

Ritinjali Success Stories I

Ritinjali's Second Chance School as the very name suggests provides another chance to educate those who are deprived of education owing to adverse economic conditions and lack of proper guidance.

Here the boys' holistic development is taken care of during a two-year programme. They not only learn hard skills needed to get jobs but more importantly learn people skills which transform them into responsible citizens enabling them to successfully face the challenges of life with confidence.

The boys belong to different parts of India with different languages, food habits, customs and culture. Ritinjali's intervention creates an atmosphere of mutual learning and respect.

Here are five stories - those of Shiv Kumar, Angad, Arvind, Deepak and Brijesh.

Angad



Angad came from a remote village in Uttar Pradesh's Basti district. He felt aimless despite sincerely pursuing his studies and his father's continuous moral support in his educational pursuit. His father works as a daily wage construction labourer in Mumbai. Though keen on studies, Angad had to start working at a computer centre alongside his college education in order to supplement the family income. Post completion of his B.Com., Angad was left with no means to continue his education further, and felt directionless in his village.

Angad learnt about Ritinjali from his friend who is a beneficiary of the programme. He joined in October, 2017 with the hopes of gaining employability in the urban work force.

Intervention and Achievements

1. Based on his interest and education, Angad was given opportunity to do an internship at Max Hospital, Gurgaon to assist the accounts department.
2. He worked in Vikas Gaur Firm and learnt under a chartered accountant
3. He worked in G.S. G.S. Alagh and Company and assisted in auditing of many companies of Delhi and Uttarakhand. Simultaneously he was enrolled in M.Com and CMA to pursue his higher education.

Angad's continued learning and sincere and focused efforts resulted in his getting a desired job in IFFCO, Gurgaon as an accounts' executive. He was transitioned out into independent living in March 2020.

OVERALL IMPRESSION: Angad has showcased sincerity in completion of tasks and observance of rules and regulations from the very beginning. He has been proactive in participating in and learning from all activities in the hostel, thus displaying a great sense of ownership over his learnings. He has also been an exemplar student with respect to team-work and collaboration in completing hostel roster duties.

Angad has, in a short span of time, made good progress in enhancing his English comprehension and fluency. He has been very punctual in attending the work and life readiness programme, life skills and

English classes at the hostel. Angad has also always tried using his training in grooming to present himself in the most professional manner possible.

Arvind **Merotha**

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Arvind Merotha joined Ritinjali in the month of July 2017. He came from Jhalawar district of Rajasthan. His father being a marginal farmer belonged to a poor family who could not afford to bear the cost of educating two sons and a daughter. Arvind being the eldest brother wanted to contribute to the family's financial status by learning some employable skills. He was unable to find any opportunity and scope in his district, and so he approached Ritinjali for help. He passed Class 12 from Jhalawar.

Impact and Impression - Arvind completed his course from the Pallavan Institute of Actualizing Individual Potential (PIAIP) and attended life skills classes, work and life readiness course in which he learnt a lot. His visit to several workplaces where he had the opportunity to see different kinds of employable skills which enabled him to select the field he wanted to pursue. He decided on a dental assistant course.

He completed dental assistance course in April 2019. He was a frontrunner among his batch mates in Vivo Healthcare where he completed a dental assistant course. His continuous efforts, sincerity bore fruit and he succeeded in getting Dental Assistant job with Dr. Nishi Tandan (Oral H Clinic, Gurgaon)





At the start he was unable to understand English communication which was a pre-requisite to get employment in Delhi. Now he is able to understand English and also has an enriched vocabulary. This has instilled confidence in him. Conversations with foreign volunteers and visiting historical places has enhanced his knowledge of the world around him. Living with colleagues coming from different regions, speaking different dialects, possessing separate cultures and practices have made him accommodative by nature and considerate.

As a dental assistant Arvind now earns @Rs. 12,000/- per month and contributes most of his salary to his family. He is happy to remember his transformational journey and obliged to his sister who was the sole member who supported Arvind's enrollment into Second Chance School. During the holidays when Arvind visited his village his parents and neighbours were amazed to see the remarkable changes in his etiquette and behavior. A boy who never visited his adjacent home district alone enjoys tours of Jhalawar from Delhi. He happily transitioned out in March 2020 to start independent living.

Deepak Kushwaha



Deepak Kushwaha hails from a remote village of Vaishali district of Bihar. The financial condition of his family disallowed him to continue education after Deepak passed Class 10 examination from Vaishali.

At age 20, Deepak approached Ritinjali through one of the old alumni. He fulfilled all the criteria to join Ritinjali's Second Chance School Programme in July 2019. He

was enrolled into PIAIP programme as well as Residential Programme of UG courses (Delhi University, Distance Education), Certificate in Computer Application, Life Skills Education and other activities concerned with personality development.

Deepak was found to be excellent in roster compliance and punctuality. He has been found to be very curious and energetic. Sometimes, though he was found to be little aggressive and lacking patience. He worked on it based on the feedback.

Deepak completed PIAIP programme in February 2019 and joined a six-monthly internship at Hyatt Hotel in the kitchen. Right from the word go he was very clear about his interests and priority. He continued working and learning in the kitchen section under the hotel chef with the highest degree of responsibility, commitment and enthusiasm. He won the favour of seniors through his completion of allocated duty with sincerity. His punctuality and sense of responsibility was visible from the time he joined the internship till he completed it with only one day's leave in between. During the time he never went home and was always punctual.

Because of his responsible behaviour he was offered a job in the same Hyatt Hotel at sRs. 14000 pm. He formally joined the hotel in September 2019. Deepak is very happy that in a very short period of intervention of just 14 months he has learnt employable skills completed Certificate in Computer Application and simultaneously pursued his UG course from distance education.

Shiv Kumar



Shiv Kumar hails from a remote village of Katihar district of Bihar. His father is a marginal farmer and also works under a medical practitioner of the district, whereas mother is a housewife. His father's earnings were too meagre to bear the cost of providing a proper home leave alone supporting Shiv's further education.

After completion of Class 12 from Katihar, Shiv was compelled to come to Delhi to earn a living. He started working as a daily wage labourer in the Mahipalpur area. Here the building contractor did not give him timely wages. Consequently, Shiv started working as a peon in an office situated in Mahipalpur where he met with Ritinjali's old alumni, Ikhtlaq, who worked as an IT professional.

Knowing his desire to study further, Ikhtlaq shared his own transformational journey in Ritinjali. Shiv joined Second Chance School in July 2018 with the hope that his dream of earning a decent wage would come true.

Shiv was enrolled in the PIAIP programme where he learnt work ethics, grooming, and communication skills. Simultaneously, he also went through residential programmes like a Certificate in Computer Application (NIOS), UG from Delhi University (Open Learning), Theatre Lab, Life Skills and English Communication, Art and Culture workshops and educational excursions.

After the completion of the PIAIP programme, Shiv was enrolled in a Dental Assistant course from Vivo Healthcare in March 2019, which was based upon his choice, learned skills and commitment.

Shiv utilized his time in a positive way and through his punctuality and hard work passed the theory part of Dental Assistant course. His attendance in the institute was found to be excellent. In August 2019 he was selected as a dental assistant in Dr. Futela's clinic. In February 2020, he succeeded in getting job in Gracious Smile Clinic in Gurgaon. As a dental assistant he gets a better salary and he saves a large portion of his salary for his family and further education.

Overall Impression: A remarkable metamorphosis has taken place in Shiv Kumar's behaviour, attitude, communication and etiquette. During his Life Skills session on Self Esteem he expressed how the negative feedback in a social environment with respect to his ability to converse combined with the economic adversity had filled him with so much negativity, diffidence and despair. The changes with respect to the level of his confidence are clearly visible. He has started working under a dentist with zeal and his curiosity to learn further in this field is sure to fulfil his cherished dreams.

Brijesh

The poor financial conditions of Brijesh's family forced him to migrate from a remote village of Basti district of Uttar Pradesh to Noida to work as a security guard in 2015. Forcing him to leave his fondness for books and the dream to get a respectable job. His parents made a living selling milk but it was not enough to eke out the living for seven family members and the education for the children. He had to drop out from school after completing Class 12.

As a security man he had to work for 12 to sometimes 16 hours a day leaving no time to study. With the passage of time his dream of getting a higher education and a respectable job seemed to be unreachable and unrealistic.

Residential Life Skills Session 2018



But through his strong will and determination to study further he learnt about Ritinjali. Brijesh's journey from a security guard to his confirmation in Micromax, Gurgaon, as a Computer Support Engineer is an inspirational success story, sometimes seems to be unbelievable even to his old friends. Brijesh remembers the moment when he was informed by his school colleague about Ritinjali where a Second Chance is given especially for boys like him. He did not waste time in approaching Second Chance School where he utilized every opportunity in developing his personality, learning people's skills and hard skills.

Interest Area of the student and Individual Action Plan

At the outset he was not sure about his interests and future action plans. Unsure about his goal, burdened with expectations of his family to earn money, Brijesh started Pallavanjali's work readiness programme for actualization his individual potential.

Here he sincerely and punctually attended classes of grooming, life skills, English language, computer and general awareness. Brijesh had earlier shown interest in the Army. Ritinjali provided him with a healthy diet for his physical training. But for a long time he wasn't able to find any vacancy in the Army from his region.

He joined Ritinjali's Computer Application Programme with NIOS certification, where he secured distinction marks.

After the completion of an eight-month work readiness course from Pallavanjali, he was given an opportunity to do an internship at Hotel Le Meridian in the field of Computer Hardware in 2016. He learnt how to repair computers (he was responsible to look after 176 systems) as an assistant under a hardware expert.

Keeping in mind his interest area and skill he was allowed to do a Computer Hardware course (Card level and Chip level).


