

My name is Sejal Shrivastava, and I am 23 years old. My journey has not been easy. Four months before my birth, I lost my father, and from that moment onward, my mother carried the entire responsibility of raising me and my elder sister, Simran. As a single mother with two young daughters, she faced constant pressure, judgment, and challenges from society. Overwhelmed by stress and fear for our future, she took an extreme step and ended her life.

After her passing, some of our neighbours took me and my sister to an old-age home for temporary shelter. Since it was not a place for children, the caretakers connected us with Iris Wilkinson Ma'am, who took us in for our better future. That was the day we became a part of the Navjeevan Family, where Anneliese Ma'am and Aneeta Ma'am began looking after us with love, care, and guidance.

With their support, I completed my high school education with 75% in English medium. I then pursued my graduation from Hislop College, where Anneliese Ma'am made sure I had a safe and supportive environment by admitting me into the college hostel. Today, I am pursuing my M.Com from Hislop College and also doing an internship in the Tathastu Accounts Section, gaining valuable experience for my career.

I am truly grateful for the care and guidance I have received from Anneliese Ma'am and Iris Ma'am throughout my journey. Their support has given me access to education, stability, and opportunities that I may never have had otherwise. Because of their dedication and encouragement, I can now dream of a future where I am financially independent, confident, and capable of helping others in the same way I was helped.

I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Capable Onderwijs Groep for providing financial support for the last five years. Even though I have never met them personally, their generosity has played a vital role in my education and hostel support. Thank you so much for believing in my future.

Your support has not only changed my life—it has given me a new direction, a new identity, and the courage to build a better future. I am truly grateful for everything I have today and everything I will achieve in the future because of your kindness.

