



Sai Baba 12th Grade.

Namaste friend!

My name is Neeraj. I am 18 years old and I was born in Laxman Jhula, India. I have 2 sisters in my family. I belong to a poor family. I do not remember much about my childhood but I remember that my father was an alcoholic and a violent person. He would drink alcohol every day and used to beat my mother a lot and this fighting went on every day and got worse and worse. Sometime he used to beat me and my 2 younger sisters also. So one day my mother decided to take poison with her food and died in front of my 2 sisters. At that time, I was with my father in my uncle's house. When my father and I came back home we found my mother dead and I started crying. I cannot forget that day because it was the darkest day of my life.

After my mother died, a neighbour went to Prabha Ji and told about us. Prabha Ji came to my house and wanted to take me and my younger sister to Ramana's Garden but my father and grandmother would not let us go with her. But at last they let us go because they heard that it is a place where everything is free and where we can have a bright future. Prabha Ji knew that we would not have a better future at home so she brought me and my younger sister to Ramana's Garden. My youngest sister studies at Ramana's school but she stays with my father and step mom at home.

I was 5 years old when I came to Ramana's Garden. At the beginning it was a bit difficult for me to live here because it was a new place for me. But as days passed I got love from all the Ramana's kids and family that lived here, more than I had from my own family. As the years passed I got to know that Ramana's Garden is a place where I can make a bright future for myself. It gave me the chance to get a good education, as well as providing me with good food, clothes, etc, which I had never gotten in my life. And it is a place which provides support and gives opportunity to all the needy children. Ramana's Garden is like my home because here I get everything that I need in my life. Prabha Ji treats us like her own children and for me she is like my mom. Whatever Prabha Ji has done for me and for other people as well as, no one else can do this for everybody. She is very strong and has always been fighting for us to keep us from bad people. I am grateful to her for giving me a better life. I love her so much and she is always in my heart.

Ramana's Garden means everything to me. It gave me a big happy family and gave me many opportunities to make a better life. I have learnt so many things here, like to speak English, to do arts and craft, to make jewellery, and to make food. I also have a lot of confidence within me now and I learnt how to help the others. Because of Ramana's I got the chance to understand and know many people from many different places and I learnt many things from them. I have been living here for 13 years and now I am going to start 12th grade, my last year of high school. After I pass 12th grade I want to go to university to studying hotel management.

When I become a hotel manager I will work hard so I can earn lots of money and then I would like to help people by opening a hospital in a poor village where the treatment would be free for the poor and needy people, and where every person can get a better treatment in my hospital. I have seen that many of the people are corrupt and take money from poor people and it hurts a lot me so I will be an honest human being to help the needy ones. I have been getting so much help from Prabha Ji so one day I would like to help other in return.

Thank you very much!