Success Stories

7 Girls Champion

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1. Monika

“I lost my father just a week before when my 12th board exams result declared. I was baffled whether to celebrate my achievement or grieve for my father’s unexpected demise.”
Monika, daughter of a sweeper mother and ragpicker father, secured 67% marks in class 12th board exams this year. It was a weird twist of fate that she got success in her 12th class and lost her father within a week before her result was declared.

About

This achievement of Monika had a great celebration time for the entire family if her father was alive; he was also very excited for Monika’s result, as she is the first person in the entire family to study till class 12th. Her mother told the IDF team with tears in her eyes that this is the most challenging phase of our lives, and we are all messed up with these unexpected calls of time.

Monika is a focused, confident girl who always dreamed of becoming a teacher, but due to her family’s pitiable financial circumstances and day to day challenges for survival, she always stepped back full of uncertainty in her life ahead. She believed that if she did not get an education, her future would be obscure as she would also be a sweeper one day like her mother. Her passion for education enrolled her in a government primary school where her mother cleaned school premises. After completing her primary education, she was directionless because she had no facility for continuing post-primary education.

For several months, she was a school dropout and encountered loads of domestic violence with her mother and herself by her alcoholic father. She cried and was broken, though she had a little hope for further education somewhere in her heart as her mother Sunita was her biggest strength. She used to work as a sweeper and collect garbage from the houses, and sweeping on the street.

One fine day, Monika’s mother contacted IDF team and shared her daughter’s dreams for education; it was her destiny as IDF has enrolled her in a school and sponsored all her educational expenses under the Honhar Ladki project.

Today, Monika is the most auspicious and educated member of the entire family but suddenly losing her father is also the most profound pain in the heart of Monika. However, she is satisfied that her father’s soul is in peace after seeing her achievement.

“Monika and her mother are grateful for the support given by the Indian Dreams Foundation under the girl’s education program.”
2. Priyanka

“I feel proud that I have become the first person in my family who completed std 12th, and I have a dream to see myself as a teacher. Thanks, IDF, for helping me to see my dreams and sponsoring my education”.
Priyanka has passed the 12th Board exam with good marks secured, her entire family is celebrating her success, and her success becomes a festival for her family and the entire neighbourhood.

About

Priyanka hails from a destitute family with minimal resources available. She has a large family of eight members. Priyanka’s parents do not have their own home, so they live with maternal grandparents in a one-room house. There is a lack of toilets and drinking water, so all family members use public utility for living.

Priyanka's father works as shoe labour without regular income resources. He is an alcoholic and unreliable for taking responsibility for the family and feeding the family two meals or children’s education.

Sometimes, arranging square meals for the family seems too difficult in this challenging circumstance where he spends his meagre earnings in liquor for himself. Due to his alcoholic addiction, he suffers from liver diseases and becomes bedridden and now surviving on medications. Now, all family’s responsibility came on her mother’s shoulder, who is illiterate and handling such severe challenging conditions was out of her capacity. She started cloth stitching work, but she can earn only for the square meals to the family due to limited work opportunities.

In this crucial circumstance, education for the children was like a distant dream because her two school-going daughters were school dropouts. Priyanka, a focused, emotional, and bright girl, was scared for her grim future and lost hope to get an education.

However, one fine day, her mother came in contact with the team of IDF and approached to support her daughters’ education. IDF supports Priyanka and her younger sister through sponsoring education expenses for the last seven years.

Priyanka has passed the 12th class this year and is now ready to get college admission.

“Now the sky is the limit because she is independent, confident and filled with motivation to become a teacher and support her family.”
3. **Sangeeta**

"Today, I have crisscrossed all the traditional age mindsets that girls cannot get education in distressed, challenging circumstances. Our patriarchal society always tries to break the confidence of the girl child, especially when the girls belong to the poor, marginalized sections of society".
Her 12th board exam result is her intense retort to prejudiced people with gender discrimination and inequality mindsets. Sangeeta is brought up in a poverty-stricken scheduled caste family of four and lives in slums, lacking toilets and drinking water facilities. Her mother was also a victim.

About

Sangeeta’s mother shared her journey of life several times with Sangeeta and her sibling. When IDF team members met with Sangeeta and her mother, she said that in her village, women were treated as a burden in the family, and their lives were like cattle which had to follow all customs without any self-acknowledgement.

During the menstrual periods, girls were required to leave home for at least five days and stayed in a hut outside the village. With tears in her eyes, she said that these five days in every month were a horrible time for all girls to face heaps of difficulties and feelings of shame, dirtiness, fears, and unhygienic practices were the days’ orders.

She added that getting an education is everyone’s right, but we could not envision going to school in any case. I am still gultted that I could not get an education. However, after giving birth to my first girl child, I was determined that history will not repeat with my daughter at any cost. She will get the education and will be regarded as an independent and empowered woman.

Sangeeta completed her primary education at a government school. Nevertheless, after completing primary school, Sangeeta’s father denied enrolling her in school for further education. Instead, he was convinced to stop Sangeeta’s education and forced her to do household work. However, her mother endured for her right to education and continuously motivated the father for her education. She started work as a maid in a school to earn and invest in Sangeeta’s education. However, her income was not sufficient to maintain even her school fees. In this phase of time, she became helpless and was disappointed with these severe monetary conditions, and as a result, Sangeeta was out of school after her primary education. Then one fine day, Sangeeta’s mother met with the IDF team and urged them to support Sangeeta’s education. Sangeeta was enrolled in a private school for further education. IDF has sponsored all her educational expenses under the girl’s sponsorship and mentoring program ‘Honhar Ladki’ for the last seven years.

“Sangeeta and her mother are filled with happiness because she has passed the 12th board exam this year and scored good marks. With tears in her eyes, her mother gave generous appreciation to the Indian Dreams Foundation to realise her dreams into reality by providing education opportunities to Sangeeta.”
4. Komal

When the 12th class board exam is announced, Komal and her parents feel joys incredibly with much pride for Komal. Because Komal has passed the 12th class board exam and secured high marks percentage. She is the only member of the entire family who has passed the 12th standard.
With tears in her eyes, Komal’s mother wishes big thanks to the Indian Dreams Foundation for this ‘happiest day’ and shaping the fate of Komal by supporting her education under IDF’s girls’ education sponsoring and mentoring program.

About

She is very sorry and feels guilty for Komal’s elder sister, who married at an early age, around sixteen.

Some years ago, Komal’s family passed through the worst state of financial struggle and stability; she belongs to a scheduled caste family and lives in slums with her eight family members. Her father works as shoe labour, and whatever little he earns, he spends most of the income on his alcohol addiction. So in this dreadful situation, education for daughters was practically impossible. Both Komal and her elder sister were school dropouts.

Extended family members and relatives were also forced to Komal’s parents for child

However, Komal, a determined, focused girl, denied all proposals, and after a month-long struggle for her rights, she finally succeeded from the social dogma and conservative community mentality. One auspicious day, she came in contact with the IDF team and requested her education sponsorship. After counselling with Komal and her parents for her zeal for education, finally, they agreed to send her to school only if the IDF will sponsor all her educational expenses. For the last six years, Komal is in school under the ‘Honhar Ladki Program’.

“Now, her parents also changed their mindsets for the girls’ education and their rights. They also appreciate and are grateful to the Indian Dreams Foundation for giving such opportunities to the girls living in the slums and surviving below the poverty line.”
5. Heer

“Being a poor Muslim girl, getting an education is like a dream for us and almost impossible because of social cultures and conservative mindsets. Heer feels fortunate to get the education, and her roadmap for becoming a teacher is now visible.”
Heer has successfully crisscrossed her first hurdle towards her dream, passed her 12th board exam with 71% marks, and become the first member of her entire family who has passed 12th successfully. She wants to be a government teacher and give hope of education opportunities to her community’s other girls.

About

Before joining the IDF’s girls education “Honhar Ladki program”, Heer was frightened and uncertain about her fate if she would be blessed to complete her primary education from a government school or her parents would force her to marry like her elder siblings; however, early marriages are widespread in her community. Her elder sister and the elder brother got married at an early age, around 16 years of age. Heer brought up in such challenging conditions where she saw her sisters and brother leave school and get married at a tender age.

Priority shift from school to the marriage of her siblings awake little Heer’s cognisance, and she is determined to complete her education and become an independent and empowered woman in the future. After completing her primary education seven years ago, the spark for further education brought fate in her life when she learned about IDF’s girls’ education sponsoring and mentoring program. She approached the IDF team for her education support seven years ago and pleaded to motivate her parents. It became too challenging for the team to counsel and motivated her parents, especially her father, for Heer’s education because her father was preferred to enrol her in a traditional Muslim

However, conducting regular meetings with Heer’s father, the IDF team finally changed his mindset towards girls’ education, and he agreed. Heer was much excited and always says that she can not forget that day when her life turned positive towards new hope for her life when she was admitted in the class 6th under IDF’s girls’ education program since then, IDF has fully sponsored her education

"After the announcement of her 12th class board exam, she was filled with joy and tears in her eyes, gave a big thanks to the Indian Dreams Foundation for such a life-changing opportunity and also, she is committed to back to society by giving education opportunities to girls like her once she will be independent and empowered women."
6. **Lucky & Gungun**

"Securing such good marks in our 12th grade is a charismatic achievement for both of us. Our dreams came into reality".
Lucky & Gungun are sisters and belong to a disadvantaged Muslim family. They live in a slum with nine family members in a rented house.

About

They were the daughters of daily wages labour and the only bread earner in the family, who earns meagre income to afford the daily household expenses of the family. In such crucial financial circumstances, education was not on the agenda for children. Lucky and Gungun’s elder sister got marriage around 15 years of age; due to social beliefs and conservative mindsets, their parents fixed her marriage without her consent and ruined her dreams. As for their father, the daughters are the burden on the family. Now was the turn for Lucky and Gungun.

However, Lucky and Gungun decided to fight with all these odds and social customs of their communities, and they dedicated themselves to complete their education and become independent and empowered women. They were firmly determined that through education only, they would endure for a better life and liberate themselves from

IDF has sponsored lucky and Gungun’s education under the education sponsorship program "Honhar Ladki". Lucky had secured 63% marks, and Gungun had secured 67% marks in the 12th class board exam. Both sisters are on cloud nine with excitement and with a bundle of happiness. Their achievements also changed the mindsets of their parents towards girls education.

“They are happy and give examples of their daughters as an inspiration to neighbours and motivate all towards girls' education as a priority for the betterment of entire communities.”