Kūdali

Intergenerational Learning Centre
Kūdali\(^1\) - is a transformative space for intergenerational, intercultural learning and popular education\(^2\) initiatives. Kūdali is a part of the food sovereignty movement led by dalits, adivasis, small peasants, pastoralists and co-producers\(^3\). Kūdali supports the indigenous philosophy of Buen Vivir\(^4\), wherein food sovereignty and social justice are a critical framework of action and practice. Through this, Kūdali will restore seeds of sovereignty for the future.

1 Kūdali in Telugu means joining, meeting; a meeting of paths, rivers meeting the sea
2 Popular education or “education for critical consciousness” is a decolonizing and emancipatory pedagogical approach /philosophy, introduced by the Brazilian educator and writer Paulo Freire
3 Co-producers are “non-farming” citizens who are concerned about the future of food, co-creating and advancing the visions for Food Sovereignty.
4 Buen Vivir is an indigenous proposal for a way of life, based on holistic co-existence and recovery of lost harmony between humans and Mother Earth
Kūdali is located in Badampet village, Hathnoora mandal, Sanga Reddy district, Telangana. It is nestled between a dargah, a sacred grove, a village pond and 3 acres of biodiverse agro-ecologically cultivated food crops. Kūdali is built of mud and is a revival of the traditional architecture of Telangana. It has meeting spaces, a community library and reading room, work rooms, art rooms, community living and resting spaces, a community kitchen, community seed bank and an open air amphitheatre. It is accessible for persons with disabilities. It also has gender-neutral restrooms.

Traditional artisans from Medak and Sanga Reddy districts, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, youth from Badampet, adivasi youth from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh along with a young mud-architect from Mumbai, were involved in Kūdali’s creation between January 2014 and December 2016. They used their indigenous building knowledge including, the unique cob (mud balls) construction technique, intricately carved wooden roof and hand-made roof tiles, all of which are integral components of mud houses of the region.
Kūdali was built with people’s contributions: over sixty friends and four institutional donors supported this effort. Yakshi\(^5\) facilitated the building of Kūdali.

**Kūdali’s actions include:**

- Dialogue platforms on social justice
- Popular education with adivasi, dalit, small farmer, pastoralist, urban youth
- Creative learning events with children to connect with communities, their livelihoods, ecological knowledge systems, life skills and cultures
- Art and Movement building
- Cultural Performances
- Theatre for Life
- Creative workshops for writers, poets, artists, actors, filmmakers, photographers
- Solidarity dialogues between social movements
- Celebrating diverse food cultures and ecological food farming

We invite you to join us in this creative transformative process.

**For further details:**

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