Vidya Mandir 9th Grade.

Namaste,

My name is Saloni. I am 16 years old. I was born in India. I came from Laxman Jhula. My father was always sick and when I was 6 years old he died. I lived with my grandmother, mother, sister, and brother in a small plastic sheet and grass tea stall.

When my mother was very sick then she was admitted in hospital and I stayed with my grandmother and my brother and sister lived in a children's hostel. Then my grandmother died. My mother came home from the hospital but never recovered. My neighbors told my mother that there is a school name Ramana's Garden where children could live and go to school. My mother asked my uncle to please take me to that school.

He brought me to Ramana's Garden but I wanted to stay with my mother and take care of her so I ran away from Ramana's. I lived in the street taking care of my mother for 3 more years till finally people helped to get her into a home for Leprosy. Then I came to live in Ramana's Garden. It is a very beautiful place to live. I feel that I am getting much knowledge from staying here. I know how poor we were and that if I hadn't come here I would not have the opportunities I get at Ramana's. I am sure that I will really be able to help my mother after finishing high school. I want go to college to study computer programing so I can make a better future for myself. I also want to help poor people who do not have enough money to live and study. I will never forget this time at Ramana's where I got the opportunity to study and to be part of a big loving family.

Thank you very much!