

# premdan newsletter

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Given below are the life histories of some of our girls. It is fascinating how inspite of what they go through they reach out to touch the stars they meet in life.

N.B. Names and some information have been changed so as not to reveal the identity of the person.

'Hi', It's Vishvakumari. I am a girl from Mumbai. I used to live with my Mum and Dad.

My Dad was an alcoholic. He used to abuse, trouble and torture my Mum and myself. Since there was no other way, we had to stay under the same roof.

I was only six years old and was studying in Grade I in a neighboring School. In order to keep me safe from all the torture and abuse at home, my Mother put me as a boarder at but I spent only one year as the boarding does not keep children who have both parents. My Mother was sad and anxious. She did not loose heart. She found another boarding for me, but the fees were very high and my Mother was unable to pay. She earned some money by giving private tuitions. I stayed there for four years.

I then was admitted to the boarding where my Mother was brought up,. The Sisters asked us to meet the Sisters at Garden School . They listened to our sad story and saw the anxiety on our faces and without hesitation arranged to send me to Claudine's Home at Kharghar

The Sisters at Claudine's Home received me with joy and introduced me to the other girls and after a few days I felt happy being in the boarding.'

Thanks to our sponsors who are very interested in us and our welfare. We write to them and acknowledge the gifts they send. Their warmth and goodwill help us to give of our best and become someone in life.

My Mother comes to see me sometimes . I feel happy to see her smiling. For now she does not have to worry about me.



Hello I am Zoya Naidu . I study in a good School . I would like to share with you how I came to Prem Dan.

My Mother finished her schooling with 75% both her parents were not happy with her because she was a girl-child. They took her to a temple and got her married to a man who was not very good to her. He would beat her every day. One day he poured hot oil on her. After a few days he threw her out of the house. My mother became homeless. At that time she was pregnant with me. She stayed on the footpath, begging.

One day an Aunty who was also poor saw my mother begging and felt sorry for her she took her to her hut and gave her shelter. After a few days I was born on the 2nd. October 2002 at 8.00 p.m. In order to look after me my mother started working as a domestic worker. After a few months my Mother gave some money to the Aunty and asked her to look after me as she had to take up a job a little further from our home and she would return in a few months. My mother did not return, Aunty was disappointed and she told me that she could not look after me and sent me away. I stayed on the road begging and roaming aimlessly. Sometimes I lived on the railway platform too. During those years some people took advantage of me and they did naughty things with me. I did not understand at that time, but it was something not so good.

One day my mother was travelling by train and she saw me on the platform begging. She recognized me on the platform begging. She recognized me jumped down from the train and took me, hugged me, gave me a bath and took me to the Doctor. Afterwards she took me to my second Daddy. They put me in a school. My second Daddy loved me but when my Mother gave birth to another baby girl he started disliking and beating me. He would have to pay my school fees. My mother was very sad but she could not say anything. So she decided to put me as a boarder.

My mother took me to 'Prem Dan' Garden School. There we met the Sisters who were kind and understanding. They sent me to the Boarding School. I am happy here. The Sisters help us. I attend the school close by. There are a lot of activities both in the school and in the Boarding. I am doing well in my studies. I will always remain grateful to Prem Dan and my sponsor for making me the person I am today.



*"I thank my God always on your behalf for the Grace of God which is given to you by Jesus Christ". 1. Corinthians 1:4*

As a child, I always loved my Dad a lot, never wanted him to leave my hand but on the contrary I lost my Dad in 2002 to HIV/AIDS. You can call me Jyoti.

My mother was the only support for me and my brother. She admitted me in the Boarding knowing that there could be no safer place than Prem Dan.

I joined the boarding in 2002. It was a turning point in my life. This was God's way to show his mercy on me. Prem Dan was a home. A home where all my affection was abiding. Unfortunately in 2009 during my Std 10 I lost my mother as well.

This home at Prem Dan was full of opportunities. I learned many things. The values made me see things in a different way. I started my own voyage of Discovery. Here I learned to be disciplined, independent and also got time for recreational activity. I became self-reliant and was prepared to go into the world facing different situations. The constant support of love and care helped me become who I am to-day.

After completing my Boarding life, now I am currently staying with my Grandmother. I am doing my Diploma in Teacher Education and further wish to do my Bachelors Degree in Education, and become a successful teacher in Life.

I will continue to be grateful to my Sponsors, and the sisters who helped me in times of difficulty. There will never be enough of words to thank them for what I am to-day.

"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks" Saint Ambrose. ~



Hi! I'm Sana Kapoor. I am a girl from out of Maharashtra. My Dad was ill and so for treatment my family shifted to Mumbai. My dad passed away when I was only four years old. My family went through many problems and we started to live in Mumbai.

The only person to earn in my family was my Mother. She did domestic work. Since her salary was not enough I started living with my aunt. My mother could not spend time with me. She faced many problems which she shared with my aunt. My aunt advised my mother to meet her neighbour whose daughter was in Premdan with her help I entered Premdan. I entered the boarding at the age of seven in grade 1. I was also admitted into the school.

I entered the boarding at the age of seven in grade I. I was admitted to the Convent School which is run by the Sisters of Jesus and Mary. In the first few months I used to miss my Mother a lot but as the days passed by I became used to boarding life. My progress in studies increased rapidly. I learnt many things like drawing, colouring, dancing etc. I also celebrated festivals like Christmas, Easter, Diwali. I enjoyed my birthdays also, whenever I used to go home for vacations, I used to observe my mother locked my brother, sister and myself inside the house for safety and then went to work

When I was in Grade 6 my sister also joined me in the boarding. After that my mother started living with my grandparents, and when she went to work my grandparents took care of us. I am now in grade nine and I passed in all my subjects. I did enjoy my academic year which I thought would be difficult due to the studies

In Prem Dan the sisters gave me many opportunities like dancing, singing yoga, games- taking part in school activities, joining the team for basket ball and taking me for trips. I have imbibed values like discipline, taking over responsibilities and time management. I am happy to live at Prem Dan as the sisters take good care of me like a mother looks after her child

I also have friends at Prem Dan and at the school with whom I can share my feelings, experiences, thoughts and secrets. My friends never make me feel lonely and alone and to you my sponsors without whom I would never have been able to come to this height. I will try my best to make you feel proud.

Thank you for helping me get the best education and become someone in life.



from Srs. Felicity Morris, Zelia rjm and Ashwini rjm.

