

Dear sponsor parents,

November 2019

I would like to give you an insight about being in Sri Lanka this year. It was a difficult year again. I have the feeling that it will not get better and so do many people from Sri-Lanka.

The taxes (same as last year) rose again. Life is getting more and more expensive. You are or very rich or very poor and the segment in the middle is disappearing.

The growth of the country was 6,5 percent but is now back to 1,5 percent.

Furthermore, we had the Easter blasts and Sri Lanka was back to square one. I was there at that moment. I felt the pain and agony of so many people.

Kandy become a ghost town, everybody stayed indoors, and we all felt beaten. How could this happen? What went wrong?

All tourist had to leave Sri Lanka. I stayed as I am not a tourist. I sat on the couch with my family and watched this awful story unfolding before our eyes.

It was too sad for words. No income anymore for all my friends who were already scraping money together day by day because of the high taxes. Sri Lanka was lost. I could not do anything as all schools closed and when finally, the primary schools opened their doors again, I left the country. I do really hope that tourists (sorry, no backpackers) will come back to this beautiful island and enjoy and spend some money here.

If this was not enough the election will take place on November 16th (so now).

Everybody is frightened. Everybody keeps money (if they have any) in their pockets. Less money is spent on charity/sponsoring.

Parents and schools are begging for more help. I have been helping this country for in the last 18 years, but I can't say it is getting better, I can say it is getting worse.

The government doesn't help education. Well this is not completely true; it helps the huge schools where their children go to school.

The former government gave shoes to children of remote schools, but this government hasn't done anything for the last 5 years.

Ramani told me a true story about a politician she met during one of her visits to a school. They had a chat and he told her that it would be better if they would work together to achieve more.

He told her if she gives her money to him, he would make sure it would go to the needy schools. Of course, Ramani said no.

When she came home, she opened her mail and there was the mail of the politician who gave his account number and asked if she would immediately transfer the money.

So, the bottom line of this report is that Sri Lanka really needs your help.

Because of your help quite a few students finished university/ A-level or O-level. One of the first students we helped was Aselaa.

I met him again after 9 years in Colombo (October 2019) where he finished his university degree.

I asked him to tell his story which he did. You can read it on the next pages.

It is a moving story of hope.

Sometimes people forget to pay even after I send reminders. In this case I will pay the amount asked for and I trust you all to pay me back this money later.

Please remember if you stop tell us at least a half year upfront.

Thank you for helping us again.

You will receive as always:

- This newsletter
- A drawing of your child
- A Photo of your child
- A Letter which tells you in which grade your child is

## The story of student Aselaa

Great Day to you...!

It is very hard to say that from words that the aid gets from the scholarship form your. There were lot of dreams & hopes in my mind so many. I want to achieve those goals which are in my mind many years ago.

There was some Dream in my mind to select to the one of the best university of SriLanka in order to get high education & to do something to the world form what I learn. But those hopes were only the dream since my parents haven't enough money to spend for my education expenses. I think about numerous ways to find the fund for my education. But I was unable to get any ideas from any source for my education.

There were some days I thought to give up the goal of education due to the hardness & severe barriers of my life due to the poverty of my family. Nothing to spend for my parents even my sisters' education. In a period trying to giving up the goal of higher education while in my school the god was blessed to my life.

Unexpected day one of the teacher who found me on the way of I coming back to my home from school. Suddenly he told me there is some people in my home those who help to the education people who are suffering from hardships.

In that day I meet with you and Ms. Ramani. I was surprised that you all are come to our house & meet with my father. Finally you agreed to give me a scholarship for my Advance Level Education.

I really happy to give life again to my goal of education. I worked hard. Go the best tuition class of that area in Kurunegala in srilanka. Some of the student who saw me before going to class those who were surprised in my school due to the I was the best student in the school commerce stream after getting knowledge from the tuition class. Not only the school but also I become the best student of some subject even in the Tuition class among the 2,000 students. I was really happy. I feel I'm doing something to my future goals & want to thankful due to this all the winning from somebody's scholarship.

Unless those who giving me this scholarship opportunity I know it is very hard to achieve this goal. Sometimes nothing to be achieved in my life.

All the people my school teachers, tuition teachers my friend saw me as a bright student. They expect to best result from me in the G.C.E.Advance Level Examination. I faced to the exam. Finally came the result of it in the month of December of 2013.

I was become the 12th Place of "Kurunegala "district & become the 226th Place of all island getting 3 A passes selecting to the University. In that that no words to explain happiness in my mind due to that result. I feel I won something in my life which I very hard to achieve.

Even this victory is me it best part is actually belong to you. If you were not helping me to my education most probably I will be failed in G.C.E.advance level Examination in 2013.

This was the turning point of my life. You turned my life. I was come to Colombo only two or three times before I come to the university. I feel the city of Colombo as the country in I was in my poor village. I came to university of SriJayewardnepure in 2015. It was the next tuning point of my life. Now I know the every nook and corner of the Colombo. Become more and more familiar with this urban life.

I was competed my Bsc. Accounting Special Degree with second class lower division. This was the second victory of my life. Now I worked at one of the best company in srilanka.

My life journey is that. Unless you meet me my life will be too different what I'm doing right now. If you are not helping me I will be the one of the farmer in my village now. But you all are changed my life. If you not meet to me could have not being there even to help my family.

I can say it honestly you make my life more and more meaningfully. Give the life for my goals to achieve those. Open the road of my life journey.

I will be a higher position in future than now. But I never forget which aid I got from you for my life. That scholarship is not the money I feel that was the some kind of life points.

Agging and again thanking you to the all and every help that you are giving to me for my life.

I wish to you carry out more and more scholarships and helping activities to the poor peoples who were felling severe hardships in the world.

Ultimately it will become not only the financial aid but also it will become giving life to the poor people.

Then they will try to give scholarship to others to getting & feeling this to their life. I also try to help to the poor people's education in future. For sure it will become a best thing for their life. I will not be able do it in tomorrow. But inevitably I can say I will do in in one day of future.

I want to change the life of somebody's in a meaningful way similar to my life. That help is very very hard so explain in words.

Thanking You, Aselaa

*(This letter has been translated by Google into English)*



9 years ago



2019



Graduated