*Fateh* is a compilation of real life accounts of young people who battled extreme circumstances and came out victors.

They are children of parents who went to prison.

Using tears to wash away their grief they have battled through their childhood without breaking their spirit.

Despite the irresponsibility of their parents, they have love and care for them with a deepseated desire to make them happy and proud.

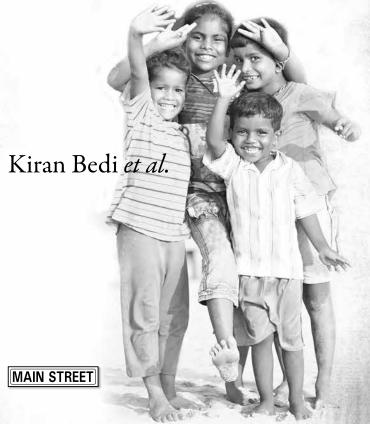
They are all aware of the power of education and are determined to change their lives.

They have the generosity of heart to share their stories with the world.

Each story tugs at our hearts, humbles and inspires us.

This narration is one of the first of its kind.





### MAIN STREET

#### **FATEH**

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### Foreword

It's a mystery for me as to why I was sent to a prison assignment as Inspector General of Tihar Prisons in Delhi, in May 1993.

Was it to dump me, or was it to see a dump of 9,700 persons incarcerated and doing nothing but cursing their fate and waiting for freedom?

Some even to come out and take revenge?

But tragically amongst these numbers were the children of women inmates who had come along, as prison rules in India allow on request.

They were in the most pitiable state.

They were learning the language of criminality for there was nothing else for them. The prison cell was their home.

I felt I must have owed them a huge debt in my past life to serve them.

The stories in this compilation are of children we schooled, who are now moving to be sound professionals.

We had taken them in our care by starting a "play school" (créche) inside the prison.

Through this we checked them from going to courts with their mothers and hearing court proceedings. From play schools inside the prison, India Vision Foundation then went on to send them to residential schools/college/university/jobs.

And the result is there to see.

Read their accounts in their own handwriting, in their own style, for total authenticity. This group (our first batch) has grown up and is ready to tell the world their stories. Perhaps the first of its kind anywhere, I have seen.

We have translated and typed their accounts for readers convenience.

See how each life stands saved and is of value today. Thanks to a huge collective effort, they have triumphed over their tragedies.

Thank you for picking up this little book and feeling as we have for 20 years now!

It is the result of two decades of a herculean effort....and this book is a part of its celebraion.

Wish us good will.

Yours Sincerely.

## PART I

# Life Stories



# Tabassum

19 years old

BBA Student

### Tabassum

के साथ रहना चार शुरू कर दिया एहें हमान रखते के मम्मी से द हमारा Time और भी मुश्किल सेने के अलावा हम कुछ भी न सकते में रीत फिर न्युप हो ज करते में 1 उसके बाद मेरी फिर अरि वकत जुने वाला चा कि हाररल जाना चा अब में हा क्या होता है वहां कामा हाता भेरी रामम में सब कुछ बहार १

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( दिल की अति ? िला में वैसे तो बहुत वाले होती है पर खर्म अख्य मेरी दिल की सबसे बड़ी बात यही है कि अल्लाह मुसे हर पर्शामी में आगे बढ़ने की हिम्मत दें। अरि में समी में यही कहना न्याहती हु के वकत हर अरम की देवा है' वुनत के साथ सब कुद बदल जाता है। को वस आप हिम्मेंत ना हारे और हर जुनोंती स्वीकार करें। मेरे दिल की एकमात्र रत्वाहिश यही है। की में अपने पूरा कर दे। यही पूरा कर दे। एक दिन में पूरा कर दे। Thankyou)

### **Tabassum**

Hello Everyone,

My name is Tabassum.

My story begins on a happy note, when I was living with my parents, brother, uncle and grandmother.

I was only 6 years old, innocent, naive and blissfully unaware of how soon my life would change, my childhood lost never to return.

Some enemies of our family, trapped my mother under false charges and she was slapped with a big case. She left home and went to prison.

That was a very delicate time for me, I was completely confused as to what was happening. I did not understand why my mother had to leave.

My brother was very young at that time and needed my mother....still we could not understand why my mother had to leave us if she was innocent.

After being separated from our mother our lives became very tough. We began living with my father who took very good care of us. We used to keep crying. Then stop and start again. My tears never stopped.

But soon my life was to experience another turn. I was being sent to a hostel. I had no idea at all what a hostel was. I only knew that I had to leave my home.

A lot of questions arose in my heart, but who could I ask... no one, I kept crying, my little unhappy self. I was completely broken from inside.

Then the time came for me to leave, I was packed and ready. But I was very scared and nervous. I kept staring at everyone in the house, looking for reassurance and answers as to where I was going. None came.

Before leaving for Hostel I was taken to prison to meet my mother. I don't have words to express what I went through. As soon as I saw my mother I became very subdued. I did not say anything and hugged my mother tight with my eyes shut and just kept wishing that this moment would never end. I wished that no one would ever separate me from my mom. I was thinking why is this happening to me, why am I being taken to hostel.

I saved that image of my mom in my heart and left. I reached hostel and did not see a familiar face. All the children were staring at me and I was staring at them. I was petrified. I went through a very bad time at the hostel. That day I cried for hours, kept asking for my mother and said that I did not want to stay there. I shed a lot of tears and also did not eat properly for 3-4 days. As a result I fell ill.

I was unaware of what was happening around me. Who was speaking to me, what was I eating, where was I sleeping. I just kept lying in one corner.

But soon something shifted inside me. At 6 years of age, I decided to take up the challenge life had thrown at me and began living in the hostel. I did not laugh; I did not play with anyone. I had distanced myself from laughter and my toys forever. Nobody saw me laugh at my hostel.

When I first went to meet my mother at jail from my hostel, I still could not speak. But my mother spoke. She was explaining a lot of things to me. A lot of important things. Some I could fathom others I could not. I just kept staring at her.

My mother told me that I am a special daughter. One daughter who is equal to 100 sons. A strong and courageous daughter. That I have to study, move ahead in life and become someone and show her.

At that meeting I did not cry in front of my mother. I knew that if I cry, my mother would start crying too.

I thought about what my mother said and realized that she must be right. I went back to hostel and cried my eyes out. Each time I would meet my mother I would come back to the hostel and cry my eyes out. As though I had killed something within me.

I was studying in grade 3 and I passed my exams. Everybody was so happy for me. But I had no idea what it meant to pass and why everyone was happy. I was not happy at all.

Then when I went to visit my mother and she heard the news of my passing grade 3, she was very happy. She hugged and kissed me. Then I realized that perhaps by passing my exams I had done a good thing.

At that time I swore on my tears that I would always pass my exams and make my mother happy.

I came back to hostel and kept up my studies, but I was never happy.

Then I went through another bad time. I got a wound on my head that refused to heal. I was young and I did not know how to take care of myself.

My little self was exhausted, tired of life. I would sometimes

take medicine, sometimes not. As a result my condition worsened. I was 8 or 9 years then.

Then an IVF counselor visited my school, saw my condition and then took me to a specialist at the Gurgaon hospital. The doctor was shocked and appalled at my condition. The doctor had to cut my long hair to treat me. I cried so much and longed to be with my mother.

After the treatment I became all right and went back to focusing on my studies. Then I started crying a little less. But it was like I had fixed a time for crying. I did not want to cry during my studies because I wanted to pass again. I passed that year and the next and the next....

But I was sad and melancholy. I would be reserved, just sit where I was told to, and sleep where I was asked to, eat what was given to me.

I still remember the first time I laughed, and how many people cried. Everyone was thinking, what has happened to Tabassum, she has laughed today for the first time. Then a few people told me to laugh more often, they said that laughing becomes me, I look good while laughing.

Time passed and soon I was in grade 7. A lot of people began to recognize me and I became a little more mature and sensible.

My head mistress and teachers and the whole school started loving me, slowly I started to become happy.

A lot of other reasons to make me happy also came my way.

I enjoyed going for picnics, playing on swings and having cold drinks...But I did not know that a big problem was waiting for me just round the corner that would take away my happiness forever and make my life serious again.

I had passed grade 7 and I was excited to visit my uncle and meet with my father in the holidays. I was happy at passing my exams and I had made a list for my father of all the things that I wanted him to get for me.

I left hostel for home. As soon as I reached home the sight I saw left me stunned. Everyone was looking at me. I had lost everything. My father had passed away. I could only see him for 2 seconds before they took him away forever. I was his little fairy... I ran up to the terrace of my house and looked up at the sky and screamed. "Papa come back, Papa take me with you, please Papa, I cant live without you, Papa take your little fairy with you".

Papa will never come back, he is gone forever.

That day, the day my father's life ended, mine began.

I gave myself an open challenge, that I would be responsible for myself. I pulled myself together and promised myself that I would study hard and make a name for myself.

That day Papa's little fairy grew up. Started thinking of big things.

I determined that I will study, the dream I had seen for myself was one with a pen in my hand and that I am educated.

I returned to the hostel and plunged myself in studies. That year I passed with 70% marks. I continued studying and doing well.

I had convinced myself that if I want to make a life for myself, it is only through education that I can make a change.

I started competing with myself. I wanted to become a doctor. My uncle too had ambitions for me. He wanted me to be famous.

I got 75% marks in grade 10 and then I took the science

stream, as I wanted to study medicine. My uncle wanted me to become an IAS (Indian Administrative Service) officer or an IPS (Indian Police Service) officer.

I thought about what he said and then I dropped science.

My uncle treats me like a boy not a girl, which makes me feel good. He gets me the best of everything and always thinks the best for me.

After my father it is my uncle and my mother who have taken me ahead in life.

I am given special treatment in my house, I am considered special in my house, and they love me the most and consult me on all-important matters.

I have decided that I will prepare for government service exams and give my uncle the joy of my selection.

I want to give 100% to my teachers. I take every assignment seriously. I can't explain my life to everyone, I need to show my talent. I got 79% marks in my  $12^{th}$  board exams. Today I am 19 years old and pursuing my BBA from a leading university. I am now in my  $3^{rd}$  year. In my  $2^{nd}$  year I got 82% marks.

I have learnt a lot from Dr. Kiran Bedi and my mother has always encouraged and motivated me. She tells me that if she can live for us why can't we live for her. I love her advice and guidance.

I listen to music when I am sad to lift my mood, I also enjoy singing. I have 4 very close friends who love me a lot and who take care of all my needs. They can do anything for my happiness. I am very close to them and I share my deepest thoughts with them.

My younger brother's name is Abid, who is a lovely person. He loves me a lot and can't bear to see me cry. He cares more for me than even himself. I am a big fan of Shahrukh Khan and Kajol. Abid and I dance a lot to their songs. Abid becomes Shahrukh and I become Kajol. We have a lot of fun.

Now all I want to become is an IAS officer or an HR manager, and help people. If God makes me successful I will help everyone.

I have won a lot of competitions and for one I even went to Chandigarh to get my award. That was a very beautiful time in my life.

I will prepare hard for my entrance for IAS and hope to make the people who are waiting for my success proud.

Today I still have a sadness, but I am happy. I look forward to happy times for which I am preparing so hard.

Thank You.



Straight from my heart

There are a lot of thoughts and desires in my heart. But one thought is the strongest that Allah gives me the strength to overcome all the difficulties coming my way and I can move forward.

I also want to say that "Time heals everything". Everything changes with time.

Just don't loose hope and accept every challenge that comes your way.

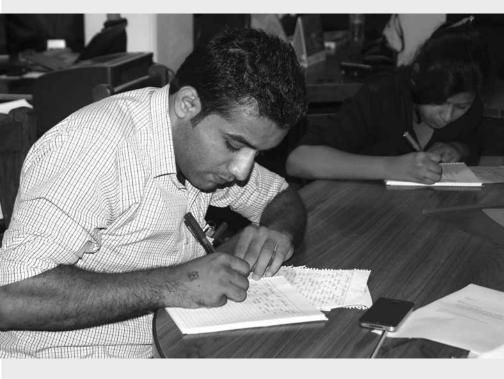
I have a strong desire to make IVF proud and make all the dreams I have come true.

#### COUNSELORS' NOTE

Tabassum is a good Girl. Simple and down to earth. Her essay on global warming won the best prize in all of Gurgaon district. Her moral standards are high. Her mother was in prison for 10 years. Her father was a local medicine man. Although there were very few moments when Tabassum could really smile, she gave numerous occasions to us at IVF and her mother to feel proud of her achievements.

From a humble start at a Hindi medium school, today Tabassum is competing with international students and is still able to score highest marks 82% in second year of BBA course from a leading university. Proud, determined and resilient are some qualities that define this diligent girl.

Renu Nag lew



# Rahul Singh Malik

22 years old

MNC Executive

## RAHUL KUMAR

Our bad times slighted my morn end dad murdered bethever brotheris son because attacked my father with a sused chop the folder for animals.

They father and mother both to Tihar Jail. After 3 my parents were released my father was murdered.

Growing up >> In 2000 I was sent to school where I was admitted in class 3rd. From class 3rd to 10th standard I stadical in School. I was not a good stadent, Till class 8th I was not giving importance to my stady. And when I was in class 6th I got to know to know that there is something call India, vision foundation is helping me and my sister to stady. fl start :> I met a friend in

School he was in class

7th them and I was in class

6th, one day he told me his

after hearing his story I

cried a lot and I felt

very much encouraged following

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slory -> Anil is from ASIAM.

He came to Delhi wes t he will help education in Delhi, that Instead So to be co hotel by Delhi Sarder dutch men Senthostel where 7 was . And is currently Yes Book in Alwar Badmess :> While I was in hostel school to be closed School closed Whenever the Summer vacation, Christmu Pavents hotiology come nostel

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unes, Just before I wis admilled a different school my mother died when my 10th result was about to Come on 28 june 2006.

I was really sad and thought my life is coming to an end but I again thought whose parents are aline but he didn't remarks their meme and the didn't remarks their meme and the difficult it might be for Amil. They I again admit- result of the doesn't know the hope and the might be for highest musks in class 11th and 1th in school and I was coplain of my school and I was

to 175 Chaziabad 2 Completed my BBA 2 was 2013 Great thanks to IVF > I am very to IVF, that I cun sendent- and injoy

### राहुल सिंह मलिक

शुरुआती ज़िंदगी: इंडिया विज़न फाउंडेशन से जुड़ने से पहले मेरा पूरा परिवार दिल्ली में रह रहा था। मेरे पिताजी का अपना डेयरी का व्यापार था। वहाँ मेरे परिवार के बीच जायदाद के बंटवारे को लेकर कुछ-न-कुछ गलत चल रहा था। पर मुझे एकदम सही से नहीं पता था कि ये क्या हो रहा है और क्यूं ये सब हो रहा है?

हमारा बुरा वक्त तब शुरू हुआ, जब मेरे माता-पिता ने मिलकर मेरे चाचा के बेटे का कत्ल कर दिया, क्योंकि उसने मेरे पिताजी के ऊपर एक ऐसे हथियार से प्रहार किया था जो कि पशुओं का खाना काटने के काम में लाया जाता था। फिर मेरे माता-पिता दोनों तिहाड़ जेल चले गए और फिर तीन साल बाद मेरे माता-पिता जेल से बाहर आ गए। मेरे पापा ने ये कत्ल सन् 1999 के आस-पास किया था।

बड़ा होते हुए: सन् 2000 में मुझे स्कूल भेजा गया, जहाँ मैंने तीसरी कक्षा में दाखिला लिया था। तीसरी कक्षा से 10वीं कक्षा तक की शिक्षा मैंने वहीं से प्राप्त की। मैं अपनी पढ़ाई के लिहाज से अच्छा विद्यार्थी नहीं था। कक्षा 6 तक मैंने अपनी पढ़ाई को कोई महत्त्व नहीं दिया, पर मैंने ये तब समझा जब मुझे पता चला और मैंने जाना कि कोई इंडिया विजन फाउंडेशन है, जो मेरी और मेरी बहन की पढ़ाई में मदद कर रहा है।

शुरुआत: मैं अपने स्कूल में एक दोस्त से मिला जो कि 7वीं कक्षा में था

और मैं छठी में। एक दिन उसने मुझे अपनी पूरी कहानी सुनाई। उसकी बातें सुनकर मैं बहुत रोया था। मैंने खुद को बहुत उत्साहित महसूस किया। और मुझे मेरे दोस्त की कहानी ने बहुत ही प्रभावित किया।

अनिल की कहानी: अनिल असम का रहने वाला था। वह पांच साल का था, जब दिल्ली आया था एक सरदार के साथ। उस सरदार ने उसके परिवार से कहा था कि वह अनिल को दिल्ली में पढ़ाई कराने में सहायता करेगा। पर इसकी जगह उस सरदार ने अनिल के साथ जबरदस्ती की कि वह उसके होटल पर बर्तन धोया करे और वहीं काम करे। वह सरदार के पास से भाग गया और फिर वह रोड पर रह रहा था और अनिल ट्रेफिक सिग्नल पर भीख मांगता था। उसके बाद अनिल एक डच मैम से मिला और उस मैम ने उसे हॉस्टल भेजा, जहाँ मैं पढ़ाई कर रहा था। अनिल अभी यस बैंक में काम कर रहा है।

गर्मियों की छुट्टी होने का दुःख : जब मैं हॉस्टल में था, मैं ये कभी नहीं चाहता था कि कभी हॉस्टल या स्कूल में छुट्टियाँ पड़ें। क्योंकि जब भी छुट्टियाँ पड़ती थीं, सभी माता-िपता अपने बच्चों को घर ले जाने के लिए आ जाते थे। और हम कुछ बच्चे ही हॉस्टल में रह जाते थे और िफर मैं अकेला बहुत रोता था, क्योंकि मैं भी घर जाना चाहता था।

सफलताएँ: मैंने नेशनल फुटबॉल टूर्नामेंट खेला था सन् 2007 में, जो कि मेरे लिए बहुत बड़ी चीज़ थी, क्योंकि मैं दिल्ली की MCD के लिए खेल रहा था और मुझे खुद पर बहुत ही गर्व महसूस हो रहा था। मैंने प्रथम स्थान कई बार प्राप्त किए दिल्ली स्कूल में फुटबॉल टूर्नामेंट के लिए।

12वीं कक्षा एवं स्नातक शिक्षा: मेरी 11वीं और 12वीं कक्षा की शिक्षा सन् 2009 में सिविल लाइंस में एक अलग तरह के स्कूल में हुई। 28 जून 2008 को जब मेरा 10वीं कक्षा का परिणाम आने वाला ही था कि मेरी माता जी का देहांत हो गया। सच में मैं उस दिन बहुत ही निराश था और अपनी जिंदगी के बारे में सोच रहा था। फिर से मैंने अपने

दोस्त की कहानी को याद किया। उसके माता-पिता जिंदा थे, पर उसको उनका कोई अता-पता मालूम नहीं था। अनिल के लिए ये सब कितना मुश्किल होगा। मैंने फिर आशा नहीं छोड़ी और अच्छी पढ़ाई की और 11वीं और 12वीं में अच्छे नंबरों से पास हुआ और मैं फुटबॉल टीम का कैप्टन भी बना। 11वीं और 12वीं कक्षा के बाद मुझे ITS गाजियाबाद भेजा गया और वहाँ मैंने BBA का कोर्स पूरा किया। मेरा कोर्स 2013 में खत्म हुआ था।

कार्यरत जीवन: अभी मैं एक MNC, हैविट इंडिया में कार्य करता हूं। और वहाँ बहुत ही प्रेम भरा वातावरण है और वहां मुझे बहुत-कुछ सीखने को मिला।

एक बड़ा धन्यवाद IVF को : मैं बहुत ही शुक्रिया करता हूं IVF का, कि मैं खुद के पैरों पर खड़ा हो सका। मैं अब अपने सभी कार्य व फैसले स्वयं लेने वाला सफल इनसान बन गया हूं। और अब मैं खुश हूं और जीवन का आनंद ले रहा हूं। यह मेरा लिए संभव नहीं था सब-कुछ करना, अगर IVF मुझे न देखता।



दिल की बात

मेरा समाज के लिए यही संदेश है कि उन्हें कभी भी आशा नहीं छोड़नी चाहिए, बल्कि हर परिस्थिति में आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। हर स्थिति से लड़ना चाहिए। आगे बढ़ना ही इसका सबसे अच्छा रास्ता है।

#### COUNSELORS' NOTE

Rahul has always been interested in studies. Despite not having parents, he looks after his sister very well and has completed his education with very good marks. He did his BBA and then gave tuitions while studying to make ends meet. Today Rahul is an executive with a Multinational company and is happy.

PEARLY SAMIN leas.



### Neha Verma

19 years old

BBA Student

St hostel didi used to prepare

Samshar' a lot . This was the

dish I never heard of it; but

here wid to cat . Inc day

along with my fivends ned tried

to I have away I with our belongings.

But were conglit at that limb

itself . That I time was like

here for us. Sny time ne used

to pluck haw mangher and used

to share amongsto us.

CHILD-HOOD PRANKS:

Years passed and our naughtiness

instructed.

There said and our nanghliness increased. I gill aho third third for having fun with others. One didit used to good for us are played a lot with her the glways beats us for small mothers and to cleape from her me and my other figured used to hide in the demirah.

ENVIRONMENT

The Legislat moment is yet to comeIt will be that day when my
father hive happing even after:
Life is full of theirs but there
lied some societ to obtain those
was he need to was the thorn
first.

That believe in yourself, we there
are hands to help you get we
got the support and after 14
years of schooling I'm now
pulsuing my studies in wollige.

#### नेहा वर्मा

सब कुछ बहुत ही नया लगा रहा था, नई जगह, नए लोग। सभी मुझे देख रहे थे। उस समय मैं चार साल की थी। सभी बड़े लोग मुझे देख रहे थे और मुझे देखकर खुश हो रहे थे। पर मैं वहाँ से वापस जाना चाहती थी, वहाँ रुकना नहीं चाहती थी। वहाँ बड़े-बड़े कक्ष थे सोने के लिए और बड़ा-सा बगीचा भी। फिर हॉस्टल की सिस्टर और अध्यापिकाओं ने मुझे समझाया-संभाला और तिहाड़ जेल ले जाने का वादा किया। 'तिहाड़' ये शब्द मेरे लिए भूलने वाला शब्द नहीं है। सभी हमें "तिहाड़ जेल के बच्चे" की नज़रों से देखते, जो मुझे अच्छा नहीं लगता था। स्कूल का पहला दिन मेरे लिए अच्छा था। सभी दोस्त अच्छे थे और लंच से पहले ही हम अपना खाना खा लेते थे। हॉस्टल में हमारी दीदी एक 'सांबर डिश' बनाया करती थी। इस डिश का मैंने कभी नाम तक नहीं सुना था, पर वहाँ मैंने वो डिश खाई। एक दिन मैंने मित्रों के साथ हॉस्टल से भाग जाने की योजना बनाई, पर हम सभी पकड़े गए। वो समय हमारे लिए बहुत ही कठिन था। किसी भी समय हम आम तोड़ने चले जाते और सभी दोस्त मिलकर आम खाते थे।

बचपन की शरारतें : साल बीतते गए और हमारी शैतानियाँ बढ़ती गई। एक लड़की जो हॉस्टल से भागना चाहती थी, वो अब दूसरों के साथ मजाक-मस्ती करने लगी। वहाँ दीदी हमारे लिए खाना बनाती, हम उनके

साथ बहुत खेलते और वो हमेशा हमें छोटी-छोटी बातों पर पीटती। हम उनसे बहुत बचते थे। कभी-कभी मैं और मेरे दोस्त उनसे बचने के लिए अलमारी में छुप जाते थे।

एक दिन मैं लगातार बरामदे में दौड़ रही थी, खेल रही थी। सिस्टर मुझे मना कर रही थी, पर मैंने उनकी बातों को नज़रअंदाज किया। अचानक मैं बहुत जोर से फर्श पर गिर गई और सभी हैरान रह गए। मेरे होंठ की स्थिति एकदम खराब हो गई। मेरा पूरा मुँह सूज गया और अगले दिन मैं सूजे हुए होंठ के साथ ही स्कूल गई। पर धीरे-धीरे वो ठीक हो गया।

मैं पेड़ों पर चढ़ने में बहुत होशियार थी। मैं पेड़ों से अमरूद तोड़ती अपने लिए और अपने दोस्तों के लिए, पर उन मीठे अमरूदों के बाद हमें पिटाई भी बहुत पड़ती थी। पर फिर भी मैं पेड़ों पर रोज चढ़ती थी।

हम बड़े हुए और वहाँ की कुछ सिस्टर भी बदल गईं और नए-नए लोग आने लगे। कुछ सिस्टर बहुत ही अच्छी थीं। वो हमें पढ़ातीं और हमें सांस्कृतिक नृत्य सिखातीं, जब भी समय होता। रिंकी, अर्जीना, तसलीमा और मैं हम चार लोग सबसे ज़्यादा शैतान लड़िकयां थीं आशा सदन की। हॉस्टल में जब भी कुछ गलत होता, हम चारों हमेशा एक-साथ होते और हम अपनी वॉर्डन को बहुत ही गुस्सा दिलवाते। मैं हमेशा अपनी मैम को परेशान करने के रास्ते ढूंढ़ती रहती। क्योंकि हम चाहते थे वो यहाँ से चली जाएँ, क्योंकि हम सभी प्यार से एक-साथ रहना चाहते थे।

विद्यालय का वातावरण और मित्रों का ग्रुप: मेरी विद्यालय की ज़िंदगी बहुत ही रुचिकर है। मैं पढ़ने में अच्छी थी, पर मैंने कभी अपना काम नहीं किया। हमेशा अच्छे बच्चों की कॉपी से काम कर लेती थी और बहुत ही शैतान थी। इसके पीछे एक ही कारण था, वो था 'भाषा'। मैं नहीं जानती थी कि अंग्रेज़ी में कैसे लिखना है। स्कूल के वार्षिक उत्सव में अयापिका सभी बच्चों को उत्साहित करती, पर वो हमेशा अपने भाषण में यही लाइनें बोलती कि यहाँ तिहाड़ के बच्चे हैं, जिनके माँ-बाप

तिहाड़ जेल में हैं। तिहाड़ शब्द हमें बहुत ही तकलीफ देता था, पर उस समय हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते थे। हमारे हाथ में कुछ नहीं था। और हम सब-कुछ अपना लेते थे सारी बातें सुनकर। और इस वजह से मेरे सभी दोस्त मेरे पिरवार के बोर में जानना चाहते थे, मेरे बारे में जानना चाहते थे। वहाँ मुझसे कई सवाल किए जाते थे मेरे पिताजी के बारे में। में हॉस्टल में क्यूं आई, इस बारे में में अपने दोस्तों को तो समझा देती, पर जो मुझे कम जानते, वो मुझसे सवाल करते। मेरे दोस्त मुझे गले लगाते, अपनी दोस्त समझते। कभी-कभी ये लगता, जैसे हम ज़िंदगी की कठिनाइयों से भाग रहे हैं। मैं यही सोचती कि हमेशा 'में' ही क्यूं? मैं सोचती, इस ज़िंदगी से तो नरक ही बेहतर है। मेरे जीवन की सच्चाई तब मेरे सामने आई, जब मेरे पापा को 10 साल की सजा हुई। उस समय मैंने केवल 10वीं की परीक्षा दी थी और घर जाने के लिए बहुत ही खुश थी। जब वहाँ गई तो पापा नहीं थे। सभी मुझसे गुस्से से बोलते, कोई मेरा ध्यान नहीं रखता, तब मैंने महसूस किया कि सब-कुछ खत्म हो गया, मेरी ज़िंदगी, मेरा भविष्य, सब-कुछ।

अब कुछ अच्छा नहीं रहा पापा के जाने के बाद। एक वो ही थे, जो मुझे बहुत प्यार करते थे और उसके बाद हम गरीब और बहुत ही गरीब होते चले गए। एक ऐसा समय भी आया, जब हमारे घर में दो वक्त का खाना भी न होता। मेरे पड़ोसी हमें चपाती देते और मेरा भाई भी अलग चला गया हमें छोड़कर। मैं हर दिन रोती रहती। ये एक वो परिस्थिति थी, जिसमें हर कोई आत्महत्या करने की सोचेगा। मैंने भी यही महसूस किया। पर फिर भी मैंने खुद को उत्साहित किया। और IVF से मैंने सहारा लिया और पर्ली दीदी और भइया ने मुझे फिर से हॉस्टल भेजा और मैंने वहाँ 12वीं कक्षा की पढ़ाई की। उस परेशानी भरी स्थिति ने मुझे समझाया कि मेरा फैसला ठीक था। जीवन हमें केवल खुशियाँ ही नहीं देता, अपितु हमें उदासी, कष्ट, आँसू और बुरी परिस्थितियाँ भी देता है। उस घटना ने मेरे जीवन को बदला और न केवल मुझे मजबूत

बनाया, बिल्क मुझे एक अच्छा रास्ता भी दिखाया। मैं नहीं जानती थी कि लोग क्यूं और क्या चिंताएँ अपने साथ रखते हैं, क्योंकि मैं एक हँसमुख और बहुत ही प्यारी बच्ची थी, पर जीवन की उस घटना ने मेरी हँसी और मुसकान को काफी समय के लिए मुझसे दूर कर दिया। सभी मुझे एक बातूनी और बहुत ही मिलनसार लड़की समझते थे, पर उसके बाद सब-कुछ बदल गया था। मैं किसी से भी बातें नहीं करती थी, बस अपनी पुस्तकों में व्यस्त रहती थी। मैं हमेशा अपने पिताजी की घटना को भूलने की और उससे बचने की कोशिश करती, पर वो सब मुझमें साफ झलकता था। मैंने हमेशा खुद को संभालने का प्रयास किया।

मैं प्रभु यीशु पर भरोसा रखती थी, पर फिर भी कुछ सहन करने की एक हद होती है। जब कभी भी मैं अकेली होती, तो बस मैं आँसू ही बहाती और मेरे शिक्षक, दोस्त सभी मुझे उत्साहित करते। मेरे सभी दोस्त मुझे बहुत ही मजबूत बनाना चाहते थे। और वो मुझे यही समझाते कि छोड़ दो सब बातों को, जो भी हो रहा है उसे होने दो। इसीलिए मैंने फिर से अपनी आगे की शिक्षा हरियाणा में की। अब मैं खुद अपनी ये कहानी अंग्रेज़ी में लिख रही हूं और पूरे मन के साथ। मैंने ज़िंदगी में बहुत-सी कठिनाइयों का सामना किया। मेरे पिताजी अब भी जेल में है, परंतु मैं प्रभु पर विश्वास करती हूं। मैं इतनी उत्साहित और मजबूत हो चुकी हूं कि औरों को भी प्रभावित कर सकती हूं। ठीक है, जीवन एक संघर्ष है और संघर्षों से ही भरा हुआ है। पर हमें उसे अपनाने की आवश्यकता है और अपने लक्ष्य को पाना है।

खुशियों भरे पल: मेरे जीवन में खुशी का पल तब आएगा, जब मेरे पिताजी हमेशा के लिए खुश रहेंगे हमारे साथ। ये जो ज़िंदगी है, वो कांटों से भरी है, पर उसमें कुछ गुलाब के फूल भी शामिल हैं और उन फूलों को पाने के लिए हमें पहले कांटों से गुजरना है। बस खुद पर भरोसा रखो। हमने पिछले 14 सालों से IVF का सहारा पाया और अब मैं महाविद्यालय में शिक्षा ले रही हूं।



दिल की बात

में डॉ. किरन बेदी मैम का बहुत ही धन्यवाद करती हूं और उनकी पूरी टीम का भी। क्योंकि उनके सहारे की वजह से मैं इस ऊँचाई तक पहुंची हूं। उन्होंने मेरी केवल पैसों या आर्थिक स्थिति में ही मदद नहीं की, बिल्क मुझे बहुत-सी पिरस्थितियों में भी समझाया और मुझे हर प्रकार से संभाला। मैं एक हँसमुख लड़की थी। मैं खुद को भगवान के उपहार की तरह समझती हूं। प्रभु सभी के दुखों को दूर करे और अब हमारी बारी है कुछ करने की, तािक और भी कई बच्चे अपने लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर सकें।

#### COUNSELORS' NOTE

She is studying BBA. Her goal is to become an executive and to work in the HR department of a company. She is very conscious of her past and does not like to be reminded of it. She is passionate about challenging her life and changing her destiny.

Charles



# Deepak

19 years old

Student of Hotel Management

उद्योग को कभी अपनी हिम्मत गही हारनी पाहि। यह वो प्यातना भी धुर से धुरा वक्त हो...

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दिल की खात ...

मैं सह कहना नाहाता हैं
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ट्रमाकि सह बच्चों का

## Deepak

Man should never loose hope, however hard the times may be.

Our dear Dr. Kiran Bedi Ma'am taught these special words to me.

I am Deepak and I live with my older brother and dear Dadi (Paternal Grandmother). Just the three of us.

I was separated from my parents at a very young age and have been brought up by my grandmother with help from Dr. Kiran Bedi.

My first memories are of a boarding school in Lucknow. That was a good school and had a lot of good stuff for the kids to play with. Like airplanes, trains, mickey mouse etc. All these were made of plastic and the kids felt very happy playing with these toys. I also had good memories of a Bhaiya (attendant) at school who was very good and kind to all the children.

My brother and I were very happy. However, these days were short lived.

One day a stranger came to school posing as our relative. He convinced the authorities to take my brother and me with him. We went along with him.

We were so naïve, and because we had not seen our parents and not received unconditional love, we had not developed our sense of belonging. We did not know who was our family and who was not. Who was the right person and who was not.

This stranger was a bad character, he used to work with young children and make them do illegal activities.

When the news of our disappearance reached our Dadi, she did not loose a moment and she set about looking for us.

With our pictures in hand she looked everywhere.....in every street, in every home, at the railway stations asking everyone she met if they had seen us.

It was her deep love, courage and strength that she found us within a month. The condition she found us in revealed how we had spent that month.

Dirty, hungry, bedraggled.

I deeply appreciate my Dadi's love and courage that despite being a single woman she could rescue us from that dangerous man. Not only did she rescue us, she even registered a complaint about him and handed him over to the police.

Today it is more than 15 years since that episode but that person's face is still very clear in my mind and that face still has power to evoke horror in me.

After rescuing us, Dadi got us to Delhi where she tried her best to get us back to our original selves.

With help from Kiran Ma'am I got admission into a good school.

I cried a lot during my first day at school, then would stop and then start again as soon as I remembered my grandmother.

After passing of some time my Dadi came to visit me in the hostel. I was very happy. I ran to her as soon as I saw her and she gave me a tight hug and kept kissing me. Her eyes were full of

tears, but I was so happy. All I wanted was my grandmother and at that time she was with me.

My Dadi and I sat in the park and kept talking, she kept asking me questions and I replied with a lightness of spirit.

All too soon it was time for her to leave, she stood up and said to me "Study hard with all your might, do not cry, I will come back to visit you soon."

As soon as she said that my tears began to flow. I caught hold of her *dupatta* (scarf). As she moved further and further away from me my crying kept getting louder and louder and asking her to take me with her. But she was helpless and she left.

After she left I kept crying and went to my room. That night I cried myself to sleep.

When my eyes opened it was morning. This episode of crying myself to sleep kept continuing for a long time.

After some time I began settling down in school and tried very hard to pay attention to my studies. But kept remembering Dadi and could not study.

When I was in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, I had a few friends who were being helped by IVF, they would study with me and stay with me too. Abid, Nadeem, Rahul, Vikram, Rohit, Vishaal. This became my new family. I could share my feelings with them. They understood me.

By the time I reached class 8, I had taken part in a lot of activities like music, dance and cricket and drama.

When I realized that I don't have parents, I began to miss them a lot. I felt envious of my friends who had parents visit them. I used to think how fortunate they are, and felt how nice it would have been if I had my parents.

Some people started calling me anath (orphan). Initially

I could not understand the seriousness of the situation but as I grew older I began to realize the reality of my situation and then was inconsolable.

But with passage of time that wound has now healed.

My Dadi has given us the love of both mother and father and has brought us up as good human beings.

Growing up I had different thoughts, had no clue where life was headed. IVF supported me and helped me get a grip.

After 6<sup>th</sup> grade I began to appreciate IVF's support and decided to take advantage of it and work hard.

My boarding school taught me how to speak and conduct myself in society.

Today I realized that whatever God has designed for you is best, God took away our parents but to fulfill that void he gave us Dadi and Kiran Ma'am who did not let us feel the loss. I owe them everything.

Today I feel normal; there are kids out there who don't have IVF. I am blessed. IVF doesn't refuse me anything.

I also feel a lot of pride that we are linked to Kiran Ma'am.

She used to tell us to never give up.... never loose hope. ... Someone will come by to support you.

Some famous person said – The person who raises you is greater than the person who gives birth to you.

During my school years Ma'am took us to visit various places. Places where I never imagined I would visit.

Taj Mahal, Amusement Parks, Sports Village, Museums.

When I was in class 9 I did modeling in the Saket Mall. I had never ever imagined that I would ever model.

When I was in class 10 my friends and I visited 'world of wonder' at Noida.

At the program there I was declared best student.

My joy knew no bounds when Kiran Ma'am herself gave me the award.

This was the happiest moment of my life that I can never forget.

Even when I remember that moment today I feel happy.

I also wish that like Kiran Ma'am helps people and puts poor children in school, I too help people in need. I want to help at least one or two children and educate them.

I enjoy studying and cooking is my favorite hobby.

Whenever I visit my paternal aunt, I watch her cook. She teaches me how to cook.

I completed my 10<sup>th</sup> standard in a hostel in Haryana and then did my 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in Delhi. I got 59% marks.

I realize my responsibilities towards my grandmother and my home. After passing my 12<sup>th</sup> grade I began working in a cake shop to supplement the family income.

I would like to study Hotel management and food production and simultaneously do my BA.

My dream is to have my own Luxury Hotel one day. I will name it "Suhana", after my dear rakhi (not biological) sister. I know I will make this a reality soon. I also want to travel abroad.

I would like to tell you that if you have dreams, have the courage to go after them. Fortune favors' the brave.

I am brave, I have the courage and the will to make my dream come true.

Today as I am sharing this with you my heart is filled with gratitude. I have got admission in a hotel management school in Coimbatore. I leave immediately for college.

"I have taken the first step towards my dream."

I would like to than Dr. Kiran Bedi from the depths of my heart. She supported me at all times and never left my side even in the middle of a lot of difficulties. Ma'am was ready to help me out of every difficulty and I know will continue to support me in the future.

If Ma'am had not supported us and educated us I shudder to think where I would be.

Today it is because of Ma'am that I am able to support myself.

It is my deepest prayer that Ma'am keeps prospering and keeps helping poor people like us.

"Always step forward and never loose hope"



Straight from my heart

I have a message for all the parents. Please fulfill your responsibilities towards your children. It is their right.

### COUNSELORS' NOTE

Deepak's parents abandoned him and his brother. His grandmother went to prison under NDPA. There she met IVF and got the boys admitted to school. Deepak is an obedient boy. He has made his adjustment to his circumstances. He is focused and determined and as a result has got what he wants. Despite challenges he has got admission in a Hotel Management college. He has left Delhi to travel into the unknown land of Coimbatore where new challenges await him. But I am confident he will achieve his dreams. He is responsible and wants to give a good life to his family and give good health care to his grandmother.

Rani Kumer Snivastava. (1006)



# Raj Sharma

18 years old

Student of Grade 10

# भेरी जिन्दंशी कि कारानी

हैं कि मेरे पाण वस उन सरी रहे। इस की जुरा सूरी भानता क्यों रे माता पिता जैल में सूरी मेरे स्तरी अन्धी जिस्मी सरी

भार बजे जरि और शाम जा वापिस मा जरियी भगनी

आठ याल

अन्दा लजा लेत ही उस दिन मुझे लाइत अन्दा लागा कि रहा पा भेरी उन्न ला हित अदा पा भेरी उन्न ला हित अदा का रहा पा भेरी जिल्हा का अदा का अपना का अपना

किर उन्होंने सल लचा का अपने पास खुलाया और सल कर दोकर क्यान बुलाया और सल कर दोकर क्यान बुलाया तो स्वार कच्चे लाता रहे प की बाता रहा में यह कक्या में बा मने जाहा में किराम का राक्तर रुका इमान पार पुलिस काना चाहता है का मियन परिवार का पाहता है का जिस्में परिवार का पिदला ममलक खुलकाल दकार मैसा परिवार हा उस परिवार का का में असी पुलिस का सकता सेता परिवार हा उस परिवार का का में असी पुलिस का सकता सेता परिवार का प्रतिय लन्ना चाहता में कि क्या प्रतिय लन्ना चाहता में का में स्वार में असी प्रतिय कहात रहा है, मेरा प्रतिय कहात स्वार का कि का मामा

Thankyou other WEAT STE

## Raj Sharma

#### Hello!

My name is Raj Sharma and I study in grade 10. Today I am sharing my life story.

My earliest memories are of Jail. My Parents had committed some mistakes that had got them to prison. I don't know what crime they had committed that had got them to Jail. I have never asked them. I will also never ask as I know they will feel bad.

I have never seen my father. In person or in any family photographs. When I ask my mother about my father she says that he has gone very far away. I know that my father has passed away. But I don't feel bad that my parents went to prison. If they had not gone to prison, perhaps I would not have had such a good life.

I was very young when my mother went to prison, so I could go with her. I had a lot of friends in prison. We used to go to a play school. We would begin at 8 and get back to our mothers by 5 in the evening.

Time passed and when I was 5 years. old my mother asked me if I would like to go to a hostel. I asked my mother "what is a Hostel".

My mother answered that a hostel is a place where you get

good food to eat, nice clothes to wear and meet a lot of new friends. I said "YES" I want to go to the hostel.

The day I reached the hostel I felt very strange. I cried for two whole days and did not eat any food. I missed my mother a lot.

Once I reached the hostel I found out that I have an older sister studying there. I was very happy to meet her and so was she very happy to meet me. Another surprise was in store for me. I had another older sister who was studying in another school. I met her at a picnic organized by IVF for all their partner schools.

I adjusted well to my life in the hostel. I had made good friends and I was happy.

On my  $7^{th}$  birthday I got a huge gift. My mother had got released from prison and came to meet me.

Then there was a turning point in my life. When I was 8 years old I attended church with a few of my friends. There I heard the choir sing and there was a band playing music. When church ended, all of us went to meet the Pastor and started talking to him. In between our chat I asked the Pastor if I could play the drums.

He said "sure why not".

I played the drums and he said "very good". He also said that I played very well.

I felt very good. That was the start of my passion for drums.

Time kept passing and each passing year got me new experiences. Life was good.

But there was one problem. I was not able to concentrate on my studies. I used to sit at the back of my class. One day my teacher asked me to sit in the front and gave me a problem to

solve. I could not do it. My teacher turned me out of class and made me stand in the middle of the field.

That day I was very ashamed of myself. I cried a lot.

My teacher came up to me and said "you will get nothing by crying, but you will get everything by studying."

From that day on I started to focus on my studies. I began to sit in the first row and began getting good marks. After that everything changed for the better. I even became monitor of my class.

Some time later I had gone on a school picnic and Kiran Bedi Ma'am was there too. She called the children closer to her and asked them turn by turn what they would like to become when they grow up. Everybody was telling her his or her wishes. Then my turn came, I said that I want to become an honest police officer.

Ma'am asked me why I wanted to join the police.

I told her that I want to prove to the world that even a person with a family background like mine can become a police officer. I want to show the world that it is possible.

Today I am studying in the 10<sup>th</sup> standard. My family is happy. Both my sisters are married and my older sister has an adorable son.

I am slowly moving towards my goal. I am confident that I will be able to achieve my dream of joining the police force.

I want to thank IVF.



Straight from my heart

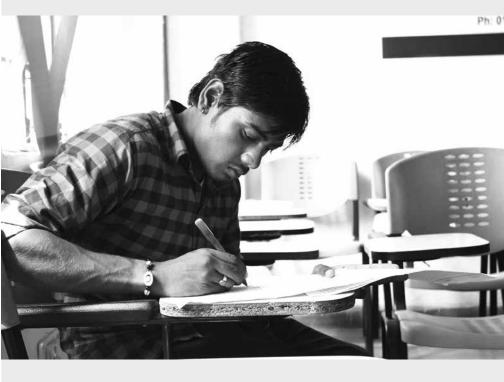
I want to tell everyone, don't be scared. It is only by facing your fears that you will WIN.

### COUNSELORS' NOTE

Raj is confident of charting his own future under the mentorship of the IVF team. Aspiring to become a police officer Raj also finds time to practice for his other passion – playing drums. I envisage him striding forward in his uniform with his swagger and charm. He used to be very naughty but now has become more responsible.

His mother is home now and lives with her brother. Both work in a garment factory.

Renu Nag lew



# Balvinder Singh

19 years old

Student of Vocational Skill

मेरा नाम वलविन्यर है में उसंबी कला में पडता हैं में आप लेगी की अपनी एक सन्ती घटना स्नुनाना पाहता है भेरा एक आई है और उसका नाम राजियर है और एम वर्श वहन है जसवीर जिसकी शादी हो चुकी है और धोटा भाई राधिन्पर भेरे साथ पढ़ाई करता है उसकी भी। भेरा एक छोटा सा परिवार था जी वहत युवा था और एक दिन भेरे पापा ने गरी में आकर लड़ाई करी -अर भारने की धमियों देता था और इसी वात से भेरी मामी की

उर लगने लगा और वे हम तीनी वहन भार्र को लेकर नाना नानी के घर ले के चले गई फिर यो-तीन वाद मेरे पापा मेरी मम्मी को धमका के धर जाने को बोला किर मेरी भमी ने वोला की में तुमसे नराज नहीं है विक तुम असे भारते की ध्यमिन में येते हो इस लिए में अपने बच्ची की लेकर चर लही स्थाना चाहती किर भेरे पापा ने मेरी भम्मी को ग्रस्से से कहा की घर चली तो भेरी भारती ने और पापा की वात भान भी और घर पाने के लिए तेपार ही गई भेरी भम्मी दार

जाने लगी तो उसी समय मेरे पापा ने पास रखें हेड़ पंच्य से भेरी अध्मी को मारने लेगा उसी समय भेरी जानी मेरी भस्ती को बचाने के लिए थेडि तो भेरे पापा ने भेरी नानी की भार कर धायलं कर पिभा फिर उसके बाद फिर भेरी भक्षी की आरने के लिए ते पार ही अर्ज्या गाए मेरी भम्मी को अतनी वरी परि भार - भार कर उनकी हत्या क्रम थी उसके बाद भेरे पापा कमात्र गए फिर पापा दो साल तक पुलीस से बचाते रहे प्रेर पापा का तीसरा सात्य श्री होने वाला था कि वो पकड़ा गर और

वो जेल में चले गए क्योर उस समय हम नामी धीर से में हमें कोई भी समझ नहीं थी ६ भने तो सीचा की हम भीनी वहन आदि अनाय हो जाएगी पर स्मिर नाना नानी ने हमें अपने पास रसव लिया कुछ ही थिनी बाद मेरे पापा है जैस के अन्यर से T.V.F वाली की ध्री वपदाने के लिए वोला मेरे पापा के बोलने के दो पिन बाद है I.V.F वाली ने ध्रेम होस्टल में अलग दिय और हम होस्टल में युवा ही पर हमे मभी-मभी रोना भी आता था स्थाकी हिस्त में सब बजा के माना-पिता

सारे वे और शारा आने वाला कोर्ड नहीं त्या हमारे होस्टल के जाने के बाद EHसे फिर T.V.F वाले आए बिन्हों ने हमें पश्ने के लिए कपडे दिए और रवाने किए कुछ चीपे दी उस समय हमें काष्में अञ्चा लगा की हमें कोई तो न्याता है समसे भिलने के लिए उसी दिन से हमने अपने भत में शन भिया कि हमारे की आश बशाने वाले हैं वी Af EMPT I.V.F. EMPT I.V.F. alat न मभी भर्द की कि हम मभी भी उन्हों ने अकला पन धोडा ही नहीं स्म लाक प्राची के प्राची में भी

- दूसरे छ जो से की धमारे भी मम्मी-पापा है वो है हमारा I.V.F और अब हम यसवी कासा में है पर मेरी वहन ने तो न्यां की कहा। है ही पश्ची ब्लोड की की स्थान उसकी भेरे भम्मी-पापा की याद न्याली औ उसी दौरान चार साल वाद मेरी वहन भी शादी ही गर्द है और अब हम यो नो मार्ट वेस्टल स्ते घर जाए तो मेरी नाजा म में पास भी स्वारा मकान था उन्हों ने रेंसे देने मा जिसला मिला तो मेरी मामी है उन्हों ने उस ममान को अपने नाम कर विया और हम योनी आदि में जास अवान नहीं है रहने की जार हम

कभी गाना के धर ती कभी वहन के ध्य तो अभी भीसी के धर फिर ENने सीचा की हमें कोई नहीं अब मद्द करने वाला पर हमें T.V.F ने वंपापा और वहने मा और पश्चे मा आही बोला और वे हमें अभी भी सपीट कर रहे है . भेरे पापा ने मेरी औ भार दिया तो हम धीनी आहे पापा से नामरत करने तारी उनसे कभी भी प्रेल में मिलने नहीं जाने की लिए पर 12 सात बाप स्मारे I.v.F के सर ने हम योगी आर्थी की महा की तुम

अपने पापा से मिलना याते ही तो हमने, भना कर दिला फिर अहर दिनों वाद अभिता कि जब हम प्रम भीश भभीह भाष कर समता है तो किर भी ना EN अपने पाया को भाज कर ये उसके वाप समने सर को कहा कि हम पापा से भिल्या चाहते हैं फिर हम बुश हो गए पापा की मिल कर में ललविद् जो क्षित्रर बनना चाहता है और भेरा छोता आई राधित्वर प्रातिस वनमा चारमा है यह तभी ही समता है जब हम अपनी मेहनत और मलीह पर विश्वास यरवे

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## **Balwinder Singh**

My name is Balwinder, I am studying in the 10<sup>th</sup> Standard.

I would like to share with you my life story. I have a brother whose name is Rajinder who studies with me and an older sister Jasbir, who is married.

I had small and happy family. We used to study at the government school. My father used to drink a lot and then get into arguments with my mother. At times he would even threaten to kill her.

This used to happen very often and my mother got quite scared. She took the extreme step of leaving home with the three of us and went to stay with her parents.

Two days later my father came to my grandparent's house and threatened my mother and asked her to come back home. My mother said that she was not angry with him. But because of his constant threats to kill her had left home and does not want to come back.

He spoke very angrily to my mother and insisted that my mother come home.

My mother agreed.

As she and my father was walking my father saw a hand pump. He yanked it out and started beating my mother. My grandmother rushed to save her. My father beat her also

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mercilessly and wounded her very badly, and then continued to beat my mother. He beat my mother to death.

After committing the crime he absconded. He managed to escape from the police for 2 years.

He was caught in the third year and put into prison.

I was 6 years old. We were very young then and had no idea what was going on.

But we realized that all 3 of us had now become orphans. My brother sister and I have a very close bond. We love each other a lot. Especially since we did not get love from outside. Our hearts beat as one. Even if one of us is not happy none of us is happy. We try to remain happy for one another.

My grandparents kept us with them.

Some time later my father met IVF counselors in prison. He requested them to educate us. Just 2 days after meeting my father, IVF counselors met us and put us in the hostel.

We were happy in the hostel for most of the time. But used to feel very sad when no one came to visit us unlike other children whose parents would come.

But IVF would visit us. They would give us clothes and food. That used to make us very happy. We too had someone to visit us.

We realized that day that if anyone can take us forward in life it is IVF. They never let us feel lonely. We used to tell the other children that IVF is our parent.

My sister could not study after grade 4. She never adjusted to life in the hostel and kept remembering our parents. She was bullied and falsely implicated, so she left school. 4 years later my grandparents and uncles got her married.

When we got home from our hostel my grandfather

decided to hand over to us a house, of which we were rightful heirs. But my deceitful aunt got the house papers transferred to her name.

We now have no home.

We keep shuttling from one relatives house to another. Sometimes at our sisters house, sometimes at my aunt's house and sometimes at my grandparents house. Our grandparents are too old to support us. We look after them when we are staying with them.

My brother and I hated my father. We were very angry with him. He killed our mother. We refused to acknowledge his presence. We never went to visit him in jail. We were also very scared of him. Felt that maybe he will kill us too.

Soon after killing our mother my father ran away. He returned later looking for us. My mother's family had announced a reward of Rs. 5000/- to anyone who would catch my father. A relative trapped him and informed my paternal uncle. He was then sent to jail.

At the hostel we used to read the Bible and learn about the life of Jesus Christ. He had a big heart. He forgave those who sinned against him. Then we thought if Lord Jesus can forgive his sinners and forgive my father then why can't we forgive our father

My brother and I then decided that we would forgive our father. It took us 12 years. We told our IVF sir that we want to meet him.

But we were scared. We met him, touched his feet and he started crying. There was an outpouring of emotion. We were ready to embrace him. I felt good after meeting my father. All our hatred went away.

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When my father came out on parole, my grandmother forgave him.

Today my father takes care of us. He regrets what he has done. He gives us money...what he makes from doing work in the prison.

My mother had 4 brothers, my maternal uncles. They all felt responsible for my brother, my sister and me. Unfortunately all passed away. I refused to accept that they are no more.

The family situation became so tough, I kept worrying about it and fell ill. That's why could not study hard.

I want to be a singer, my mother used to encourage me. I have confidence in my talent. I have composed a Punjabi song. I used to sing at all the school functions. My brother wants to join the police. This can only happen if we have belief in our selves and our strength. Our mind is focused on creating our future, it does not go towards doing bad things.

We have good friends, who help each other out in time of need. I enjoy reading stories, comics, doing magic tricks....

There is only thought in my mind "I don't have a home". We brothers keep wandering house to house. We want to be rooted. We keep dreaming of life with our father.

I just got my  $10^{th}$  grade results. I could not clear 3 subjects. I got very dejected. Doubted that I could ever do anything in life. But have faith in God, he will show the way.

But help again came our way from IVF. They are helping us with acquiring skills so that we can become employable. They are continuing to support us.

I belong to a Sikh family but believe in Jesus. I have experienced the Lord's power in my life.

Once I was travelling by train. At the station my foot got

stuck in the gap between the platform and the train. My foot got extricated just in time before the train started. I was as though reborn.

I pray every morning for my grandparents, my family and my future. I attend church whenever I get a chance.

Just like Kiran Bedi Ma'am helped us, I hope she helps lots of others like us.

I would like to say that work hard and move forward. Without hard work you can not achieve anything.

My father will be free in 2 years. He has some money saved up, hopefully we will have a home. I am waiting to start a new life together with my father.



Straight from my heart

My life is nothing without my IVF. Through my story I would like to make you realize that never get defeated with yourself.

Keep moving ahead with you hard work and belief.

### COUNSELORS' NOTE

Initially Balvinder was full of anxiety and anger, but with time and counselling he understood the realities and forgave his father. Now he is getting electrical vocational training.

PEARLY SANIL LEWS.



# Myna Khan (Name changed)

20 years old

Student of Mass Communication & Journalism

नेता है। में IT not year : । मेंने अपनी क्से पढ़ार्ड पड़ता है। अने अपना दुश पड़ाउँ है। हास्टिए की क्या है। अरे अम लाग को पास कराने आय नहीं या कि को असे क्या अरहें क्या के में पड़ा स्तर्का तो असी पड़ाई में I । में की भीर असे बहन को शी I Uf ही स्पाह क्या कही है। द्वित स्मी उस स्मी होस्तत वहने क्यी वजह स्मा वहां क्यी आहत पड़ गई भी होस्टल में तो क्या में कहना अल्का महीं लगता ह्या स्थामन हार होड़ जार कहीं और कहना अक्षण होता है। प्रमुख गमें भी स्थित्वा) तेड्ना व्याना - क्वानु आ क्षिणा भित्र गामी स्थि करें असे खेंब्रा सी हिपा भी हर ज्याम में मुद्दी Helb अद्या। हर ज्याम में मुद्दी Helb अद्या। हर ज्याम में मुद्दी Helb अद्या।

प्या में होस्टल में या इन विनी बहुत गुरू problems की आई श लोकन हर वनल प्राप्त मरे साथ यहा। हार आ कार औं भून अपने आव आहे आयो बढ़ना ही १२/२०१ | भामीबत हर भिनी की पिट में आता है। व मुस्तीबत का सामरा कर की पिट में आपनी पिट का जी रही थी।

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वास औ हो गई भी लेखन आगे नथा रा हमा नहीं। गाँउ (dea की नहीं का भाग साम हिया मुझे पड़ने का भी college I addinission a 12 211 अंशता आ । बाक मं अवा अन्हा जमने जग 2/4, rdy Class 2/2 & 281. -2/101. 3456, &

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\* Dil ti Boat \* में अपने Fosiendl को आर उस अ1-पापा को M. S q देना न्याहती हूं ाम वो हर नाम नो दिवा से अरे वो हर नाम पुरा जरूरी दोवा है। युर्माला से वूर जाने से वो अप श्री वास आती श्री र् भेहनत और लगन स्मेशा रंगा वाला प्रकरा है सन्दाह को अपुत्रा पा तेरा लक्षका होगा। स. वा विमा कर हम अगम हमामेशका अप भ जमाल कु हैंड इंन्यान व्या अहमा नाहिया है में अपने I । र को न्यापी की

### Myna Khan\*

Hello, I am Myna I am studying, Journalism and mass media at university.

This is a 3 year program. You learn mass communication, reporting and photography.

As a child I got attracted to being a reporter. I enjoyed investigating, collecting news and sharing it.

Since grade 2, Dr. Bedi has educated me. Besides giving me an education she also ensured that I and the other girls learnt values and life skills. Like respecting elders, how to dress, how to eat, how to conduct ourselves in public and so on.

My favorite subject in school was sociology. It is nice to learn about history and the world. I got good marks in sociology.

Now I am studying in a professional college.

I have lived in a hostel most of my life. My parents did not have the means to educate me in a good school. I could study only with help from IVF. Initially living in a hostel was tough as I found it hard being separated from my family but soon had to adjust for the sake of my studies.

I made some lovely friends and was happy that despite being away from home I had good company.

I preferred school to college as I had my close friends there.

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<sup>\*</sup> Name changed

I lost my mother when I was in grade 6. At that time I could not come to terms with my loss. I felt as though my life had become incomplete.

IVF consoled me like a family member and made me take my education forward.

After that I lived with my father. He was an alcoholic and used to keep ill all the time. I lost him when I was in grade 12. I was devastated He was everything to me after my mother passed away. He was the center of my life. When he passed away it was the worst day of my life. I felt that everything was over.

"WHY ME".

I lost my father a year ago. If I can survive the big shock of loosing my father, then nothing else matters. Since I survived that there is nothing I can't do.

My aunt (mother's sister) takes care of us now.

When my father was alive I felt carefree and life was not so tough. Now have a deep sense of loss. My life changed.

I got a reality check, people around me told me to get married or start working. I took stock of the situation and decided to take action. I felt a strong sense of responsibility towards my younger brother and sister. At that time IVF guided me and got me admission at NIILM university. Coming to college made me feel empowered.

I have a lovely family. We are 5 sisters and 3 brothers.

I am the oldest now. I have taken responsibility for my younger siblings. I have been there / done that. I have more experience so I can advice my sister.

I determined to study and IVF supported me. I got the strength.

My younger sister looks up to me and I encourage her to

keep studying. Luckily there are a lot of people around her who are like me and keep her motivated to study.

I have grown up. I don't depend on anyone. I know that I am alone. I felt that if I have a career I must support my family.

I am slightly nervous about my future but deep down I know that with Kiran Ma'ams support I can do a lot.

I felt very happy recently when I spoke to my friend after 2 years. We had lost touch. Friends are most important for me now. They understand me more than my family. All my friends are pursuing further studies, looking for a career.

I felt sad at being separated from them but we have a strong heart to heart bond.

This is a time for me to focus on my career. I don't want to be distracted by boys or marriage.

I want to have a great career. I want to prove that you can make a career without parents.

I am learning photography as an additional skill. Also doing a computer course.

"Time does not stop, use time wisely"

I enjoy reading about famous people. I read the bible in my Christian hostel and also read about Kiran Bedi's life.

I also enjoy dance and music, playing badminton and love to travel and go out with friends, visit religious places, see movies, visit other schools and colleges.

I love to do make up and fashion. We did not get an opportunity in school to dress up. We were kept simple. Now there are no restriction

I will never break a rule, I celebrate Birthdays and teachers day. I am leading a good life. I have no pressure. I don't want pity, I want to be an example for people who don't have a family.

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I want to thank Kiran Ma'am and God.

Even today I remember my parents daily and miss them. I have not found them in anyone. Not even Maasi.

Parents can forgive, but others cant, so don't want to do anything wrong. Don't want anyone to point finger at me.

A single girl is vulnerable. You are forced to get married. I just want to study and make a good life for myself.



Straight from my heart

I would like to give this message to all my friends and their parents. "Do all your tasks sincerely giving all your effort. Complete all the work you have started. The more you run away from difficulties, the more they chase you.

Hard work and sincerity always gives you good results."

I would like to tell everyone out there in the society we live in that if you work with sincerity and with honesty then you will certainly be able to complete all your tasks.

I want to thank all my dear ones at IVF.

#### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

Myna (name changed) is a good student. She met IVF in 2002. Her parents were drug peddlers and addicts. They are no more. They had a butcher shop in Jahangir Puri as a front. They built a house which her aunt and uncle acquired.

Her parents kept going in and out of Jail. IVF got a request and got her admitted in grade 2. She is aware of her reality and wants to change her life.

She is a conscientious student... Self driven.

She has a large heart. Helps friends even when she herself is in a tough situation.

She stayed at home for 2 years after her  $10^{th}$  but did not get influenced by her surroundings.

Monica Showon



## Aminoor

22 years old

Student of Physio-therapy

I am Amineor and I was born at Delhi (Yamuna Puhta) on 9th August 1992 and belong to a very poor family. Now I am a student of BPT (Bachelor of physiotherapy) 3rd year. I have only my mother and a sister. My mother is a 45 years old and illiterate lady that's why she is unable to do a job. Now she is living with my mama (My mothers brother) my sister is also illiterate and she used to sewing cloth and carn.

my father was a poor farmer at west bengal and had not own ground area for farming. Therefore my parent had faced financial problem and they both were come in Delni. They lived in Sanjay Amar Colony yamuna pushta Delhi - 6 (behind the Vijay Ghet). They taken rent a shuggi (Hut) and stay there my father used to work as a

labour and earn few money. After some time later I was born and then two years lecter my sister. For an important reason my father was gone in village to left us in Dethi and there when I was five year age my father had died an accident of the abdominal operation. It was the time which I could not under-- stand because I was child but my mother knew this situation She lined with us in a jhuggi (Hut) alone and worked as a homednade for other people. I know how my mother doing hard work and faced difficultie for us in a strange area.

that's why my friends were spoiled and used to gamble, smoking etc. Therefore my mother sent me and my sister in Navigoti Gradi school.

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because I want to do better and suppost to my mother So I was regular in school. But my sister didn't go school. regular therefere She could not do study.

In 2002 when I was in 10 year old then taken admiss-- wil in 3rd class on a boarding school (Gurgoun). I came here after the Gali school my mother paid my school fer 250 Rupees in per month. I did not want to Stay hostel to leave my mother and sister and want to met with them. But my mother met with me after one or two months later because she had no enough earn but She want to made me educated person. After 5th class in 2005 our school fee was exceed 500 Rupees per month that's cuty my mother unable to paid my school

fee. A moment was come in my life when had no any one who can support us and could pay my school fee. Therefore the principle had withdrow me from school. My mother sequested for remit my school fee to the principle but it was not possible. In this time I have no caryone these who could financially support to us and sent me again school.

Indian vision foundation) from any other person and sent me in IVF office. Mama requested for me the educational financial support. In 2005 IVF adopted me when I was in 6th class. IVF admitted me again in the angument.

I knew that I am a poor slum area boy which have no any future. I realised Pf I do

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do not do study then I will not do better. I realised it when I was ld year. Therefore I was participated in all school cultures and functions. I did my all work with full of my heart. I respected to my all elders and obeyed them my friends at also helped me in my studies. I did not take sisk in my education that's why I was come first rank in all my classes. I have passed 10th class with 800% marks in 2010.

In 2010 I have left trurgoun school and taken admission in the CBSE (Delni Board school). In 11th class as a medical science student. I have taken medical science science subject because I want to become a doctor. It was not only my dream but also be my mother. I want to be come a doctor be cause a doctor be cause in also be my

had died an actident of abdominal pain a injury due to lack of money. My father did not treat and died. Therefore I want to become doctor and helped to those who are wash to treat. During 11th class I was admitted in poulus sadan hostel near civil lane or kashnisi Crate. Ivf sponsered my prer medical enterance exam and admitting to me sachdana new Pt college.

I have faced my difficulties in study because I was come in trindi medium to english medium and I gave my best effort to study but even I was not clears the tests. I did my 12th class in \$2012.

of physiotherapy). at murade Nagar, Chariabed. through the

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support of IVF.

TVF played an important role in my life because they have provided to me all care like a parent. They adopted me and given he all facilities as like the parent parent provide to their child. I know when I was not any supporter who could help me in any education then the IVF gave me the support.

In my life IVF encouraged to me in all stage achievement I have not faither but have mother and sister and I want to become a good supporter for them and help to those person or child who have not supporter I want to thank IVF from core of my heart.

परिल कर्ती सात ? हैं और एक अच्छा नागरिक हानकर यूसरी की मस्य करनेगा । जिनको कोई परेशानी होगी पढ़ाई में और जीवन में उनको मस्य करने की कोश्रिश करेगा उसको मस्य करने की कोश्रिश करेगा मारिए। हमेश प्राचे की हर की जरूरती की पूरा किमा है जो राक्त द्वान की नाहिए। हमेश पूसरी की मय्य करनी नाहिश दिल की खांत "
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लगानी न्याहिए। हमें अगर अपने लहम को पाना है तो हमेरा परिभ्रम करना न्याहिए
न्याहे हम किसी भी परिस्थिति में रहे
अपना काम लगन से करना माहिए। संदर्ध ही जीवन में एक रोसा मात्र है जो हमें हर प्रकार की समस्माकों को जूड़नने में हमेरा खुश रहना न्याहिए और अपने काम में मन लगाना न्याहिए।

## अमिनूर

मेरा नाम अमिनूर है और मेरा जन्म दिल्ली में हुआ, दिल्ली के यमुना पुस्ता नामक स्थान पर। मेरी जन्मतिथि 9 अगस्त 1992 है और मैं एक बहुत ही ग़रीब परिवार से संबंध रखता हूं। अभी मैं बैचलर ऑफ़ फिजियोथिरेपी का छात्र हूं। मेरे पास केवल मेरी माताजी और मेरी बहन है। मेरी माताजी 45 वर्षीय महिला हैं और वो अशिक्षित हैं। इस कारण वे कोई नौकरी नहीं कर सकतीं। इस वक्त वे मेरे मामा जी के साथ रह रही हैं। मेरी बहन भी अशिक्षित है और वो कपड़े सिलने का काम करती है, जिससे वह कुछ पैसे कमा लेती है।

मेरे पिताजी एक गरीब किसान थे पश्चिम बंगाल में और उनके पास अपनी कोई जमीन नहीं थी, जिससे वे खेती-बाड़ी कर सकें। इस वजह से मेरी माताजी और पिताजी ने बहुत ही परेशानियों का सामना किया। आर्थिक स्थित बहुत ही खराब थी। और फिर मेरे माता-पिता दोनों दिल्ली आ गए। मेरे माता-पिता दोनों संजय अमर कॉलोनी (यमुना पुस्ता) में रह रहे थे, जो कि विजय घाट के पीछे है। उन्होंने किराए पर एक छोटी-सी झुग्गी ली और वहां रहने लगे। मेरे पिताजी एक साधारण मजदूर की तरह कार्य किया करते और कुछ पैसे कमा लिया करते थे। कुछ समय बाद मेरा जन्म हुआ और उसके दो साल बाद मेरी बहन का। किसी जरूरी कार्य की वजह से मेरे पिताजी को गांव जाना पड़ा और उस समय मेरी आयु सिर्फ़ पांच वर्ष थी। वो हम सबको दिल्ली में छोड़

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गए थे। मेरे पिताजी की एक दुर्घटना में मृत्यु हो गई। यह वो समय था मेरे लिए, जिसमें मैं खुद को नहीं समझा पा रहा था और न ही संभल पा रहा था, पर मेरी माताजी इस स्थिति को अच्छे से समझती थीं। मेरी माताजी एक झुगी में हमें लेकर रहती थीं और दूसरों के घरों में बहुत ही मेहनत से हम लोगों के लिए काम करती थीं। और उन्होंने बहुत-सी परेशानियों का सामना किया एक अजनबी जगह पर रहकर। हम एक बहुत ही गरीब वातावरण में और बहुत खराब-से एरिया में रहते थे, इस कारण जो मेरे दोस्त थे, वे गालियां, धूम्रपान जैसे गलत कार्य करते थे। इसलिए मेरी माता जी ने मुझे और मेरी बहन को नवज्योति गली स्कूल में भेजा। क्योंकि मैं भी कुछ अच्छा करना चाहता था और अपनी माताजी को सहारा देना चाहता था। मैं लगातार विद्यालय जाता था, पर बहन नहीं जाती थी। इसलिए वो पढ़ नहीं पाई।

सन् 2002 में जब मैं 10 वर्ष का था, तब मेरी माताजी ने मुझे हॉस्टल भेजा, वहां मैंने तीसरी क्लास में दाखिला लिया, वह स्कूल गुड़गांव में था। मैं वहां गली स्कूल के बाद गया था। स्कूल की 250 रुपये फीस मेरी माताजी ही देती थी। मैं अपनी माता जी और बहन को छोड़कर हॉस्टल में नहीं रहना चाहता था। मेरी माता जी मुझसे दो या तीन महीने के बाद मिलने आती थीं, क्योंकि उनके पास इतने पैसे नहीं होते थे। पर वो मुझे शिक्षित बनाना चाहती थीं। पांचवीं कक्षा के बाद हमारी स्कूल की फीस 500 रुपये कर दी गई। अब मेरी माता जी इतने पैसे नहीं दे सकती थीं मेरी स्कूल की फीस के।

मेरी ज़िंदगी में एक ऐसा मोड़ आया, जब मेरे पास हमें सहारा देने के लिए कोई नहीं था। कोई भी ऐसा नहीं था जो मेरी स्कूल की फीस दे सके, जो वहां मुख्य अध्यापिका जी थीं उन्होंने फीस न भरने के कारण मुझे स्कूल से निकाल दिया। मेरी माताजी ने बहुत ही विनम्र प्रार्थना की मुख्य अध्यापिका जी से मेरी विद्यालय की फीस को क्षमा करने की, पर यह जैसे असंभव था। उस समय यह संभव नहीं था। उस समय कोई

ऐसा नहीं था, जो पैसे से हमारी मदद कर सके और दुबारा मुझे विद्यालय में भेज सके।

मेरी माताजी ने किसी दूसरे व्यक्ति से इंडिया विजन फाउंडेशन का नाम सुना था, उनके बारे में बहुत-कुछ सुना था। मेरी माताजी ने मुझे IVF कार्यालय में भेजा और मामा ने वहां पैसों से जुड़ी परेशानियों को बताया और सभी कुछ बताया। मेरे मामा जी ने अनुरोध किया मुझे सहारा देने के लिए। सन् 2005 में IVF ने मुझे अपना लिया और मुझे सहारा दिया। फिर से मुझे गुड़गांव भेजा गया।

मैं जानता हूं कि मैं एक गरीब परिवार से हूं। मेरा अपना कोई भविष्य नहीं था, पर मैंने यह महसूस किया कि अगर मैं पढ़ाई नहीं करता, तो मैं कुछ अच्छा नहीं कर सकता। मैंने यह बात 12वीं कक्षा में महसूस की और इसलिए मैंने सभी विद्यालय की गतिविधियों में अपना योगदान दिया, सांसारिक गतिविधि में भी मैंने भाग लिया। मैंने अपने सारे कार्यों को पूरे हृदय से किया। मैं अपने सभी बड़ों का आदर करता था और सभी की आज्ञाओं को मानता था। पढ़ाई में मेरी मदद मेरे मित्रों ने भी की। मैं अपनी शिक्षा के लिए कभी कुछ गलत नहीं कर सकता था, इसलिए हर कक्षा में मैं प्रथम आता था। मैंने अपनी 10वीं की परीक्षा 80 प्रतिशत अंकों से पास की।

सन् 2010 में मैंने गुड़गांव हॉस्टल छोड़ दिया और दिल्ली में CBSE बोर्ड में दाखिला लिया। मैंने ग्यारहवीं कक्षा में विज्ञान विषय लिया तािक मैं मेडिकल का विद्यार्थी बन सकूं। मैं एक सफल चिकित्सक बनना चाहता हूं। यह केवल मेरा ही स्वप्न नहीं था, अपितु माताजी का भी था। मेरे पिताजी की मृत्यु भी एक दुर्घटना में हुई, एक पीड़ा में हुई। क्योंकि मेरे पिताजी इलाज नहीं करा सके पैसे न होने के कारण, इसलिए मैं चिकित्सक बनना चाहता हूं और उन लोगों की सहायता करना चाहता हूं, जो अपना इलाज नहीं करा सकते। ग्यारहवीं कक्षा में मुझे पोलस सदन हॉस्टल में दाखिला दिलाया गया, जो कि सिविल लाइन मैट्रो स्टेशन के

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पास है। IVF ने मेरी प्री-मेडीकल परीक्षा में साथ दिया, उन्होंने Entrance Exam में भी साथ दिया और मुझे सचदेवा न्यू पी.टी. कॉलेज में दाखिला दिलाया।

मैंने कई बाधाओं का सामना किया शिक्षा में, क्योंकि मैं हिंदी माध्यम से अंग्रेज़ी माध्यम में आया था। मैंने अपने बहुत अच्छे प्रयास किए पढ़ाई में। पर फिर भी मैं अपनी कुछ परीक्षाएं उत्तीर्ण नहीं कर पाया। मैंने अपनी बारहवीं कक्षा सन् 2012 में पूरी की।

अतः सन् 2012 में मैंने BPT में दाखिला लिया, जो कि बैचलर ऑफ़ फिजियोथिरेपी है। मुराद नगर में मैंने दाखिला ले लिया। केवल प्टध् के सहारे की वजह से।

IVF ने मेरे जीवन में बहुत बड़ा योगदान दिया, क्योंकि वो मुझे सब सुविधाएं प्रदान करवाने लगे। और उन्होंने मुझे ऐसे सहारा दिया, जैसे मां-बाप अपने बच्चों को देते हैं। वह सभी उन्होंने मुझे दीं। मैं जानता हूं, जब कोई नहीं था मुझे सहारा देने वाला, तो कौन मेरी शिक्षा में सहायता कर सकता था। पर IVF ने मुझे संभाला।

मेरे जीवन के हर कदम पर IVF ने मुझे प्रोत्साहित किया और हर कामयाबी पर मेरी हौसला-अफजाई की। मेरे पास पिताजी नहीं हैं, पर माताजी और बहन हैं। मैं एक अच्छा इन्सान बनकर उन लोगों को सहारा देना चाहता हूं, जिनका कोई सहारा नहीं है और अपने IVF को मैं तहे-दिल से धन्यवाद देता हूं।



Straight from the heart

I want to become a good citizen and help people. I want to help those people who have trouble continuing with their education or with any other problem.

I will always remain grateful to IVF as they helped me in every possible way. They gave me every possible help that a student may need.

We should always help others.

To go ahead in life we need to constantly struggle and work hard. We must never be lazy and focus on the task at hand. If we want to achieve our goals we need to concentrate on the task at hand and despite whatever circumstances we find ourselves in we must keep working towards our goal.

Struggle is the magic potion that will help us cope with our problems. We must always be happy and enjoy our work.

### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

From the time we met him his goal has been to become a Doctor and help the underprivileged. This was because he lost his father due to lack of medical facilities.

His dream will soon come true. He is studying to be a physiotherapist.

Romi Komar Snivastava. (rand)



# Pushpa Maurya

17 years old

Student of Banking & Finance

Pushba, Hello everyone and my Idear I want to introduce mys beginning of my childhood exper rulen I was one year old, Dad and elder brother nunt to my Bhabhi's death mother was not mill at she was sitting inside the taking me on the dap. know what was set that this Step she had taken. father was on the. No one was there I upstaire, and my Bhabhi ment upstaire and Committed Survide. All blamed my family Complaint wrong se things made or Stanted noas

School, we were used to do many activities cat that time like drinking milk nehether you like or not, Sleeping at time, dancing, senging etc. neken 5 yrs old 9 Indet With me I there was Renu Di photographen and my mosa ii. I had Cried very much lat that moment mother. I was not able I to Control myself but as month passed I was feeling Satisfied with so many friends. But to follow Time Juble was very difficult for me as we were very young and we've to Got up early at 6:00 clock. This made me Uncomfortable for Some days but after few days me were very Comforbable that as it has I corrected habits. My inchange at that time neas Sr. Iglady. I She was Studious and Campul and helping Us in Our every needs. In my hatch many Girls never their We were all in same

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from U.K. 61 9 began my study and till 10th clase, 9 stolped and Hostel, from There I was going to School That I've done I 11th and 12th Dethi School, Now, 9'ue planned many things to do in my life. y happy when me prener from Dun. that moment many prizes from School like in , writing, exhibition etc. from Kiran Mam, when 3rd Rank in from my School Certificalis which g'ue achi is through Dr. kiran Mam, have Ginen us opportunity Study I'm Seuch on high & School otherwise we've neuer Got This education. lage, Education is very necessary , neithout education nothing Can be yours. At family Cas't new Support much. My Dad is a

in Sad mood, as his Gort, job has
Gone, he always Crying that he
has lost his job. By Seirng parents
in Sadner , gam feeling So deprend
9n my family, gan Small from
all my brothere and Sisters. My
family is large with fairing many
odifficulties. To face this difficulties
g'ue to Study hard. My ambitton
is to become Doctor first I when g
hous in gred or 3rd class. But as g
Came to higher class g changed my
ambition, g'ue taken Commune Stream
to become 'Cs' My Pream is Only
to become a Successful person in
my life as my bast studies
Should not Go waste g'ue Got
inspirations from Dr. Keran Man, should not Go Uzvastē. 9'ue Got
inspratione from Dr. keran Man,
niho always quiding ies to achieve
our obsined Goals. As when my
parents file gets supen may
nother father and brother
nent to jail. I was nevy
much eißet and Gring all
The time nihat to do en
my life. As for a children

mother and father is encuething sucho Supporte in all difficulties, Guiding us and improving our Strength to make youle bright future. As when this was not able to handle myself. But when I.V.f Members O disits my home 9 motivation to I achieve my Carre. de they are admicing I us not I to thing all negative, always be positive num determin failure. My fami many I difficultie mom. Pad was even food to eat My I all selatives had done nothing when my brother and Sister new small. 9 felt Very Sad when I've this As they have not got even proper education because no one was there to take Came of Them. when I was

in Hostel, Outside Students ask us your parents are in jail. At that time, I was not having even single heards to Say. I feel bod about hearing the Some other matter. I don't know very God has Gener life. Now, He time to Think Jabout my future plans. g'ue Set my Goals to become a success Spersons in my life, and to fulfill dreams of of my pavents. For this 19'us to I study hand. I've to this because man my friends in class x Jane below avenage their ains, and they hat they will is white so Can't do this . Many teachers, raduced that ye you Can do everything, but always focus on your Goal, you will

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Surely achieve tt. 9'am aduice for my . Now , 95 mill my level best School. from many dif tue 9 had Gines otherwise 9 would much better. 9 was

have heard this. Now I hope That my mom. Dad will surely Come I Soon. Straight from My Heart ... I only want to Convey message to Usociety that always mentor your children with I care and I geve Them a bright future et l'au struggle a lêse meth so many I difficulties, but Then also we are standing at the topmost. Children from well-maintain tamily don' waste your pavented money but use I't has a success point.
Never think that you are Never Think that you a failure, as we are also from Small background but neven think as we are failure.

1 6 8

### पुष्पा

हैलो! मेरे सभी प्यारे दोस्तो, मैं ख़ुद को सबसे पहले अपने बचपन से आपको बताना चाहती हूं। जब मैं एक साल की थी, तब मेरी मम्मी-पापा और भाई तीनों जेल चले गए। वो सभी मेरी भाभी के खून के इल्जाम में गए थे। और मैं और मम्मी हम घर में बैठे हुए थे। हमें कुछ नहीं पता था कि किसके दिमाग में क्या चल रहा है। और पापा नौकरी पर गए हुए थे। घर में कोई नहीं था। मेरी भाभी सीढ़ियों से ऊपर गई और उन्होंने आत्महत्या कर ली। भाभी के पूरे परिवार ने मेरे परिवार के खिलाफ गलत गवाही दे दी और सारा इल्जाम मेरे परिवार पर लगा दिया। इन सभी बातों ने मेरे जीवन को एकदम संघर्षमय बना डाला। मेरी अपनी ज़िंदगी का सफर तिहाड़ के क्रैश से शुरू हुआ था। मैं वहाँ बहुत-कुछ सीखने जाती, जैसे वर्णमाला, मैंने वहाँ बहुत-कुछ सीखा जैसे खेलना। हमें वहाँ बहुत सारी गतिविधियाँ करनी पड़ती थीं, जैसे हमें वहाँ दूध पीना ही पड़ता था, चाहे हमें पंसद हो या न हो और हम सभी को समय पर सोना पड़ता था। और नृत्य, संगीत आदि हम सभी चीजें वहाँ सीखते थे। और जब मैं पांच वर्ष की हुई, तब रेनू दीदी के साथ में हॉस्टल चली गई। उस दिन मैं बहुत रो रही थी। मैं अपनी मम्मी के पास वापस जाना चाहती थी। मेरा खुद पर कोई नियंत्रण नहीं था और में खुद को संभाल नहीं पा रही थी और दिन और महीने गुजरने लगे और मैंने खुद को संतुष्ट महसूस किया, बहुत-से दोस्तों के साथ। पर

वहाँ की दिनचर्या मेरे लिए बहुत ही कठिन थी। हमें वहाँ प्रातः 6 बजे उठना होता था, जिसमें मैं खुद को आरामदायक महसूस नहीं कर पाती थी, पर फिर कुछ दिनों बाद मैंने खुद को ठीक महसूस किया, क्योंकि मेरी 6 बजे उठने की आदत बन चुकी थी। उस समय मेरी अध्यापिका और हैड श्रीमती ग्लैडी थीं, जो कि बहुत ही ध्यान रखने वाली थी हम सबका और हमारी हर कामों में और हमारी जरूरतों में सहायता करती थीं। मेरी कक्षा में और भी बच्चे थे और हम सभी एक-साथ पढते थे। मैंने अपनी पढाई U.K.G. कक्षा से आरंभ की और जब कक्षा 10वीं और 12वीं की पढ़ाई कर चुकी, तब मैंने अपनी ज़िंदगी में चीजों को करने की योजना बनाई। मैं बहुत ही प्रसन्न होती थी, जब कभी हम घूमने जाते अपने हॉस्टल से। हम उन पलों को बहुत आनंद से जीते। मैंने कई इनाम जीते, कई बार मैंने सफलताएँ पाईं। कला में, संगीत में, लेख लिखने में व प्रर्दशनी-प्रतियोगिता में भी बहुत-कुछ जीता। मुझे डॉ. किरन बेदी मैम से भी इनाम मिला, जब मैं अपने पूरे विद्यालय में कॉमर्स में तृतीय स्थान पर आई। और ये सभी पुरस्कार मुझे डॉ. किरण बेदी मैम की वजह से हासिल हुए, जिन्होंने मुझे एक उच्च स्तर के विद्यालय में शिक्षा ग्रहण करने का सौभाग्य प्राप्त करवाया। अन्यथा इस युवा उम्र में हमें शिक्षा का अवसर कभी प्राप्त ही नहीं हो पाता।

शिक्षा अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण है और शिक्षा के बिना कुछ भी आपका नहीं हो सकता। मेरे पिरवार ने मुझे ज्यादा सहारा नहीं दिया, क्योंकि हमेशा मेरे पिताजी निराश रहते थे, क्योंकि वो अपनी नौकरी खो चुके थे। वो हमेशा रोते, क्योंकि अब उनकी सरकारी नौकरी उनसे छुट गई थी। पिताजी की ये दशा देखकर मैं बहुत ही कष्टों में घिर जाती थी। मैं अपने पिरवार, भाई-बहनों में सबसे छोटी हूं। मेरे पिरवार ने कई किठनाइयों का सामना किया और इन किठनाइयों ने ही मुझे अच्छा पढ़ना सिखाया। पहले मेरी इच्छा एक सफल चिकित्सक बनने की थी, पर उच्च कक्षाओं में आकर अपनी इस इच्छा को बदल डाला और अब मैं एक C.S. बनना

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चाहती हूं। मैंने इसीलिए कॉमर्स का विषय लिया। मैं अपने जीवन में एक अच्छी लड़की, एक अच्छी इनसान बनना चाहती हूं, ताकि जो मैंने पहले शिक्षा ली है. वो बर्बाद न जाए। मैंने अपनी डॉ. किरन बेदी मैम से बहुत-कुछ सीख ग्रहण की है, वो हमेशा हमें यही समझाती हैं कि हम अपनी इच्छानुसार जीवन के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करें, जो हमें अच्छा लगता है उसी दिशा में जीवन को आगे ले जाएं। जैसे ही मेरे पापा-मम्मी की केस-फाइल को दुबारा खोला गया, तो मेरे पिताजी, माताजी और भाई जेल गए। उस समय मैं बहुत निराश थी और रो रही थी कि मुझे क्या करना चाहिए। जैसे हर मुसीबत में एक बच्चे को माता-पिता सहारा देते हैं और उनके भविष्य को बनाते हैं। ये वो वक्त था मेरे लिए, जब मैं खुद को संभाल नहीं पा रही थी। पर जब IVF के लोगों ने मेरे घर पर आना शुरू किया, मैंने उत्साह प्राप्त किया कि मुझे अपने जीवन में अपने लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करना है। उन्होंने मुझे नकारात्मक से सकारात्मक चीजों की तरफ मेरा मार्गदर्शन किया और यही समझाया कि खुद को कभी भी असफल मत समझो। मेरे परिवार ने बहुत-से कष्टों का सामना किया। मेरे माता-पिता जेल में थे और मेरे पड़ोसियों ने भी कुछ नहीं किया। मेरे भाई-बहनों की देखभाल करने वाला कोई नहीं था, कभी-कभी उन्हें खाना भी नहीं मिल पाता था। जब मैंने ये सुना कि उन्हें शिक्षा भी नहीं मिल पा रही, तो मैं बहुत निराश हुई, उस समय मैं हॉस्टल में थी।

बाहर के बच्चे मुझसे कई सवाल करते कि क्या तुम्हारे माता-पिता जेल में हैं? उस समय मेरे पास उन्हें कहने के लिए एक शब्द नहीं होता था। मैं ये सब बातें सुनकर बहुत ही बुरा महसूस करती। मैं किसी और मुद्दे पर बात करने की कोशिश करती उस वक्त। मैं नहीं जानती कि प्रभु ने हमारे जीवन में इतनी परेशानियाँ क्यों दीं। अब मैंने अपने भविष्य के बारे में बहुत सारी योजनाएँ बनाई हैं। हमारे सभी मित्र जो कि पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं, वे सभी कहते हैं और यही सोचते हैं कि निश्चय ही एक दिन वे अपना लक्ष्य जरूर प्राप्त कर लेंगे और हमारी सभी अध्यापिकाएँ यही समझाती हैं कि हमें अपना केंद्र-बिंदु अपने लक्ष्य को ही बनाना चाहिए। तुम जरूर ही उसे प्राप्त कर लोगे। और अब मैं बहुत ही प्रसन्न हूं और उन्हें धन्यवाद देती हूं, जिन्होंने मुझे अपना भविष्य बनाने के लिए प्रेरित किया। अब निश्चय ही मैं बहुत ही अच्छे प्रयास करूंगी अपने जीवन में कुछ करने के लिए। अभी मैंने 12वीं कक्षा 79 प्रतिशत अंकों से उत्तीर्ण की है और कई बार ऐसी परेशानियों में मैंने परीक्षा दी है और फिर भी मैंने अच्छे अंक ही पाए हैं। मैं पूरे साल चिंता में थी, जब से वो केस-फाइल पुनः खुल गई थी, पर फिर भी सभी चीजों को भूलते हुए मैंने काफी परिश्रम किया है और मैं सफल भी रही। और सभी ने मेरी हौसला-अफजाई की। मेरे परिवार को भी मुझ पर गर्व महसूस हुआ, जब उन्होंने मेरे परिणाम की खबर सुनी। और मुझे आशा है कि मेरे माता-पिता जल्दी ही आएंगे।

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दिल की बात

मैं केवल यही संदेश समाज को देना चाहती हूं कि सभी माता-पिता अपने बच्चों का सही से मार्गदर्शन करें और उन्हें एक सफल और सुनहरा भविष्य प्रदान करवाएँ। जैसे हमने सभी बाधाओं का सामना किया और आज भी हम ऊँचाइयों पर खड़े हैं। और जो बच्चे अच्छे और समृद्ध पिरवारों से है, वो अपने पिरवार और माता-पिता का पैसा बर्बाद न करें। उसे अपनी सफलता का केंद्र-बिंदु बनाने में लगाएं। कभी खुद को असफल न समझें। जैसे हम छोटे घरानों से जरूर हैं, पर हम ये नहीं सोचते कि हम असफल हैं।

### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

She feels very vulnerable as both her parents are in prison. But she has confidence in herself and her abilities. She was in the Tihar Creche when we met her. Right from that time to grade 12, Pushpa has impressed us with her hard work and determination. She is now studying in first year B.Com and is on the path of pursuing her dream of becoming a company secretary.

PEARLY SAML Lears.



# Sunny Kumar Srivastav

15 years old

Student of Grade 9

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हरों ह साल राज्य पुरान महन त्मा की की अभी में के मम्मी के के साथ कहती हैं जेन में अन में मुझ्ने से के हिंदी के हिंदी के हिंदी में मुझ्ने से के हिंदी के है। हिंदी के जिना मना किस उसे की

पुरा किया है। 1. V. F हमते हुए मान का का में अवने पहारा नि ते अवर्थ नि स्वार्थ के स्वार्थ माठहार में में बहुत भी मतांगांगांध करता हूँ जैसे आफ - अपार्ड क्सी कावार रवाना भी वना ने के लिस के चला में जाता हूँ HOSTEI में मेरे आहे का दास्त हैं जो की मुसीवत उनाने पर मेरी आहेता कि हैं

में अपने माता - तिता और 1.0.F का आभारी बहुँगा और में उनको धन्यवाद करता है जो कि मेर की इतमा कुछ बिया। 1.0.F और Kiran mam की धन्यवाद Thank To 400 ! Dil Ki ald में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हर रममाठा में हर अक वर्च को उत्पार वी लड़का या लड़की हो उस्ते हण्याद्यांग मिली और मिलनी चाहिस्) समाज को में यह कहना चाहता हूँ हर कच्चा पदकर वो अपने माता - गिता का नाम अचा करता है पर में रूग्ड का नाम अचा करूँगा। HANK YOU TO VOF

## Sunny

Today I am very happy! I have got an opportunity to share with you what I have gone through in my short life.

Before my mother went to Jail I used to live with my parents and my younger sister. But my father was never happy.

He would send me to work outside and work in the house too.

Whenever I would do any work my father would not like it. He constantly scolded me and beat me.

When my mother went to prison I was 5 years old. That's when IVF came into my life. IVF has helped me a lot. They put me in school, in the hostel where I am studying now in grade 9.

I have been with IVF for almost 9 years. IVF has given me a lot of things from clothes, books, pens, pencils to shoes. IVF has looked after me well.

I like living in the hostel, I have a lot of facilities here. I want to grow up and become someone. Prove myself to the world.

I want to make my parents and IVF proud.

IVF has taken me on numerous outings. Like picnics, summer camps etc where there is lots to learn in music, dance and sports. I want to study hard and become a good child.

In the three months break after grade 10<sup>th</sup> I would like to study an English speaking course and learn about computers.

I have lost one year of studies as my parents did not let me

come to the hostel. I have 2 sisters. One is called Arti. I have not seen her for 8 years. I have another sister Lovely who lives in jail with my mother.

Now I would like to share about my hostel. 80 children live here of all ages. This hostel has children till grade 10. Everybody loves me in the hostel and I like it here. Some of the children here don't have their fathers and some don't have their mothers.

I am happy that I have my parents and IVF who does so much for me. When I am sick it is IVF that takes me to the hospital and gets me medicines.

Whenever I have asked IVF for anything they have never refused and always fulfilled my wishes.

IVF takes care of everyone in a very nice way. If it is a small child they educate him as long as he wants. If it's a grown man they help in finding him a job.

I want to thank IVF for educating me. I belong to a poor family who did not have means to make me study. IVF put me in school and not only are they educating me they are showing me the way forward to my future.

I take part in a lot of activities in the Hostel like cleaning, gardening and sometimes even carpentry. I enjoy competitions and take part in a lot of events. I have won a lot of prizes. I have a lot of friends who have helped me when I was in trouble.

I am happy within myself. I don't miss my parents.

I want to study computers, I am very interested in cars, would like to make them some day.

I will always be grateful to my parents and IVF and I want to thank IVF for giving me so much. I want to make them proud.

Thank you to Kiran Ma'am.



Straight From my heart

I want to convey that it is society's responsibility to educate the children whether girl or boy. I want to say that it is only through education can children make their parents proud.

I will make IVF proud.

#### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

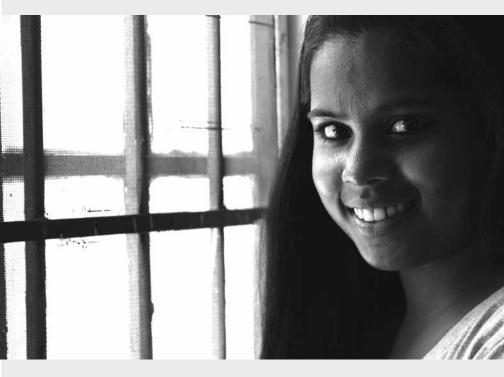
Sunny is a sweet and cheerful child. He is friendly. He enjoys playing sports and is good in studies. He has had a bad family life. His mother remarried and his step father was not nice to the children. Sunny has been abused as a child. His mother is HIV positive. Luckily Sunny is not.

His father was charged for murder.

Sunny has no contact with his mother or sister. His father calls sometimes.

He is a great example of making the best of his circumstances and staying happy.

Charles



# Jaimala

21 years

Student, Counsellor in a leading university

From an Unknown face to known face called Tai mala still remember the day when never knew the se to spend our night at roadsides all spent on days by rom roadside and Then my father started deining ricks have, where he used to earn minimum we were all 8 member at home, Now I am thinking how 8 members can my mother started maid for Oon Survival relationsher when she used back she used to hug us so

lightly, tears holled from her eyes.

All of a Sudden by dad was Caught by police because he was rivolve in some fight, police took him to joil.

My dad weart to jail. And my for you was with no idea that she is geing to take case of all of us and survive. Whenever my mom used to go for work she used to large my small brother and me, she made us list to some place and was centersils, cothers of others.

I was seeing energy moments, As If we are living a life of hell. My your she used to bring clothers and togs for us which was given by those people lunder wohom my mom used to work, the left out things of their kids. But I never had a gailt that it was used by other

All of a sudden I was sent to hostel with no idea, no knowledge, what is hastel 97?

I can See my mothers hardwork in

those tous of glothes. Those things were like

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I had never liand without my mother. It was So painted for metaleque may mom. I was end to hostel by saying that we are ing for bicnic I, mad and Small brother then me reached there wee saw, 2-3 I remember the first day after howing lunch hee starting waiting for our mother to take us home, but side aidn't came. we started crying at the top of our Voice that were want to go home, we were left (Nuns), they said that you would us to study and become good back (in 21 If the I month my you came Voice that we want Special gift wedich I received from god my tears and pain. Because I used to sed myself how my mother used to

My mother always used to lay that

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with famous personality. I started my studies with UK. G class. I was always interested in book and lost into it. There were so many children around used to turing that me at times I gonna loose my self between started things why I chowen to fine my had been send boneats, why I for my studies. Then I made a friend in , she was so intelligent. used to find myself I don't know anything I But she was so sweet to me she used to 0 help me with my studies at times Sometimes years also passed by Leeing my moms (face. a free, I talk to myself my we are so pour why there are so many difficulties in ne used to clying its Vonly me 199 way me exams sparted gave my first now passed with Class V. K. G. Quergone started app weating my me that yes, Wo did something

did a good job. I used to bless me that I did a good job. I used to pray to god that blease keep my Mom happy.

I was known as a Namulais Scholar after gaining such a good percentage.

Slowly Slowly when I reached upto 5 class Some people used to Visit regularly I stouted decognizing that these people are visiting ses regularly, who are they ??? when I graw little Older we recognized that IVA Counselor are Visiting us and helping us with my stropies. IVF were also helping my brothers and sistus with their studies. Ittel I had a Question always that why they are helping us ???

as time passed by sisters started teaching as how to take care can ourself. How to making chappati. We used to wash clother by ouresilf. Yes, life was good I felt lonely everyone and use to think, what my mother is doing did she had good or not.

Sometimes I used to reach upto the school gate and see Children are going home with their parents by holding their parents hand. I Miss my you so badly that Times passed by I started relaizening that why IVF is helping us. They are helping us become I belong to a Vunerable Hamily when my dad is in jail my you had no money to U send me and my brother to Then One thing strike to my mind that these people and helping us so much long can I put little more essente to my I studies so, that energone can feel proud ne and I can thelp my you and So, I reached upto 16th Gelass that and started tocksing on my studies it was almost dyears I had seen my Mome face. I thought now I will got home by achemical good marks in my boold Exams. I I studying hard day and night just to fulfill my mome dreams so it was time for board and when

the result was out I was at the top of my that yes, for the first time I made received 75% in ofthe receiving right a tears automatically rolled I madeit. ( Mappy that 9 because Wow I am in studies people started asking that I what good marks. I neit make things better and break all the pain and sonows lies my Mother worked day bought home in Delhi. I wispilled through my yother that Rady can do anything whatever she fractes

12th class. I got Scholarship University because of my Bachelors and List & Beth 1st & by guiding Students that ience that what I necincol of students Co Bachelor' am findling that

There are so many things which I always enjoy in my life. These things always

So, many small things in life help me to learn in this life so, I never neglect these things , I always try to learn something from that and make new self better. School days when I correlation so relary stirdents heard no noice, they were so Oplease that they stan asking what who is Jaimala 99 ratural metodious voice. Even the kids hero never saw me knew that in their someone named Jaimala sings. for Documentity film. I was felling + prond of for these movie shoot mass Communication Movie was "The Dream' touches your hearly ac sensously that story to neked my from raside. That was on girl dwig long people hate girl child and how

girls proof themselves that we are strong and here can do things better than heris do. I learned so many things in that, how a mone is produced, allected and give it My part in that you've was to Captine hioments of the monje's secure anina. So, I had, I used my Capture everything what end around practically whatever I leaked W wisit my old school energy ne there end the new kids name because. aways apprelated I nee for y always tell them. I BIKHO" at the top of the world I had become and examples any children. I feel so motivated within Let nigself Useful 10

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mentor for energone and so I am. I worked with ASSOCHAM ladies league where I sow that world is so fast I worked as a Canera excecutive a photograph. There I without wasting time my cabiera. every thing .. all around the world Seing So many

open my heirs, and people one moving around the thougheill look at me not only once tinus and say posted be the best a Dream isto have doctor befor se people be there wh

#### DIL KI BAAT

to IVF of team to helping us and guiding us to focus on our studes.

The champion then you will be champion Oneday ".

The thing is you have to focus on your coals and relacive what you can do and make things better.

Dream's are always special and I found Mine her fulfilling it weither the help of IVF and my Mom.

Thank you IVF one you...

### जयमाला

मुझे आज भी वह दिन अच्छी तरह याद है, तब मैं केवल तीन साल की बच्ची थी और यह नहीं जानती थी कि मेरे आसपास क्या घट रहा है।

मैं अपने माता-पिता और भाई-बहनों के साथ रह रही थी। मेरी तीन बड़ी बहनें और दो छोटे भाई थे। उस समय मैं 'घर' शब्द के सही मायने तक नहीं जानती थी, क्योंकि हमारे पास अपना घर कभी नहीं रहा था। हम अपनी रातें सड़क के किनारे बिताते थे और हमारे पास भोजन या कोई दूसरी वस्तु नहीं थी।

कई बार हम सारा-सारा दिन सड़कों से चीथड़े बीनकर अपना पेट भरने का जुगाड़ करते थे।

फिर मेरे पिता रिक्शा चलाने लगे। वे एक दिन में लगभग पचास रूपए कमा लेते थे और हमारे परिवार में आठ सदस्य थे; अब मैं सोचती हूँ कि उस समय आठ सदस्य उन पचास रूपयों से कैसे गुजारा चला पाते होंगे?

फिर मेरी माँ घर का खर्च चलाने के लिए दूसरों के घरों में बाई का काम करने लगी। वह सुबह छह बजे निकल जाती और शाम छह बजे तक वापस आती। हम सभी भाई-बहन सारा दिन घर में अकेले रहते। मुझे याद है कि जब वह काम से लौटती, तो वह हमें कसकर गले से लगा लेती और उसकी आँखों से आँसू बह निकलते।

अचानक ही पिताजी को पुलिस पकड़कर ले गई, क्योंकि वे किसी के साथ झड़प करते पकड़े गए थे। उन्हें जेल ले जाया गया।

मेरे पिताजी जेल में थे और माँ को कुछ पता नहीं था कि वह हम सबकी देखरेख कैसे करेगी या हमारा पेट भरने के लिए क्या करेगी। जब भी माँ दूसरों के घर काम करने जाती, तो वह मुझे और मेरे भाई को किसी जगह बिठा देती, फिर वह दूसरों के बर्तन व कपड़े धोती और सफाई करती। उन दिनों को याद करती हूँ, तो ऐसा लगता है कि हम नरक जैसी ज़िंदगी जी रहे थे। माँ जिन घरों में काम करती थी, उन घरों से उनके बच्चों की कपड़े और खिलौने लेकर आती, पर मुझे कभी यह सोचकर अपराध-बोध नहीं हुआ कि वे दूसरों की उतरनें थीं। मैं देख सकती थी कि उस बचे हुए सामान को लाने के पीछे मेरी माँ की कड़ी मेहनत छिपी थी। मेरे लिए वे वस्तुएँ किसी अनोखे उपहार से कम न थीं।

अचानक ही मुझे होस्टल भेज दिया गया और मुझे इस बात का कोई अनुमान या अता-पता तक नहीं था कि होस्टल क्या होता है?

मैं अपनी माँ से अलग कभी नहीं रही थी। मेरे लिए अपनी माँ से दूर रहना बहुत ही पीड़ादायक था। मुझे यह कहकर होस्टल भेजा गया कि हम पिकनिक मनाने जा रहे हैं। जब मैं और मेरा छोटा भाई वहाँ गए, तो हमें दो-तीन बच्चे और दिखाई दिए।

मुझे पहला दिन याद है, दोपहर का खाना खाने के बाद हम अपनी माँ का इंतज़ार करने लगे कि वह हमें अभी आकर ले जाएगी, पर वह नहीं आई। हम गला फाड़कर रोने लगे कि हम अपने घर वापस जाना चाहते हैं। नन्स हमारे पास आईं और कहा कि माँ चाहती है कि हम पढ़ाई करके अच्छे बच्चे बनें और वह दो-तीन दिन में वापस आ जाएगी।

एक माह बाद माँ मुझसे और भाई से मिलने आई। हम जोर-जोर से रोने लगे कि हमें घर वापस ले जाया जाए। हम वहाँ अकेले नहीं रहना चाहते थे।

माँ ने मुझसे कहा कि मैं उसके लिए भगवान की ओर से एक विशेष

उपहार हूँ। यह सुनकर मैं अपने आँसू व दर्द भूल गई। मैंने अपनी माँ को हम सबके लिए कड़ी मेहनत करते देखा था। वह अकसर मुझसे कहती, "एक दिन तुझे बहुत बड़ा इनसान बनना है।" मैंने यू.के.जी. कक्षा से अपनी पढ़ाई आरंभ की। मैं हमेशा अपनी किताबों में रुचि लेती और उनमें खोई रहती।

मेरे आसपास इतने बच्चे थे कि कई बार ऐसा लगता था कि मैं अपने-आपको उनके बीच कहीं खो दूँगी। फिर मैं ऐसी बातें सोचने लगती कि मुझे मेरे माता-पिता के बिना जीवन जीने के लिए क्यों चुना गया, मुझे पढ़ने के लिए इतनी दूर क्यों भेजा गया। फिर मैंने होस्टल में सबरीना नाम की लड़की को अपनी दोस्त बनाया, वह बहुत ही होशियार थी। कई बार मुझे ऐसा लगता कि मुझे कुछ नहीं आता और मैं कुछ नहीं जानती, पर उसका व्यवहार मेरे साथ बहुत अच्छा था। वह अकसर पढ़ाई में भी मेरी सहायता किया करती।

कई बार तो माँ का चेहरा देखे सालों बीत जाते। मैं अकसर पेड़ के पीछे जाकर अपने-आप से बातें करती कि हम लोग इतने निर्धन क्यों हैं, मेरे परिवार में इतनी कठिनाइयाँ क्यों हैं? मैं अकसर रोते हुए भगवान से पूछती कि मैं ही क्यों??? भगवान ने मेरे साथ ही ऐसा क्यों किया?

फिर हमारी परीक्षाएँ हुईं और मैं यू.के.जी कक्षा में पच्चानवे प्रतिशत अंकों के साथ उत्तीर्ण हुई।

सभी मेरी प्रशंसा करने लगे कि मैंने कुछ कर दिखाया है और जब भी कोई मुझे मेरे इस काम के लिए आशीर्वाद देता, तो मैं भगवान से प्रार्थना करती कि वह मेरी माँ को खुश रखे। इतने अच्छे अंक पाने के बाद मेरी गिनती बहुत होशियार बच्चों में की जाने लगी थी।

धीरे-धीरे मैं पाँचवीं कक्षा तक आ गई। कुछ लोग नियमित रूप से हमारे पास आया करते थे और मैं पहचानने लगी थी कि वे लोग अकसर हमारे पास आते थे। वे लोग कौन थे? जब मैं थोड़ी बड़ी हुई तो पता चला कि हमारे पास आने वाले लोग आई.वी.एफ. सलाहकार थे, जो हमें

हमारी पढ़ाई में मदद करने आते थे। वे लोग मेरे भाई-बहनों को पढ़ाने में भी मदद कर रहे थे।

समय बीतता गया और सिस्टर्स हमें सिखाने लगीं कि हमें अपनी देख-रेख कैसे करनी चाहिए या चपाती कैसे बनाते हैं। हम अपने कपड़े भी अपने-आप धोते थे। हाँ, जीवन बहुत अच्छी तरह बीत रहा था, पर मैं अकेलापन महसूस करती और अकसर सोचती कि मेरी माँ क्या कर रही होगी, उसने भोजन भी किया होगा या नहीं?

कई बार मैं स्कूल के गेट के पास चली जाती और उन बच्चों को देखती, जो अपने माता-पिता का हाथ थामकर अपने घर वापस जा रहे होते। उस समय मुझे अपनी माँ की सबसे ज़्यादा याद सताती थी।

ज्यों-ज्यों समय बीतता गया, मुझे एहसास होने लगा कि आई.वी. एफ. सलाहकार हमारी मदद क्यों कर रहे हैं। वे हमारी सहायता इसलिए कर रहे थे, क्योंकि मैं एक ऐसे परिवार से थी, जिसमें मेरे पिता जेल में थे और माँ के पास मेरे और भाई की पढ़ाई के लिए कोई साधन नहीं था।

तब मेरे दिमाग में एक बात आई कि ये लोग हमारी पढ़ाई के लिए इतना प्रयास कर रहे हैं, तो क्यों न मैं भी अपनी ओर से थोड़ा और अधिक प्रयत्न करूँ, तािक सभी मुझ पर गर्व कर सकें और मैं अपने माता-पिता की किसी रूप में सहायता करने योग्य बन सकूँ। तब तक मैं दसवीं कक्षा में आ गई थी और मैंने अपना पूरा ध्यान पढ़ाई पर केंद्रित कर दिया। तब मुझे अपनी माँ का चेहरा देखे लगभग दो साल होने वाले थे। मैंने सोचा कि मैं बोर्ड की परीक्षा में अच्छे अंक पाने के बाद ही माँ से मिलने घर जाऊँगी।

मैं अपनी माँ का सपना पूरा करने के लिए दिन-रात कड़ी मेहनत से पढ़ने लगी और बोर्ड की परीक्षाएँ भी आ गईं। जब मेरा परिणाम घोषित हुए, तो मेरी प्रसन्नता का ठिकाना न रहा। मैंने जीवन में पहली बार अपना लक्ष्य पाया था। मैंने बोर्ड की परीक्षा पचहत्तर प्रतिशत अंकों से उत्तीर्ण की। मेरी आँखों से अपने-आप ही खुशी के आँसू बह निकले। मैंने कर दिखाया था, मैंने अपना लक्ष्य पा लिया था। मैंने अपनी दोस्त से भी अधिक अंक पाए थे।

उस दिन मुझे एहसास हुआ कि मैं वाकई ख़ास थी, क्योंकि पहले लोग अकसर यही पूछा करते थे कि मैं पढ़ाई में कैसी हूँ? पर मेरी दसवीं के परिणाम के बाद वे पूछने लगे थे कि होस्टल में रहने वाली उस लड़की का क्या नाम है, जिसने इतने अच्छे अंकों से बोर्ड की परीक्षा पास की है? मैंने अपने-आप से वादा किया कि मैं अपने हालात को बेहतर बनाकर ही दम लूँगी और अपने माता-पिता के जीवन से सारे कष्ट व पीड़ाओं का अंत कर दूँगी।

जिन दिनों मैं अपनी पढ़ाई पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रही थी, मेरी माँ ने दिन-रात मेहनत की और अपने पैसों से दिल्ली में घर खरीद लिया। मुझे माँ से हमेशा यही प्रेरणा मिलती थी कि एक लड़की जो कुछ भी करना चाहती है, वह कर सकती है।

मैंने बारहवीं की परीक्षा पास की। यूनिवर्सिटी में मुझे अच्छे प्रतिशत के कारण छात्रवृत्ति मिली। मैंने प्रथम श्रेणी में जनसंचार तथा पत्रकारिता में स्नातक की उपाधि प्राप्त की। इन दिनों मैं पत्रकारिता में स्नातकोत्तर की शिक्षा ग्रहण करने के साथ-साथ एक सलाहकार की भूमिका भी निभा रही हूँ और छात्रों को यह परामर्श देती हूँ कि उनके लिए कौन-से विकल्प बेहतर हो सकते हैं।

यह एक बहुत ही अद्भुत अनुभव है। मैंने दूसरों से जो पाया, आज मैं उसे दूसरों में बाँट रही हूँ। मैं यूनिवर्सिटी में छात्रों के बेहतर भविष्य के लिए 'उद्योगपति सलाहकार अकादमी' के रूप में जानी जाती हूँ।

और सबसे बेहतर बात तो यह है कि मैं अपने मास्टर डिग्री प्रोग्राम के लिए स्वयं फीस भर रही हूँ और इसके साथ ही अपने वेतन से भाई की डिग्री के लिए भी प्रबंध कर रही हूँ। मैंने पाया है कि एक-एक कर मेरे सारे सपने पूरे होते जा रहे हैं।

मैं कह सकती हूँ कि मैंने कड़े संघर्ष के बाद अपने लिए यह सब पाया है। मैंने यह सब-कुछ अपनी माँ के लिए किया, क्योंकि उन्हें लगता है कि मैं एक चैंपियन हूँ।

मेरे जीवन में ऐसी बहुत-सी वस्तुएँ रहीं, जिनका मैंने हमेशा आनंद उठाया, जैसे पेंटिंग, ड्राइंग व हस्तकला आदि।

मुझे ड्राइंग करने का बेहद शौक है। जब भी मेरे सामने कोई शीट आती है, तो मैं उस पर अपनी भावनाएँ उड़ेल देती हूँ।

मुझे चित्रकला-प्रतियोगिता में स्वर्णपदक प्राप्त हुआ था। यह एक ऐसी विशेष घटना थी, जिसने मुझे अपने-आप पर गर्व करने का अवसर दिया। स्कूल में एक चित्रकला-प्रतियोगिता थी और हमें प्रतियोगिता में अपनी पेंटिंग बेचनी थी।

मैंने उस प्रतियोगिता में हिस्सा लिया और उससे प्राप्त धन को एक अनाथालय के बच्चों की सहायता के लिए भेज दिया। मुझे अपने-आप पर बेहद गर्व हुआ कि मैंने कुछ ऐसा कर दिखाया था, जो मैं हमेशा से ही करना चाहती थी।

मैं हमेशा से यही मानती आई हूँ कि अवसर हमारे सामने आते हैं, परंतु हमें उन्हें अपना बनाना होता है, क्योंकि वहाँ बहुत-सी लड़िकयों ने बारहवीं पास की थी। परंतु मैं पहले ही यह तय कर चुकी थी कि यदि मुझे अवसर मिला, तो मैं निश्चित रूप से ऊँची उड़ान भकँगी। मेरे हुनर और जुनून ने मुझे आगे आने में मदद की और मैं दुनिया को यह दिखाने में सफल रही, "मैं दूसरों से कहीं बेहतर हूँ।"

मैं अपने स्कूल में प्लेबैक सिंगर की भूमिका भी निभाती आई थी। मेरे संगीत ने मुझे दुनिया में आगे आने और अपना नाम चमकाने में मदद की।

मुझे बचपन से ही संगीत से बहुत लगाव था। संगीत के बल पर ही मैं मंच पर आने के भय पर काबू पा सकी। मुझे आज भी याद है, मैं चौथी कक्षा में थी। ज्यों ही मैं मंच पर गई, तो अपने सामने बहुत सारे बच्चों को देख झिझक गई और घबराहट में गाने से मना कर दिया। तब मेरे पीछे खड़ी सिस्टर ने कहा, "आगे जाओ और साबित कर दो कि तुम क्या कर सकती हो।" मैंने अपनी आँखें बंद कीं और अपने-आप से कहा, "हाँ, मैं इसे कर सकती हूँ।" मुझे आज भी वह गाना याद है, "हम बालक हैं देश के, बढ़ते ही जाएँगे, हम हर कदम पर शांति का घर बनाएँगे।"

यह गाना आज भी मुझे प्रेरणा प्रदान करता है कि तुम ही वह आत्मा हो, जो देश की रक्षा करेगी। हमारा उज्ज्वल भविष्य ही सारे राष्ट्र का नेतृत्व करेगा।

जीवन की बहुत-सी छोटी-छोटी बातों ने मुझे जीवन में बहुत-कुछ सीखने का अवसर दिया है, इसलिए मैं कभी इन बातों की उपेक्षा नहीं करती। मैं हमेशा उनसे कुछ न कुछ सीखने और अपने-आपको बेहतर बनाने की चेष्टा करती रहती हूँ।

जब मैं स्कूली दिनों में गाती थी और मैंने गायन-प्रतियोगिता में जीत हासिल की, तो मेरी आवाज़ सुनने वाले छात्र बहुत प्रसन्न हुए और वे पूछने लगे थे कि जयमाला कौन है, जिसके पास इतना प्यारा व मीठा स्वर है। यहाँ तक कि जिन बच्चों ने मुझे देखा तक नहीं था, वे भी जानते थे कि कोई जयमाला नामक लड़की गाती है।

मेरे बैचलर डिग्री प्रोग्राम के दौरान मेरी आवाज़ इतनी लोकप्रिय थी कि मुझे डॉक्यूमेंटरी प्रोग्राम के लिए चुना गया। मुझे यह सोचकर बहुत गर्व का अनुभव हुआ कि मेरी प्रतिभा को डॉक्यूमेंटरी के लिए प्रयोग में लाया जा रहा है। यहाँ तक कि मैं एक फिल्म की शूटिंग का भी हिस्सा बनी, जो कि हमारी यूनिवर्सिटी में की जा रही थी। वह फिल्म मेरी जनसंचार व पत्रकारिता की पढ़ाई से संबंध रखती थी और उसका नाम था, 'द ड्रीम'। वह एक ऐसी सच्ची कहानी है जो दिलों को छू जाती है, उसने मुझे भी द्रवित कर दिया था। वह बच्चियों पर आधारित थी कि लोग बच्चियों से नफ़रत क्यों करते हैं और किस तरह वही बच्चियाँ बड़ी होकर यह साबित कर देती हैं कि वे कितनी सशक्त हैं और अपने

जीवन में लड़कों से भी आगे निकलकर दिखा देती हैं। मैंने इस दौरान बहुत-कुछ सीखा है। एक फिल्म कैसे बनती है, उसका निर्देशन कैसे होता है और अंत में उसे निखारा कैसे जाता है। इससे मुझे बहुत-कुछ सीखने का मौका मिला।

उस फ़िल्म में मेरा काम यह था कि मुझे मूवी के दृश्यों को अपने कैमरे में कैद करना था। मैंने अपनी प्रतिभा का प्रयोग करते हुए आसपास घट रहे हर दृश्य को कैमरे में उतार लिया। इस तरह मैंने अपनी डिग्री के दौरान जो भी सीखा था, उसे व्यावहारिक रूप से करने का अवसर मिला।

जब भी मैं अपने स्कूल जाती, तो वहाँ नए बच्चे ही दिखाई देते, परंतु वे सभी मुझे नाम से जानते थे, क्योंिक अध्यापिकाएँ अकसर उनके सामने मेरे काम, पढ़ाई व गतिविधियों की प्रशंसा करतीं और कहतीं, "जयमाला को देख कर सीखो।" मुझे यह देखकर बहुत ही गर्व और प्रसन्नता का अनुभव होता कि आज मैं कितने बच्चों के लिए एक मिसाल बन गई हूँ। मैं स्वयं को भी भीतर से और भी प्रेरित कर पाती। ऐसा लगता कि मैं कितने बच्चों के काम आ रही हूँ। मैं सदा से ही दूसरों के लिए एक मार्गदर्शक की भूमिका निभाना चाहती थी और आज मैं यही कर रही हूँ।

मैंने एसोचैम लेडीज़ लीग (ASSOCHAM Ladies League) के साथ काम किया और पाया कि दुनिया कितनी तेज़ी से भाग रही है। मैंने एक कैमरा-एक्ज़ीक्यूटिव के रूप में काम किया और तसवीरें खींचीं। वहाँ मुझे रितु बेरी के फैशन-शो में हिस्सा लेने का अवसर मिला, जो बच्चों के लिए था। वहाँ अनेक जानी-मानी हस्तियों से भेंट हुई और मैंने समय गँवाए बिना सबकी तसवीरें ले लीं। एसोचैम लीग बुनियादी रूप से महिलाओं को हर काम के लिए प्रोत्साहित करती है। यह महिलाओं को आगे आने में मदद करती है तथा सारी दुनिया की महिलाओं को अपना समर्थन देती है।

इतनी सारी हस्तियों व महान लोगों को देखकर मैं हमेशा यही

सोचती थी कि एक दिन मैं किसी अच्छे काम के लिए, उन सबके लिए एक कबर गर्ल बनूँगी।

मैंने एक कदम और आगे बढ़ाया और फेसबुक ब्लॉग पर अपने लंबे बालों के बारे में लोगों को टिप्स देने लगी। जी हाँ, मेरे बाल घुटनों से भी नीचे तक जाते हैं। मैं लोगों को टिप्स देती थी कि वे अपने बालों को लंबा और सुंदर कैसे बना सकते हैं, क्योंकि मेरी माँ कहती थी कि लंबे बालों वाली लड़िकयाँ हमेशा खूबसूरत दिखती हैं। सच कहूँ, तो अगर मैं कभी अपने बाल खोल लूँगी तो वे लोग मेरी ओर केवल एक बार नहीं, बिल्क दो-तीन बार देखेंगे और यह अवश्य कहेंगे कि मेरे बाल बहुत सुंदर हैं। मेरी सहेलियाँ मुझे अकसर प्रिंसेस रापुनज़ैल के नाम से पुकारती हैं।

वे हमेशा मुझे हर जगह और हर पल में मुसकराते हुए ही देखती हैं। मेरी अनेक सहेलियों ने फेसबुक पर मेरे बालों के बारे में कविताएँ भी पोस्ट की हैं।

जब मेरे पास खाली समय हो, तो मुझे भी कविताएँ लिखना बहुत अच्छा लगता है और यह जानने की भी कोशिश करती हूँ कि मैं ऐसा क्या कर सकती हूँ, जिससे मुझे आगे बढ़ने में तो मदद मिले ही, साथ ही मैं दूसरों के भी कुछ काम आ सकूँ। मैं सबसे बेहतर बनना चाहती हूँ और चाहती हूँ कि जब मैं बोलूँ तो सारी दुनिया सुने।

मेरा भावी सपना यही है कि मेरे नाम के आगे डॉक्टर शब्द जुड़े और लोग मेरी ओर संकेत करते हुए कहें कि ये डॉक्टर जयमाला हैं।

मैंने हमेशा से यही चाहा है कि मेरे आसपास के लोगों के चेहरों पर मेरी वजह से एक मुसकान बनी रहे।

एक दिन ऐसा भी आएगा, जब मैं दूसरे छात्रों को उनकी पढ़ाई के लिए सहायता करूँगी और उन्हें उसी तरह प्रायोजित करूँगी, जिस तरह मुझे यह अवसर मिला और मैं अपने पर भरोसा कर सकी।



दिल की बात

में आई.वी.एफ. और उनकी टीम को विशेष रूप से धन्यवाद देना चाहती हूँ, जिन्होंने हमें सहायता व मार्गदर्शन दिया, जिसके बल पर हम अपनी पढ़ाई पर केंद्रित हो सके।

अगर आप सोचते हैं कि आप चैंपियन हैं, तो आप एक दिन चैंपियन बन जाएँगे। बस, आपको अपने लक्ष्यों पर केंद्रित होना होगा और अपने काम को करने का आनंद उठाते हुए चीज़ों व हालात को बेहतर बनाना होगा।

सपने हमेशा से ही ख़ास होते हैं और मैंने अपने इन सपनों को आई.वी.एफ. और अपनी माँ की सहायता से साकार किया।

धन्यवाद आई.वी.एफ. और मैं आप सबसे बहुत प्यार करती हूँ.....

#### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

Jaimala is a true optimist and has strong faith in God. She is very cheerful and faces all her challenges positively!

She is a student counsellor in a leading university. She manages the social media for her university and also runs a blog on hair care.

She never missed a single opportunity that came her way to explore and experience. Today she is supporting her brother's education. And also pursuing her masters degree. Jaimala is truly special.

PEARLY SAML LEASE.



# Vijay Kumar

18 years old

Trained Motor Mechanic

पक शाम रखी कि तम किता है है। रखाओं अर नहीं रवासी में नहीं मिलेंगे भें कुद्ध रोही रवाता अर्गर बाका कही मुमी की नगरे से वापाकर स्टाबर्ग की को शिश करता!

सुष्टिक्ट समय

रचन कुछ राकी न्या रहा चा, वि

निर्मा मानी की गांव जाने की इस्मा
होने तार्गी, में मेरे पाषा ने मेरी और

अम्मी की आयर रिकट कर गर थे।

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Therapyour Thoras Yell

वोक्शनस कोसे करने के बाद अन्य में मोक्श कर रहा हूँ के बाद अन्य में मार्ग परमें हुए और बहुंगा पादता हूँ में अभी आजी के POLY TECHNIC का कोसे करना पाहुँगा OPEN से ! अग्र में स्वरा है कि में विद्या है अब में भी अपने परिवार की टुट मदद कर पाऊँगा। हमें हर गलमी से कुछ न कुछ सिरवना पाहिएक्यों की गलामें। होनी ही सिरवन के लिए वीरमी त्रिका की हमारे अपर निर्मार के के करते। उस प्रश्चिम का सामा के से करते। प्रारमि

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I. V.F. के लिए मेरे मरफ से दो पिनमा: उनाई वी एक एक आरा है यह अपने हर बच्चे के खिए खास है जब कीई बच्चा हताश है तो यह उसके पास है यह एक पारा अहसास है यह अपने हर बच्चे की चलते सांस है विटा में थात है जाजधात है, अहत क्षेत्र रवास है, अगस है यह है तो हम् इर फुड़िकल में पास है।

हमें कमी भी किसी भी जरूरत मंद कि भदद जरूर करनी पाहिए क्या, प्रा दमारी छोटी से भदद उसके लाइफ में न्या परिवर्तन के आये!

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# Vijay Kumar

Hello Friends,

My name is Vijay Kumar. My family consists of my mother, my father and my younger sister. My sister is studying in a hostel and is supported by India Vision Foundation.

I have very scant and faded memories of my early childhood. I know that it was a normal simple childhood. I used to play outside my house all day long.

When I got admitted in school I used to cry every day in the morning, I did not want to go to school early in the morning, my mother would try all possible ways to make me stop crying and go to school.

I would play with marbles and go to the shop to play video games.

I was a very fussy eater and my mother would put so many temptations in front of me to eat food. Once she told me that for each roti I eat she would give me equal amount of money, if I did not eat, then there would be no money. I would eat a little and then try to hide the roti when my mom was not looking.

#### Difficult Time.

Everything was going fine, when one day my mother expressed a desire to visit her home in the village. My father got our tickets done. I remember very clearly that my mother and I were waiting at the station, perhaps for my father to arrive. There was a young girl crying, there was a child with her. My mother saw the girl crying and went to ask her what was wrong and started consoling her. Suddenly I don't know what happened, how two policemen arrived and began to forcibly take my mother away in an auto-riksha.

I am not sure but I think that girl must have accused my mother wrongly. Because of this incident we had to live apart from my mother.

I stayed with my mother in Prison for some time and then my father took me home. I was too young to understand what was going on but I felt that what was happening to my mother was not right.

I missed my mother a lot as I was very attached to her. I used to keep missing her all the time. My father was very worried about me. I don't know how many nights I cried during that time. My father looked after me very well. It was due to my father's belief and strength that despite that setback in our lives, all is well today.

My father used to take me to visit my mother often. Each time I met my mother I would forget all my unhappiness.

It was becoming difficult for my father to take care of me, he was trying very hard. He then sent me to live with my aunt. My father's brother's wife. But I did not forget anything, I was so sad. Everybody tried to make me laugh but I would sit quietly. I did not enjoy my studies and I did not enjoy playing. I did not understand what was happening to me and I was trying very hard to find answers. Today I would not be able to write my story if my father, my aunt a lot of other people had not supported me.

I was angry with my life. I kept to myself. I would not speak to anyone or take part in any school activities. Even at that young age I felt as though my life was over.

Happiness came to me after a long period of struggle and pain when my mother returned home.

I was back home from my aunt's house and I now I wanted to forget everything and move forward. I was 10 years old.

## Next Phase of my life.

I cleared grade 5 and then I had to change my school. Everything was new. My class, my friends, the atmosphere. Slowly I started mixing with everyone. I started studying and preparing for my final exams. The time came for the result.

I was grown up I could understand everything. As soon as I thought of seeing my result, I got scared. I was very subdued. I had not passed.

After a long time I was back to being my old silent self. I began thinking about my old life.

After thinking for a long time I decided in my heart to ask for forgiveness from my parents, God and myself and tried to get out of my state of fear and silence.

I repeated my class and then I passed. Then gradually I cleared all the grades.

But I was worried because I did not get good grades in my  $10^{\rm th}$  standard.

For the first time I thought that at some point I had committed a mistake. I began to take responsibility for my state. I began thinking about how I had committed a mistake... I realized I had been careless.

Now I was looking for a way forward in my studies. That's

when IVF came to me and suggested the vocational course. But I wanted to study further. That was a very difficult time for me as I could not understand what to do.

Then I had a realization. Of my responsibility. I had grown up.

I had to live in the hostel for this course (motor mechanic) and I faced a lot of difficulties.

But I learnt from every difficulty I faced.

This vocational course was changing the direction of my life.

I forgot to tell you of another big fear I faced. The summer holidays of May and June were going on. My mother suffered a heart attack for the first time. My father rushed her to the hospital. I was so scared, I had faced death for the first time and my heart and mind kept getting worried fearing the worst.

For the first time I realized my mother's presence and for a moment I was transported back so many years when we were separated and she was in prison.

This was by far the biggest fear in my life. I felt very helpless during this time as though I had lost everything.

My mother recovered and is well.

#### IVF and Me.

I have been connected with IVF since 2006 and IVF has helped me at every stage of my life. It is only through IVF that I have been able to do this course.

Thank You IVF.

After completing my vocational course I am now working and I would like to study further. I want to do a course from a polytechnic.

Today I am happy that I am employed and I can help my family.

We must always learn from every mistake because they are meant for us to learn.

Friends, difficulties come upon us , it is up to us how we face those difficulties.

Thank you, friends.



Straight from my heart

My heart has thoughts and emotions, and a lot of special things, it has hope that helps us pass all difficulties.

We must always help people who need our help. Who knows how our little help can bring big changes in their life.

#### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

The transformation of Vijay's reticent personality to cheerful one was a challenging task. Vijay surprised us all. He taught us a lesson that every human being has a different chemistry and that we must not prejudge.

He is currently working for a leading automobile service center. He fulfilled the dream of his parents and is also an inspiration and role model for other project beneficiaries.

Charles



# Neeta

(Name changed)

18 years old

Nurse in a private hospital

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भरी family भे में, भरी अंडरह, भीरी भभी और पापा थे। वहत दी खुशी पारेवार था हमारा। सक कुछ था हमारे पास 1 वहत ही खुश थे हम।

हैण आयह आप वाले की कुछ और ही अंपुर या। लक्ष्म से सापुत्र एक्ष्म गाम हमारे परिवार में! अरे पापा कीमार रहने लगे कार डाक्षमप एक भिन उनकी खहत ही है थे में 6 साख की और अरी कहन कहत ही है थे में 6 साख की और अरी कहन उसाल की! हमें नहीं पता था की आधेर पा ही यहा है। भेरे हार में! Вы мине मुझे योश - योश समझ आ हहा था की अक मेरे पाप देस दु।नेथा में नहीं हहैं। अरी अभ्भी का और अ के पुरा हाल था, भी क्यामका रीह जा रही है। हम बीनी छहनी को उसके पास नही अगर्म दे रहे थे। हम बीनी अपनी अग्ना नानी के पास थे. एक पत्न में हमारी हस्ती खेलती क्षेमली

बाहे-धीर गाल किन का . और हम तीना साथ रहने लगे। मभी हमारा और रवपाल २२वने लगी। वो हमें और क्याका पार करने लगी। वो पुरी क्रांबीबा करती की हमें पापा की कभी न महसुस हो। रावकु क ठीक -ठाक चल रहा था कि अधानक हमारी पह में पुसरा पुकान कहा से आ अथा।

पापा को गए अभी ठिक से तीन नार भारिने भी नहीं हुए भे की एक । विन भेरे धार भे पुलिस आहे और भेरी भभी को पकड़ कर लेकान लगी। हमें नहीं पता या । कि में क्या हो स्हा हैं। तो लोग भेरी भभी को बभी पकड़ रहें हैं। ज्या । किया लें। उ-होने। कुछ समझा नहीं आ रहा या । कि आयह हो क्या रहा है भेरी family भे। पहले पापा हमें छोड़कर न की गए (। किर महमभी भी का रही हैं। हम द्वान कहन वह त रीने लगे, भभी भी हमें प्रकार र रही शो पी असे Regust कर रही भी की हमें भी साथ में न्यू में। पर पी लोग

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10 age भी नहीं भाग रहें थे। हम लीनी COMINOUS con- get and cons one at the air! finishing 3-7 about of poundssion & 1847 but concy that हरी करन करें हराकार पर 3 साठा की भी. पर मुझे नहीं छिया। ये युनकट तो में पाम हो किशह पर रिक्टिक । रीवम मेरिक के जीभा- अक कि मा नहीं बहना लाहती थी। युक्त देशन लग वहा था। धीर्य मे अनाथ हो अर्थ 110 कुट अव्वेटी 1 मे में हैं कि मार कि मार के उक्त हैं। है कि मिल मिल रिक Ht yeard -11-15 -11-19 as 41KT 8015 1841 1912 लोग यहत बुरे भी वर्ष भुश्ते यहत्काम करवाते वरे। क्यांटिक वर्ने लोग मुझे पसंद नहीं भी भे परा time organity Bit ist actual if Het Heart and 1818 थी। अमेर हमारे घर के पास रखी भी। में साश time 3-10 पास रखी भी (at yet ago (u) Euself aft sile Her age sevice right at 1 us yet भाभी की धुट पाइ आठी भी। एक छिन भरे नाना नानी ने मुझे बदामा की वरे भेरी भारती को लो जाने कर रहे । युझे पानित ही नहीं हो दहा यह कि सम में मेरी मध्मी पापस आ दही है। पुरे 1/kgra ke वाद मेरी

पर जिनमें भाषी की जी पिणडांक मित्र. हार्म कि उन्हा भी नहीं परादें भे डापने गएक विकास की हार्म देन में स्वाहत २२१० , पुरी को शिक्ष करते की हार्म उन से मिलापूर्व कार्य किया पता नहीं वर्ष में सीट मेरी धहन ने 3-ट निट्ट्या ही नहीं छिया वह य विमाप.

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में बहुत रुवा भी की भेरा मानाक्शालन हिस्ट्य में से इस है। प्रपाकी मेर्न भिक्र हिस्ट्य के बार्ट पुना ज कभी सीमा नहीं भा की भी भी हिस्ट्य कोई । प्रा छिव छिन में हिस्ट्य गई। में वहा काकार कोहा इक गई हिस्टब्स वर्ग कुछ दूर एक गाम के पान भा। ममी भी मुझे देखकार भीड़ा च्याका गई। पर मेर्टे रीपायह Ko देखते हुए को मुझे वहा साम वर्ग कर्म कार्य साम कोइकार मकी गई। में उनके कार्न के बाद करा गा। भेरा छिन क्षानका भे बेहकार शीस स्टि भी। साम क्रमे क्रमे क्रमे वर्ग भन नहीं साम सी भी।

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लम २८ था। ऐसे करते -करते एक ६५८० कीर गर्भा 31/2 Sunday SIT 21211 | Sunday Visited day Flot ar art of 21 aft 2021 of sold of s-done Cox रे अभी। अभीट primyor Koure Lagi ki plz 40 d window to blow clucky musi Munini 21121 of sit 289 aft 24 5-d drews 20-A 2927 52 19105 अग्र कह लाकह उत्ते क्षेत्र कर कर विकास उत्ते । अहर रानि लगी । भारत भे वहर धुवा वती भेरी भारती भेर 419 at 1 42 Eld cell this after sour sol I भेरा भन हीर एक में समर्ग समा। भेर वहूत रर्ग 10 puinds at1. रे हिल लग कर पहले और अपनी (अड़ रे top Kasti. dest overt rosert and time off 3129 -20xf 2f) yst science at ager somest no 14 exam at Medical line it with med all sando 2) of 11th 12th of scienc 6 0HE 3128 -1200 र्म पाम हरे गई।

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असी बीच मेरे घट में एक और publim हो गई भेरे पापा - ममी अब रोण अगड़ने बर्ग पा रोण एडले और मार-फिट करते थे। मेरे डेस पापा रे तीम broth थे। वाल-एम पर ते ममी कारे हामकी देले की जो मेरी तीनी आहणी का बोब्कर अवाग - हो जाएंकी। रोज का रोक घर में मजन पिदने लगा। ममी में डरने लगी की कही थे शर्म भेरी मार्थों को म लाए जाए हिंदी के हो युद्ध ती पर्ट- (बीमें नहीं थी। भुद्द भोरे भारपी कार अर्न future 20x10 ही जाला 3+00 राज्य 1 मेरी भारती कार वहल स्थाला हीने लगी 1 आह 3-6) र युहरे (प्रलाग) भीने 3-6) र रायमाया ययमा दुम अटलेले नहीं हो । प्रे आपकी भी प्रायं है 100-11 ह्य 3-1007 था। असर्स कार्स क्यादा आपका औ। finially ext legal action when on sout

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EF SM Sister and buoth & <1 <16 <119 &1 और पुत्र खुरा है। हि 13/12 ca अपनी तीर एप उन ही भेरी अभी ने व्यंद्रत thelp की हमारी । अताने पुरी पुरे हम भाई कहनी को पहाने और एक मध्ही पुरे done he lig bhut महनत की। भेरी भम्मी and anishari से मौर 14 के support se ay भी थहा है। आर सपने पाल पे 2087 हैं: 211U9 2 829 20010 42 186 IVI के पण ह से हा , So THANK YOU KIRAM BEDL Mo'UM MONING di, pearly di and all IVI Nember who had been supporting me Monally of finemually throughout my Jouancy.

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्सपने येथना जरूरी है व्यक्तिकी जहा
"Thank you rungone"

### Neeta\*

Hello Friends, I am Neeta.

I have just finished my nursing studies and I am now a staff nurse at one of Delhi's leading private hospitals.

My life story begins when I was 7 years old, when I heard the name of India Vision Foundation for the first time.

I lived happily with my parents and my younger sister. We had everything and I was very happy.

But perhaps God had other plans for us. Suddenly everything changed for my family.

My father took ill and one day he suddenly passed away. My sister and I were very young. I was 6 years old and my sister just 3 years old. We did not know what was going on in the house. My mother was crying all the time and was in a very bad state. People would not let us sisters' come near her. We were sent to our maternal grand parents home. I was young and confused, but somewhere in my heart I knew that my father is no more.

In just a blink of an eye our happy lives got destroyed.

Slowly time passed and the three of us started living together. My mother started taking greater care of us. She started loving us more. She was trying very hard to ensure that we don't feel the loss of our father in our lives. We had settled

<sup>\*</sup> Name changed

down to this life when suddenly we were hit by another storm.

It was barely 3 or 4 months since my father's passing. One day the police stormed into our house and was starting to take my mother away.

My sister and I did not know what the commotion was all about. Why are they taking my mother away? What has she done? The little me could not fathom what was happening to my family. First our father left us and now our mother.

My sister and I were crying loudly and so was my mother. We hugged each other tight.

She kept requesting the police to allow her to take us along. But they were adamant. They refused. The three of us were clinging to each other and crying.

The police finally relented. But they only allowed my sister, to go with my mother as she was 3 years old. They did not allow me. As soon as I heard this, I went hysterical. I did not want to live alone. I felt like I am becoming an orphan. I clung to my mother and cried and cried. But they took my mother away.

I was all-alone. My mother left me with my maternal grand parents and left. These people were not my real grand parents. They had just assumed the responsibility. They were not nice people.

They would make me do a lot of work in the house and I did not like them. A friend of my mother's used to live close by. She loved me a lot and cared for me. I used to spend a lot of time with her. But I missed my mother terribly.

One and a half years later, one day my grand parents told me that they are going to pick up my mother. I could not believe it. My mother is actually coming back. After a year and a half. I began waiting for her. My heart leapt with joy when I saw her coming. I ran to her and hugged her tight and cried a lot. My mother also hugged me tight and cried a lot.

There was a small child with my mother. A young boy not even a year old. That boy was my baby brother. When my mother went to jail she was pregnant. My brother was born in jail. I was so happy.

Now I did not want them to go anywhere away from me. Again we were together and we began living together.

My mother began teaching at a school run by the Navjyoti foundation. I used to accompany my mother to the school and I used to love going there. There my mother met a counselor of India Vision Foundation. He advised her that she must educate me well if she wants to secure my future. He suggested that I go to a hostel.

During this time, my foster maternal grand parents began forcing my mother to get remarried. They said how would you bring up three children on your own? My mother succumbed and got remarried.

The person she got married to was a Muslim. He did not belong to our community. We did not like our new father. He tried very hard to please us but I don't know why, my sister and I could never accept him as our father.

Since my mother had met with the IVF counselor she could not stop thinking about what he said. She made up her mind and conveyed her wish to get me admitted to a hostel to IVF.

I was very happy with this development. I had heard so much about hostel and hostel life. I had never ever thought that I would go to a hostel one day.

The hostel was away from the city, near a village. I got scared

when I arrived there. My mother was also worried as the hostel was so far away. But she steeled herself and thought about my future. She left me there with the other children.

I was so sad after she left. I kept crying and sitting near the window looking out for her. The other children would call me to play but I was not in the mood.

The week went by and Sunday came. Sunday was visitors day when the parents came to visit the children. I began waiting for my mother and praying hard that she comes. I asked God to send my mother to visit me. As soon as I looked out of my window I saw my mother walking towards me. I was so thrilled at seeing her and I ran to meet her. I hugged her tight and cried a lot. But I was very happy. My mother was with me.

Time passed and I began to settle down in the hostel. I made a lot of new friends. I focused and concentrated on my studies and used to top in my class. Soon I cleared my grade 10 exams with high marks.

I was always interested in science so I took science in grade 11 and 12 and passed with good marks.

After school finished I filled a form for a degree in nursing. I was always interested in the medical line and I wanted to take care and serve people. But due to financial constraints I did not get admission. I was so disappointed and feeling very sad that I did not get admission.

Like the saying goes, 'when one door is shut, many others open'. That is exactly what happened with me.

I joined NIIT to get training in computers, but I was still upset that I was not able to fulfill my dream of becoming a nurse. That's the time when IVF helped me and told me about another hospital. I applied to that hospital. Filled my form, gave

the interview, cleared the written exam. I cleared all formalities and I got selected.

This hospital was a very prestigious hospital and again due to financial constraints another good opportunity was slipping by.

I was distraught! I did not know what to do. Then again IVF came to my rescue. Pearly Didi at IVF shared my dream of becoming a nurse with Kiran Ma'am. With help of IVF I finally got admission in Nursing College.

Studying to be a nurse was very challenging. Studying theory was difficult but learning the practical was even more difficult. I worked hard exerted myself and managed to clear all the exams.

My real test came when I actually began working with patients. The reality was completely different from bookish knowledge. I liked caring for and supporting patients.

During this time another problem arose in my home. My mother and step-father's relationship began deteriorating. There was constant fighting and bickering at home. In this marriage my mother had given birth to 3 boys. My half brothers. My step-father kept threatening to leave my mother and take my brothers away. Day-by-day the tension began increasing in my house. My mother got very scared that she will loose her children. She was in a dilemma. She was not educated herself, If she kept her sons will she be spoiling their future?

She confided in me. I counseled my mother. I told her that the boys were as much her children as they were my step father's. In fact she had a larger right over them. We finally took legal action against my step father and got custody of the three boys.

Today we are 6 siblings and we all are very close to one another.

With IVF's help today all of my siblings are studying and leading a good life. My mother has worked very hard to give all of us a good education and a good life.

It is with my mother's effort and IVF's support that has made me independent today.

I could reach this stage of my life only with IVF's support.

Thank you Kiran Bedi Ma'am, Monica Ma'am, Pearly Di and all IVF members who have been supporting me, morally and financially throughout my journey.



Straight From My Heart

It is important to Dream....Because where there is a desire there is a way.

Thank you everyone.

### COUNSELLOR'S NOTE

Nita did not know what her future held for her. But her determination and courage to face all her problems and not let go of her dream has led to her changing her life. She is now a trained nurse at a leading hospital in Delhi and giving back to society. The confidence of being financially independent is now visible on her face. She has changed the destiny of her family.

PEARLY SANIL Leas.

# Afterword

While writing the book on mother and child in Indian prisons, called 'Shadows in Cages', I realised the power of selfless love. On one hand you had women who were accused of crime and I met so many children living with their mothers in prison. All laws applicable to the mother were automatically applicable to the child. It was a tough life for the kids. Imprisoned, often under nourished, in many prisons, there were no creches thus the child was a prisoner. But every child was filled with love. They would hold me, play with me, and in a short time, put their faith in a stranger like me. Thus no matter what, the child like innocence prevailed. I guess what God gives, no prison wall can take. The essence of a child, is the presence of Angels.

My greatest worry was after the child reached six years what would happen to the child, as the law was clear, after six the child could not remain with the mother in prison. The work done by Dr. Bedi and India Vision Foundation in rehabilitating children affected by crime is according to me the most noble venture undertaken by Dr. Bedi and her team.

I have seen and documented this process in a documentary 'I believe I can fly' and the lives of these children are secured. The world is a ruthless place and a lodging, boarding, educational

rehabilitation programme has saved scores of innocent lives, put balm on the hearts of mothers in prison.

The children are brave and wanting to create a better world for themselves and their families.

A child saved is the most noble of all things and the best manner in which we human beings can thank our Lord and Master.

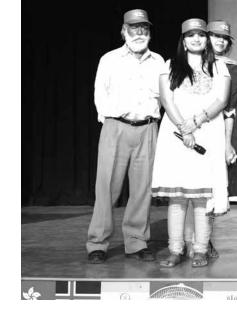
This book needed to be published a long time back. Be blessed and spread the Light friend.

Ruzbeh N. Bharucha

# PART II

# About







# India Vision Foundation

India Vision Foundation was born in 1994 out of the Ramon Magsaysay Award (also known as the Asian Nobel Prize) conferred to Dr. Kiran Bedi, the first female IPS officer of India, for forging 'positive relationships' between people and the police through creative leadership.

With a mantra to 'Save the next victim' India Vision Foundation seeks to carry forward its service in all the areas that formed the basis of the award; namely Police & Prison Reforms and Women Empowerment. The Foundation's goal is to build a stronger India, as the Foundation envisions a community rich in education and moral values, free from crime and gender discrimination.



# Children of Vulnerable Families Project

As per the law, children after age of 6 weren't allowed to stay in the prison. Children had no safe place to go. Mothers were afraid of leaving the children without any supervision, the fear being that the children may fall into a life of crime. Hence the *Children of Vulnerable Families Project (CVF)* came into existence in 1995 with the aim to facilitate the social, physical and psychological rehabilitation of children of parents with a history of incarceration by providing them safety and education at residential schools with regular counseling and guidance



Children of Vulnerable Families (CVF) is one of the foundation's initiatives to uplift the children from challenged circumstances through formal schooling program.

The project made admission of the children at its various partner residential schools due to the incarceration of their parents and vulnerable family situations. The project continue to the support these children even after the release of their parents as most of them are not in a capacity to take care of their children's education due to various reasons.

The project had reached approx 280 children their families so far.

Today, the project is reaching out to 280 children and their families.

### FOUNDERS



Kiran Bedi



Prakash Lal Peshawaria



Saina Ruzbeh Bharucha

### ADVISORS



Anu Peshwaria Legal Affairs



Jay Dhawan Advocacy (United Kingdom)



Keerti Menon Clinical Psychologist (United Kingdom)



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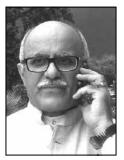


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Suman Soneja Social Worker

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# Author with IVF Team Leaders



Left to Right: Amrita Bahl, Kiran Bedi, Monica Dhawan, Pearly Sanil, Renu Nag; IInd row: Sapna Walia\*, Sunita, Neha, Rahul Jr., Sunny, Ravi Kumar Srivastav; IIIrd row: Pushpa, Rahul Singh Malik, Rohilla, Aminoor, Vijay, Deepak, Chander Shekhar Srivastav, Balvinder Singh, Raj Sharma

\*Sapna Walia was the catalyst in compiling this book. She met with each child and coaxed them to share their stories. Even upto 4 times with some children. This led to purging of their grief to a certain extent and it has given them a lot of joy at being acknowledged.

# **IVF** Team



Monica Dhawan Director



**Nobat Ram** , Project Manager , Safer India Project



Anup Sinha, Project Manager, India Police Project



Pearly Sanil, Project Manager, CVF



Renu Nag, Project Counselor & Supervisor Bhondsi Prison & CVF



Anand Singh, Accountant



Archana Kumar, EA to Chairperson



Ruby, Project Manager Creche &

Counselor



Tulika Kiran, Project Manager WBB



Chander Shekhar Srivastava, Project Counselor, CVF



Ravi Srivastav, Project Counselor, CVF & Bhondsi Prison



**Preeti,** Admin Assistant



Sumitra, Data Operator



Lata, Data Operator



Ram Prakash Office Assistant



Tarun, IVF Driver



Parvesh IVF Driver



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Branch Name: Barakhamba Road

Address: 25, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001

Account No: 051-851624-001
IFSC Code: HSBC0110002
Swift Code: HSBCINBBNDH

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