



Scholarship Essay (IIM, Bengaluru) Mahatma Gandhi National Foundation (MGNF)

Simple empathy of the privileged in India will do little to uplift our glorious nation. History is a valid precedent that developing countries prosper when women are empowered and majority of the fairer sex in India are buried neck-deep in the patriarchal legacy with no education; leave alone their contribution to the technology sector. The vision document prepared by the Inter Academic Panel of NIS & NASI (2016) reflects dire facts about the women participation in collegial studies especially in the STEM stream while India as a whole is leading the global ICT revolution. It goes further in stating the deplete percentage of girls opting for undergraduate and a meagre 4% of this minority actually end up studying technology and the figure diminishes miserably to less than 4% for Masters.

I intend to do more than lip service to this cause and an enrollment into MGNF is an ideal platform for me to influence prominent stakeholders to bring about a positive change.

Reminiscing about my early teens, I remember my learned father sharing his disappointments to the stagnancy of society in rural India, especially over the ever declining conditions of womenfolk. He is a retired [REDACTED] travelled extensively in rural areas during his tenure. Growing up I was always appalled viewing the sundry news articles akin to this subject and the way western media never missed a chance to glorify Indian Poverty and harbored an inkling to reform, no matter how small my contribution may be.

Studying Political Science at University Level was in the interest of my ambition and through research, it was clear to me that political misguidance and lack of quality education are the king and queen of all societal maladies in India. Stifled under the man made clutches; while 60% rural women are working harder than their male counterparts to feed their families (Care.org 2018 report), a few have access to educational resources and even lesser encouragement to study. The proposed privilege will empower me to drive the riches of public and private sector behemoths to the issue of educating the girl child and more so enabling a conducive ecosystem in village schools where reasonable attempts can be made to inspire middle school girls to learn technology in particular and science in general.

As a girl who has always strived to shatter stereotypes with ample parental support, I concluded my bachelors in 2018 studying Political Science at [REDACTED], Delhi University. Thereafter, I have worked with [REDACTED] (September 2018 - June 2019) as an Editorial Coordinator and am currently employed with [REDACTED] ions Pvt Ltd. (Since December 2020) working in the role of an Academic Counsellor and ensuring to guide numerous students in realizing their academic aspirations. While working here, I have researched and published current study topics at National and International Events learning profusely about the varied streams of education and equipping an acute sense of mentoring students for their life and study goals.

The enrollment into the Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship at IIM Bangalore will spell out distinct advantages for me. My learning objectives through this course include consummating profound knowledge about management principles, economics and public policy, I am determined to propagate skill development, especially of technical parlance amongst young girls and will use any valid means to that with the best of my capabilities and exemplary diligence.

To be able to study at the IIM Bangalore amid its brilliant educational infrastructure and intelligible faculty is a colossal opportunity for me and I am driven to deliver superlative results from the Fellowship Program.

The program includes financial rewards which will allow me to tread further with my strong ambitions without interference akin to personal finances ensuring a productive, unperturbed learning journey with the pride of financial independence without burdening my retired father.

I understand the level of competition for such a prestigious study opportunity and while I may not be the most qualified amongst my peers yet my preserved ambition is a strong testimony to my grit and willingness to influence lives for the betterment of myself and the greater good of the girl child in India. I conclude that I am one of the many kindled souls in India who deserve to be bestowed with such privileges and are suitably prepared to dedicate their working lives towards social progress of our country.

Therefore, I request a favourable review of my application and of my right to quality education as an ambitious girl born in India. Should you have any further concerns about my candidacy, I will be most eager to address them on a phone call or through an email.

Sincerely

