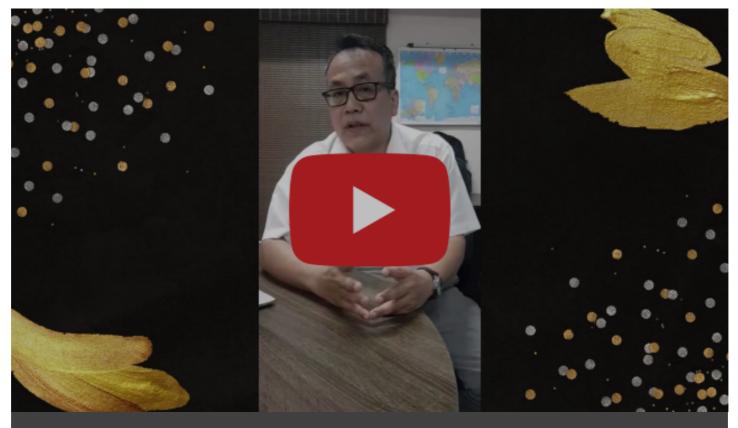
When I was younger, my parents and I used to stay in Bandra, Mumbai. We bought a house in Nalasopara but we faced a lot of problems following that. We were not

allowed to move in by the builders. My parents often went to meet them but were always pushed away. All their legal efforts were in vain too! Finally, my mother moved into the house alone because I had school in Bandra and my father was also working there. She withstood the taunts and the pressures given by the builders to secure the house. She stood firm with the decision she made and faced the builders without getting scared because she knew she was right.

My mother is an active part of the Nalasopara community, motivating others to be a part of the programmes at Oasis. My superhero is my mom. She motivates me and teaches me to never give up. She often says, "You may not get it in the first try, second or even the third but you keep trying and you will get it eventually. Be bold and speak for what is right." I admire my mother a lot and have great respect for her.

~ Manisha, ASP, Nalasopara





A special video for our women staff at Oasis India! Take a look.

How can you help uplift women this month?

and every month;)



Order from Madras Fuse: Buy products like Salwar, Kurta and other beautiful apparels made by women from our communities in Mumbai and Chennai. They receive fair wages for every product they make.

Join our 500 club: Choose to give Rs.500 every month. This monthly-contribution will help with the programmes we have for our women and children across India. You can also contribute one-off in the link below.

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Give Today

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Our mailing address is:

Head Office

Amazing Grace, Flat No 201, 2nd Floor, 3rd "D" Main Ramaiah Layout, Opp. To BBMP Kuvempu Park, St. Thomas Town, Kacharrakanahalli, Bangalore – 560084

Regional Office (South)

No 1/1A 'B' Kalayanpuram, Main road, Vysarpadi, Chennai – 600039

Regional Office (West)

Bungalow No. 3 & 4, Vijay Park, Behind Amber Plaza Banguet Hall, Mira Road East, Mumbai – 401107

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