# EmpowerHer

A 100% Scholarship Program for Women In India

POWERED BY **masai**

IN COLLABORATION WITH KSIF & SUPPORTED BY AVPN

한국사회투자
KOREA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FOUNDATION

# Foreword

# Prateek Shukla

Founder & CEO, Masai School

In a world where ambition often meets barriers, the "EmpowerHer" cohort stands as a testament to what determination and opportunity can achieve together. Sixty-plus remarkable women, hailing from bustling metros, remote villages, diverse economic backgrounds, and varied education paths, chose to rewrite their own stories. United by a single dream—to launch a thriving tech career—they embraced the challenge, leaned into every lesson, and uplifted one another along the way.

Each line of code, every late-night debugging session, and every virtual mentorship call carried the weight of more than personal ambition. It carried the hopes of families, the aspirations of communities, and the promise that talent knows no gender or geography. Through "EmpowerHer," we have not only equipped these women with in-demand tech skills, but also fostered a sisterhood that transcends screens and time zones.

The EmpowerHer program, a 100% tech scholarship initiative for women in India, was made possible by the generous support of the Korea Social Investment Foundation (KSIF) and AVPN. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to both partners for championing this movement.

Their journeys were not without obstacles: limited resources, shifting routines, moments of self-doubt. Yet, they pressed on, supported by Masai's unwavering belief that with the right scaffold, any barrier can become a stepping stone. Today, as we celebrate their graduation, we celebrate the spark they've ignited—for themselves, for future cohorts, and for an industry in urgent need of diverse voices.

> "Empowering women isn't just the right thing to do—it's the smartest thing we can do for innovation, for businesses, and for our nation's growth."

Thank you to every mentor, partner, and peer who championed this movement. And to our EmpowerHer graduates: this is not the finish line; it's your launchpad.

# Empowering Women in the Workforce

# Scholarship in Collaboration with KSIF

*Masai School, in collaboration with KSIF (Korean Social Investment Foundation) and AVPN (Asian Venture Philanthropy Network), offers 100% scholarships for women.*

This initiative supports launching or relaunching tech careers with tailored courses, job placement assistance, internships, and ongoing support.

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# Building Bridges to Tomorrow: Empowering Women for a Sustainable Future

# Soonyoul Lee

CEO & Chief Social Impact Officer
Korea Social Investment Foundation

In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, one of our greatest challenges lies in ensuring that transformation reaches everyone, leaving no one behind. At the Korea Social Investment Foundation (KSIF), KSIF believes that sustainable development is about creating pathways for every individual to realize their full potential.

Since our establishment in 2012, KSIF has been dedicated to fostering initiatives that generate both social value and economic impact. The EmpowerHer program exemplifies this philosophy, demonstrating how strategic partnerships can create lasting change across borders and communities.

India represents one of the world's most dynamic economies, with an enormous youth population ready to drive innovation. Yet women's participation in the workforce remains significantly underutilized. This gap represents not just individual missed opportunities, but a substantial loss for society as a whole.

Through our collaboration with Masai School, KSIF has witnessed the transformative power of targeted investment in human capital. EmpowerHer goes beyond traditional education models—it creates a comprehensive ecosystem where women can develop technical skills, gain confidence, and build sustainable careers in the digital economy.

What makes this initiative particularly meaningful is its holistic approach. By providing 100% scholarships, industry-relevant training, job placement support, and ongoing mentorship, KSIF are not merely teaching skills; KSIF are rebuilding lives and reshaping futures. The stories of transformation KSIF see remind us why social impact investing matters.

The success of EmpowerHer reaffirms our belief that the most powerful investments are those made in people. When KSIF invests in women's education and economic empowerment, KSIF generates returns that ripple through families, communities, and entire economies.

The women who participated in EmpowerHer have shown remarkable courage in pursuing new paths and embracing change. Their determination and success serve as powerful examples for others facing similar challenges. You are not just building careers; you are inspiring a movement.

To our partners at Masai School, I extend my deepest gratitude. This program demonstrates that when organizations with shared values come together, KSIF can achieve an impact that none of us could create alone.

As KSIF celebrates the achievements of EmpowerHer, KSIF also recommit ourselves to creating a world where social good and economic success go hand in hand. The future belongs to those who dare to invest in it today. Together, KSIF are not just empowering women; KSIF are empowering change itself.

# Genesis of Masai School

The genesis of Masai School can be traced back to Prateek Shukla's transformative experiences during his formative years. As an intern at Teach for India during his pre-final year at IIT Kanpur, Prateek gained first-hand insights into the disparities in India's education system and the immense potential waiting to be unleashed. This exposure ignited a passion within him to revolutionize education and create pathways for meaningful employment.

After graduating from IIT Kanpur, Prateek ventured into the world of entrepreneurship, co-founding the real estate startup Grabhouse in 2013. His entrepreneurial journey culminated in the successful acquisition of Grabhouse by Quikr in 2016, marking a significant milestone in his career. However, Prateek's unwavering commitment to education and his vision of transforming lives through learning continued to drive him.

Prateek then shifted gears towards education. His passion for impactful education led him to start Masai School. Prateek's inspiration for Masai School traces back to his travels in Kenya and Tanzania, where he encountered the Maasai Mara tribe.

Despite lacking formal education, the tribe's members were highly skilled in various fields, demonstrating a commitment to excellence and self-sufficiency. This experience resonated deeply with Prateek, fuelling his determination to bridge the gap between the demand for skilled professionals and their availability.

With Masai School, Prateek aimed to emulate the Maasai tribe's ethos by imparting practical skills and knowledge that directly translate into career opportunities. Teaming up with Nrupul Dev, his college senior at IIT Kanpur, and Yogesh Bhat, an acquaintance, Prateek laid the foundation for Masai School. The trio envisioned a platform that would empower India's youth with the skills needed for success in the tech industry.

Since our inception on June 10th, 2019, we have worked for Bharat. 70% of our students are from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities and towns. 70% of our students come from Economically Weaker Section (EWS) backgrounds

We have made a remarkable journey, evolving from a modest beginning with just 20 students to celebrating our 100th batch in December 2023. Over these transformative years, the institution has proudly graduated and successfully placed over 4500 students in various tech companies. This milestone is not just about numbers; it's a mosaic of individual success stories, each unique and inspiring.

Today, Masai School stands as a testament to our vision, offering industry-relevant education that prioritizes outcomes. Through a blend of practical learning, industry exposure, and mentorship, we aim to shape the futures of 10000 individuals by the time 2024 concludes. We would continue to shape the future of India's tech workforce, fostering a generation of skilled professionals ready to make their mark in the digital era.

# Impact Numbers

**7000+**

Graduated & Placed in some of the most sought after enginerring teams

**10000+**

Currently Enrolled across different programs

**80%**

Students from Tier 2 & 3 Cities

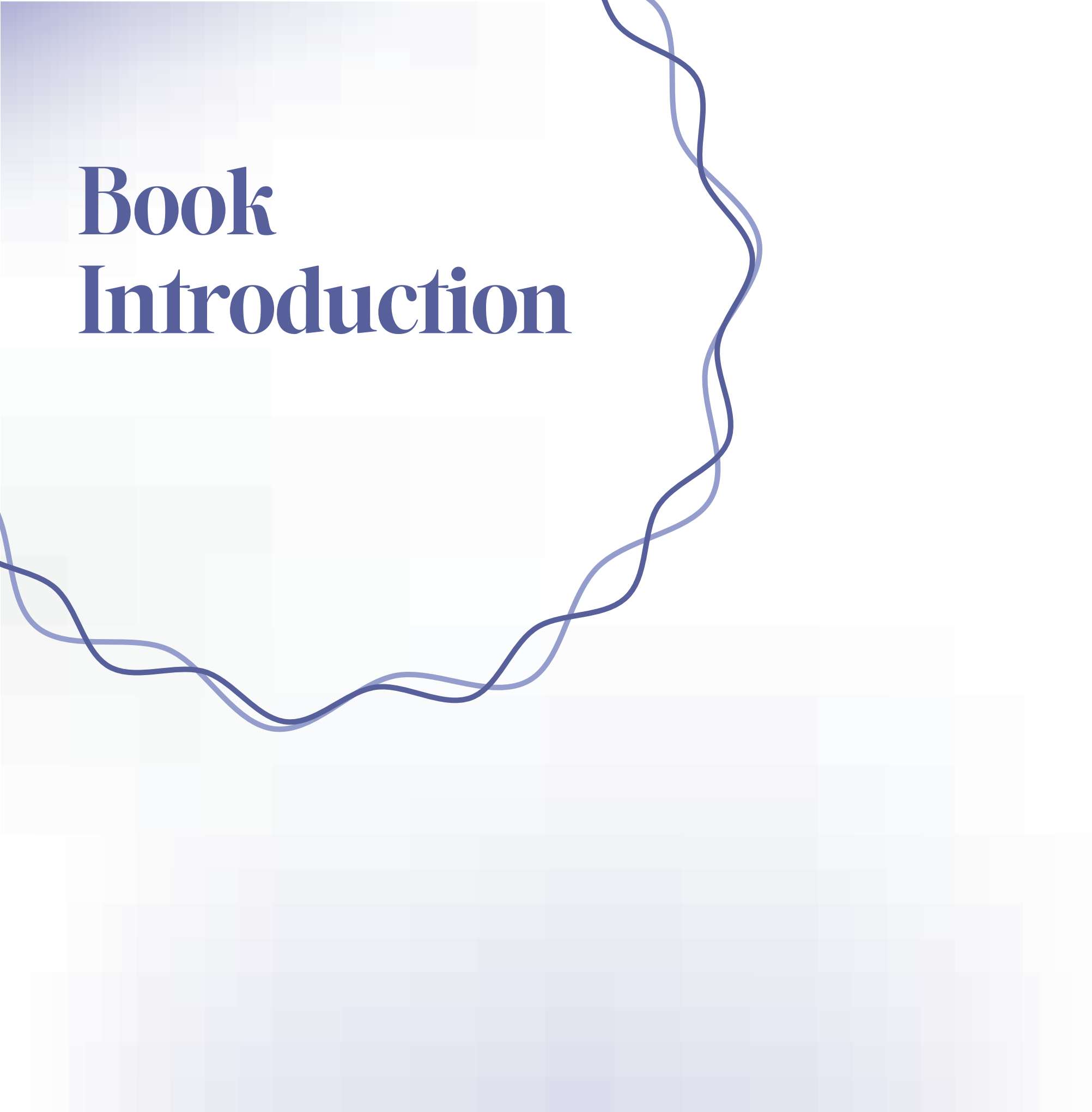**70%**

Students from a Non-B.Tech educational background

**70%**

from EWS background

**400+**

Families out of Poverty

# Book Introduction

# Yogesh Bhat

## Co-founder & SVP, Masai School

When a spark of possibility meets a platform built to uplift, transformation becomes inevitable. The EmpowerHer program a 100 % tech scholarship for women in India, proudly sponsored by the Korea Social Investment Foundation (KSIF) and powered by AVPN—was born to unlock the potential of sixty-plus extraordinary women. From the winding lanes of Jaipur to the paddy fields of Assam, from first-generation graduates to mid career switchers, each participant arrived with one shared dream: to move beyond consuming technology and become its creator.

This book celebrates their journeys. You'll meet a coder who learned JavaScript between night shifts, a budding developer who defied family doubts to ship her first app, and dozens more whose grit and grace have redefined what it means to "belong" in tech. Their triumphs—measured not only by program completion and internship offers, but by the confidence they carry back to their communities—demonstrate something profound: when given the right tools and a supportive sisterhood, talent flourishes, barriers crumble, and entire ecosystems shift.

Behind every story lies a village of mentors, peers, and industry partners who believed in these women before anyone else did. Together, we designed an industry-aligned curriculum, real-world projects, and dedicated career support—ensuring each graduate walked into interviews fully prepared. Yet beyond skills, EmpowerHer forged lifelong connections: a network of women championing one another across time zones, disciplines, and life stages.

As you turn these pages, remember: this is more than a chronicle of past achievements. It is a roadmap for the future of inclusion in tech. May these stories inspire every reader—whether you're a policymaker, a hiring manager, a fellow learner, or a young woman dreaming of her first line of code—to recommit to equity and to champion the next generation of women technologists.

*To every woman reading this*
*The code you write today will power tomorrow's possibilities.*
*The ideas you bring to life will shape industries, uplift communities, and break stereotypes.*
*The world needs your perspective, your creativity, and your voice.*

Let these pages be your invitation. Tech isn't just an opportunity it's your canvas. Pick up the brush. Begin your masterpiece.

# EmpowerHer Program

## Specialisations

**Web Engineer**
Build and Maintain Scalable Websites

**Front End Developer**
Create Engaging User Interfaces

## Program Structure

**5** Months

**11** AM - **5** PM (Mon to Fri)

**3** Months of Internships

## Eligibility

- Age 18-30 years
- Clear MSAT
- Laptop/Desktop with Good Internet
- Preference for Non-Metro Areas
- Preference for Economically Weaker Section

## Program Highlights

No Prior Coding Experience

Holistic Development

Practical Learning & Real-World Projects

Internship Opportunities*

# How Masai Shapes Future-Ready Talent

# Levels of Support

**1** **Instructor**
Industry Experts or Masai Academy | Conduct Live Sessions, Masterclasses

**2** **Instructor Associates (IAs)**
Doubt Resolution, Pair Programming, Code Review & Feedback

**3** **Experience Champions (ECs)**
Non-Technical Query Resolution, Student Engagement & Interventions

**4** **Career Coach & Mentors**
1-1 Connects, Soft Skills Coaching, Personal Guidance, Mock Interviews

# Course Delivery

**Live Online Session**
Coding, Soft Skills Sessions on Zoom

**Course Content & Assignments**
Custom LMS & Platforms, Github

**Query Resolution**
Technical & Non-Tech on Platform

**Student Engagement**
Slack for Peers & Community

# Success Stories

# 01



# Areeba Majid

📍 Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
🎓 12th Graduate

Areeba Majid hails from the quaint city of Meerut, nestled in Uttar Pradesh, India. Areeba's journey started here as she took her first steps towards change.

Growing up in Meerut came with its challenges. Areeba had big dreams of building a career in tech but often felt uncertain about how to move forward. With limited resources and societal expectations to navigate, her confidence was tested.

Despite these challenges, Areeba's curiosity led her to the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Management College. She pursued a Bachelor's degree in Computer Applications, with graduation slated for 2025. Areeba found it difficult to feel a sense of belonging, even in her education. With little support or guidance, she hoped to find a community that believed in her.

Enter the EmpowerHer program. Areeba's decision to join was driven by a hope for transformation. She found more than a coding class; she discovered a sanctuary. EmpowerHer gave Areeba a space where she felt heard and supported by like minded women. It became a place to dream, learn, and push beyond the limits she once thought she couldn't overcome.

As Areeba immersed herself in the program, her confidence blossomed. She connected with inspiring women who shared similar journeys and aspirations. The support she found gave Areeba the strength she needed. Her dreams felt closer, and she discovered talents she hadn't known she had.

The day she secured placement was a landmark moment. Areeba shared her achievement with her family, filled with pride and gratitude. Their reaction was heartwarming — they celebrated her success, and she felt truly supported.

The journey wasn't easy. As a woman entering the tech world, Areeba faced challenges — from limited resources to societal expectations and moments of self-doubt. But these obstacles strengthened her resolve and determination. They shaped her into not just a survivor, but a role model for others on similar paths.

Now, as part of a supportive community, Areeba no longer feels lost. Her journey reflects true empowerment and growth, inspiring those around her and those who will come after.

That was her story, and it was one of hope, unshakeable belief, and the power of a supportive community through EmpowerHer. Thanks to those who believed in her, Areeba now believes in herself and her boundless future.

# 02

# Fatema Menjarwala

📍 Jamnagar, Gujarat
🎓 B.Com

Fatema grew up in the quiet town of Jamnagar, Gujarat, where her early years at St. Anne's High School were filled with curiosity, camaraderie, and the kind of innocence only childhood offers. Later, she enrolled at M.P. Shah Commerce College, following a conventional path—one shaped more by expectation than passion. "*It felt right on paper*" she recalled, "*but in my heart, I wanted something more.*"

That 'something' turned out to be technology.

Even while attending commerce lectures, her curiosity about technology grew. She became interested in how websites were built and how code created the user interfaces she used every day. She started exploring on her own—dabbling in HTML, Node. js, and React Native. But without guidance or structure, it was overwhelming. "*I was trying*" she said, "*but I felt lost.*"

That's when a friend told her about Masai School's EmpowerHer Programme, a fully funded initiative to help more women enter tech. Encouraged by the possibility of structured learning and mentorship, Fatema applied.

Classes began on October 14th. From the very first session— starting with HTML and CSS—Fatema noticed the difference. The curriculum was rigorous, but thoughtfully paced. Each concept built on the last. Within six months, she had transitioned from a curious beginner to a confident front-end developer.

But it wasn't just the content that made the difference—it was the support system. Her tutors, peers, and the Masai team stood beside her throughout. They offered encouragement on difficult days and celebrated small wins with her. "*They believed in me even when I didn't*" she said. "*Especially as a woman in tech, that belief was everything.*"

By the end of the program, Fatema secured an internship at Curiosity.ai—a role that allowed her to apply her newly learned front-end skills in the real world. *"It still feels surreal sometimes"* she smiled. *"But I'm growing every day."*

Looking back, Fatema sees more than a career change — she sees a shift in her identity. Once unsure at a crossroads, she is now charting her own path, with skills, confidence, and a support system that helped her grow.

Her family is proud of how far she's come and how hard she's worked. And Fatema, in turn, is filled with gratitude. *"Masai didn't just give me an education"* she said. *"They gave me direction, possibility, and the courage to believe I belong in tech."*

# 03



# Padmini Rai

📍 Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Padmini is from Varanasi, a city known for its rich history and culture. She always had a knack for technology, so she chose to study Computer Science and Engineering, earning her BTech degree in 2021. After graduation, she faced a common dilemma: finding the right job that aligned with her skills and dreams. The job market was competitive, and Padmini was eager to find a role where she could contribute meaningfully and continue to learn.

Padmini decided to join the Masai EmpowerHer Program, ready to take on a new challenge. She felt both excited and a little anxious about what lay ahead. To her relief, the experience was nothing short of a revelation. The instructors at Masai were dedicated and skilled, their teaching style far removed from the traditional textbook approach. Instead, they offered a hands-on, practical course that was rooted in real-life situations, preparing students for the actual challenges they would face in the tech world.

The lessons were more than just theoretical knowledge; they were about applying that knowledge in development scenarios. Padmini found this method incredibly effective, as it pushed her to tackle problems and find solutions. It wasn't just about memorizing concepts—it was about understanding them deeply and being able to use them in real time.

But the journey wasn't just about technical skills for Padmini. As a woman in a traditionally male-dominated field, she had faced her share of challenges and prejudices. There were those who thought women belonged at home, not in STEM. But Padmini knew better. She was determined to break those stereotypes and prove that women could excel equally in tech.

With the support and guidance from her instructors at Masai, Padmini's confidence grew. They molded her into someone who was not only technically savvy but also capable of solving complex problems. This newfound assurance paid off. Padmini landed a job, lifting a significant burden off her shoulders and bringing joy to her family.

Now, with a smile, Padmini reflects on her journey. She feels relieved and happy with the outcome. Her story is a testament to the power of perseverance and the impact of a supportive educational environment like Masai. Through her hard work and dedication, Padmini has paved the way for herself in the tech industry, proving that with the right mindset and resources, anyone can overcome the odds.

# 04

## Premlata

📍 **Mumbai, Maharashtra**
🎓 **B.Com**

Premlata, from Bihar, completed her graduation in 2022 with the hope of doing something meaningful in technology. Like many graduates, she was full of ambition but unsure how to get started. *"I didn't even know where to begin"* she said.

That changed when she came across the EmpowerHer Programme by Masai School. Joining the program was a leap into the unknown for Premlata. Without a tech background or professional connections, she saw it as a chance not just to learn coding, but to build a meaningful career.

*"The journey wasn't easy"* she said honestly. The program was rigorous, demanding effort, focus, and persistence. There were days when she doubted herself—days when expectations, both personal and societal, made her question if she was cut out for it.

But the structure of EmpowerHer, the consistency of mentorship, and the warmth of the learning community kept her going. Slowly, through hands-on learning and real-time feedback, she began to build confidence. Coding no longer felt out of reach, it became a skill she was learning with confidence.

Her proudest moment came when she landed an internship. *"It felt surreal"* she said. Sharing the news with her family was a deeply emotional moment. Their joy and pride reminded her how far she'd come—from uncertainty to clarity, from doubt to belief.

Premlata's story is not about overnight transformation. It's about showing up every day despite the fear. *"If I can do it,"* she says, *"so can anyone."*

Today, she's at the start of her tech career, equipped with skills, support, and something even more powerful—self-belief.

# 05

# Shimrah Ahmed

📍 Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
🎓 12th Graduate

In Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, Shimrah was nearing the end of her BCA degree and facing an uncertain future. Like many fresh graduates, she felt unsure of how her degree connected to real-world opportunities. *"We cram for exams"* she said, 'but no one tells us what skills the world is actually looking for.

Though she had learned programming in college, the gap between theoretical understanding and actual coding practice felt enormous. There was no roadmap, no bridge between her education and employability. That's when she found Masai School's EmpowerHer Programme, backed by the Korean Social Investment Foundation (KSIF). It turned out to be the shift she needed.

Masai wasn't easy. The boot camp demanded focus, discipline, and mental stamina. Shimrah remembers moments when she nearly gave up—but the team at Masai didn't let her fall behind. *"They treated us like true beginners"* she recalled, *"patiently explaining even the smallest concepts until it made sense."*

The teaching style was different—less about rote learning, more about problem-solving. Slowly but surely, Shimrah began building skills that finally felt applicable. Programming became more than just a subject—it became a tool to build something real.

The breakthrough came when she landed an internship at Tech Jose, while still in her final year of college. For the first time, what she was learning in class translated into real work. The feeling was overwhelming. *"My family was ecstatic"* she said. *"It felt like all the uncertainty had finally led somewhere solid."*

Now, as an intern, she continues to grow, learning not just how to write code, but how to think like a developer. Every day is a chance to apply what Masai taught her, and she approaches it with purpose and curiosity.

Reflecting on her journey, Shimrah credits the KSIF scholarship and the EmpowerHer initiative for helping her find direction at a time she needed it most. *"Without their support, I don't know where I'd be"* she says.

Today, Shimrah is still learning, still building—but now, she's doing it with confidence.

# 06

## Zainab Shoaib

📍 **Meerut, Uttar Pradesh**
🎓 **B.Tech/B.E**

For Zainab Shoaib, graduating with a B.Tech from MIET in 2024 was a proud moment, filled with hope for the future. But reality set in quickly. As she applied for jobs and internships, she faced repeated rejections. *"It wasn't just one or two"* she recalled. *"Every no made me question whether I had what it takes."*

Her resume didn't stand out, and with each missed opportunity, her confidence took a hit. But instead of giving up, Zainab turned her frustration into motivation. A friend told her about Masai School and its structured coding programs. Encouraged, she enrolled in the EmpowerHer Program in August 2024. Classes began in October, and from day one, she could feel the difference.

The course was intensive—daily three-hour sessions followed by assignments that had to be completed on time. She dove into HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React, and more. It was demanding, but Zainab stuck with it. *"The assignments were tough, but they really helped me grow"* she said.

Evaluations came next. Mock interviews, monthly assessments—they were high-pressure, but they pushed her to sharpen her skills and stay focused. Slowly but surely, Zainab started seeing a version of herself she hadn't met before—more prepared, more confident, and finally, more hopeful.

And then came the breakthrough.

Zainab received an offer letter for a front-end developer role. The rejections she had once faced now felt like stepping stones. *"It was a full-circle moment"* she said. *"I finally felt like I belonged in this field."*

Today, Zainab isn't just employed—she's empowered. With strong technical foundations and a fresh sense of confidence, she's ready to take on new challenges. And she credits Masai for helping her turn things around when she needed it most.

She says, *"I'm here now—with a job, a skill set, and the courage to keep going."*

# 07



# Ganga Bhavani Vantaku

📍 **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**
🎓 **M.Sc**

Ganga, from Visakhapatnam, is a determined and passionate learner. After completing a master's degree in Nuclear Physics in 2015, she began her career as a physics lecturer, teaching students at intermediate and undergraduate levels. She loved teaching, but life took a different turn when she got married and took a six-year break to raise her children.

During that time, Ganga's curiosity never faded. While caring for her family, she began teaching herself the basics of web development — exploring HTML, CSS, and JavaScript whenever she could. As her children became more independent, Ganga felt ready to restart her professional journey — this time in technology.

In her search for a meaningful and structured way to build tech skills, she discovered the EmpowerHer program —a fully-funded initiative designed to uplift women and help them transition into tech roles. The program offered a 100% scholarship, and for Ganga, it was the perfect opportunity to turn her quiet preparation into an active pursuit of a new career.

Once enrolled, Ganga found herself deeply inspired by the instructors, mentors, and the thoughtfully designed curriculum. The program helped her reinforce her foundational knowledge of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, while also expanding her expertise into modern frameworks and tools like React.js, Redux, Chakra UI, and Firebase .

The five-month journey was intense but transformative. With consistent support from the Masai team and her peers, Ganga emerged more confident than ever. The program didn't just stop at teaching—it opened real career doors. Ganga was soon referred to multiple companies and successfully landed an internship.

Today, Ganga is an example of resilience and growth. Her family is proud of how far she has come, and she is deeply grateful to the EmpowerHer program and the Masai team for their support — from her first class to her first role in tech.

Ganga's story is a beautiful reminder: it's never too late to begin again. With the right support and unwavering dedication, dreams deferred can absolutely become dreams fulfilled.

# 08

## Princy Aanand

📍 Mokama, Bihar

🎓 B.Sc

Princy, a bright young woman from Patna, Bihar, grew up in a supportive family. Her father, Suman Kumar, ran a business, while her mother, Subha Kumari, chose to focus on caring for the family. Curious and eager to learn, Princy pursued a degree in Physics (Honors), graduating in 2022.

Princy faced challenges during her education. At times, her studies felt overwhelming, but she stayed determined, believing that hard work would help her achieve her dreams.

After her degree, Princy considered post-graduation. Yet, something held her back. Deep down, Princy was seeking something more aligned with her evolving interests and aspirations. That's when she stumbled upon the Masai School's EmpowerHer program. She decided to take a leap of faith, enrolling in their software development course. For Princy, learning to code felt like discovering a superpower - the ability to transform ideas into reality.

The program was intense yet incredibly rewarding. Through it, Princy transformed from a student who once doubted her path into a confident coder. Her hard work paid off when she landed a job at Tech Jose as a Full Stack Engineer. Sharing the news at home was a moment of pure joy; her family's proud reactions, especially her mother's, filled Princy with gratitude and happiness.

Princy credits much of her success to the EmpowerHer program. It equipped her with the skills she needed and, more importantly, the confidence to step into the tech industry as a capable woman ready to make her mark. Her story is a testament to the power of resilience and the transformative potential of education and opportunities.

# 09



# Priyanka Arya

📍 **Karera, Madhya Pradesh**

🎓 **B.Sc**

Priyanka Arya, from Madhya Pradesh, grew up in a lively household where she was always eager to learn and explore. Her curiosity led her to Jiwaji University in Gwalior, where she completed a Bachelor's degree in Science, graduating in 2024.

Priyanka's childhood was full of learning and curiosity, but it came with its share of challenges. As she explored the world of tech, she realised she wanted more than theoretical knowledge. She was looking for guidance — a way to better understand the industry and find her path.

As she finished her degree, Priyanka took on internships and personal projects, eager to gain experience. Being a woman in tech came with its own set of hurdles. Priyanka found herself in spaces where women were few and far between. But instead of feeling lost, she discovered role models and mentors, beacons of inspiration who fueled her passion even more. But what she lacked was confidence.

Priyanka's story didn't end there. Despite initial challenges, she was determined to make a difference in the tech world, eager to learn, grow, and dive into innovative projects. Her journey had only just begun, but with newfound confidence and skills, Priyanka was ready to embrace the future.

That's when she discovered the EmpowerHer Program, a fully funded opportunity designed to support women in tech. Motivated by its mission, Priyanka decided to take the leap.

During her time in the EmpowerHer Program, Priyanka found more than just technical skills. The program provided her with knowledge, mentorship, and a community she could rely on. The community was supportive, filled with experts who guided her, boosted her confidence, and connected her to like-minded individuals.

The transformation was immense. Priyanka felt enriched, her skills polished, her knowledge broadened. But it wasn't just her own life that changed. Her family was proud of her dedication and all that she had achieved through hard work. Their support had always been her strength, and this success reflected the encouragement they had given her.

Priyanka is now building her path in tech with confidence and purpose, hoping to inspire others along the way.

# 10

# Kajal Tiwari

📍 Arrah, Bihar
🎓 12th Graduate

Kajal Tiwari hails from Bihar, where she completed her 12th in PCMB (Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Biology). From a young age, she was on the path to becoming a doctor, preparing for the NEET exam with dreams of wearing a white coat. But over time, she discovered a new passion: technology.

The fascination of how websites were made, their inner workings, and the creativity behind them captivated her. Realizing that her true interest lay in the world of web development, she made a brave decision to change course, leaving the medical path behind.

But the journey from school was not an easy one. Kajal, coming from a small town with limited resources, faced skepticism from those around her. While her parents initially found it hard to understand her switch from medicine to technology, she stayed determined, believing that success comes from dedication and hard work, not where you start.

Upon discovering Masai School's EmpowerHer course, Kajal found the structured guidance, mentorship, and sisterhood she needed. The course was more than just learning HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React; it was a transformative time where she gained confidence and the critical soft skills needed in the tech world. The encouragement from mentors and peers helped her stay focused and motivated.

When the day of placement came, it was a defining moment for Kajal. It was the culmination of all her efforts and the journey she bravely embarked upon. The successful placement was more than a job—it was confirmation that she made the right decision to follow her heart. Her parents, once unsure, now felt proud of how far she had come.

Kajal's story is one of perseverance and bold choices. She shows that it's not where you begin, but the effort and passion you bring to your journey that shapes your future. Grateful to the Masai team, her teachers, and the support system through EC Connect, Kajal is now ready to embrace her future in the tech world with confidence and excitement.

Her journey is a testament to courage and the belief that with the right skills and support, anyone can redefine their path and do what they truly love.

# 11

# Abida Patan

📍 Piler, Andhra Pradesh
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Abida Patan grew up in the vibrant town of Piler, Andhra Pradesh, where she realized early on that she had a knack for technology. Born and raised in a small but lively community, Abida was always curious about how things worked. This interest grew into a passion for computers during her school years. She attended local schools where resources were limited, but her ambition remained strong.

Her journey in education took her to a bachelor's degree in computer science, which she completed in 2016. These early years set the stage for her interest in technology, though the path wasn't always smooth. Unlike some of her peers, Abida often had to work harder to keep up with advancements in technology due to fewer resources and support at school. But she stayed determined, and her interest in web development kept her moving forward.

After graduating, there was a moment of decision. Could she turn her passion for technological advancement into a career? While many of her friends opted to settle for traditional roles that did not quite align with their true interests, Abida had a different plan. Recognizing the gap between academic knowledge and practical skills, she chose to join the EmpowerHer program. It seemed like the perfect opportunity to bridge this gap, not just acquiring tech skills, but also learning about teamwork, problem-solving, and career readiness.

EmpowerHer was an eye-opener, and her time there was transformative. The program was intensive, pushing her limits, training her to think critically and work effectively in teams. Real-world tech exposure gave her a confidence boost, and she emerged not just as a better programmer, but as a woman ready to tackle any challenge that came her way.

Her path was not without obstacles. As a woman in a predominantly male industry, Abida faced challenges - from limited access to opportunities to societal expectations questioning her ambitions. Yet, her resolve didn't waver. With support from her family and programs like EmpowerHer, she conquered these barriers, growing not just professionally but on a personal front as well.

Completing the program gave Abida a sense of pride and confidence as she stepped into the tech world. Her family shared in her happiness, celebrating her hard work and success.

Abida's journey from understanding basic web development in high school to becoming a skilled and confident tech player is a testament to her determination and the supportive ecosystem provided by initiatives like EmpowerHer. Her story illustrates that with the right tools and support, the sky's the limit.

# 12



# Bhavneshwari Dadheech

📍 Udaipur, Rajasthan
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Bhavneshwari Dadheech, a determined young woman from Udaipur, Rajasthan, grew up dreaming of making her mark in the tech world. But her journey came with its share of challenges.

She completed her B.Tech from Rawli College in Udaipur, graduating in 2024. With a degree in hand, she set her sights on the tech industry, eager to dive in and make a difference. However, she quickly realized she needed more than just a degree. She required guidance, a structured pathway, and mentors who could steer her in the right direction.

Her search for a pathway to success led her to the EmpowerHer Program. The program promised exactly what she needed, strong mentorship, practical learning experiences, and a direct line to career opportunities through placements. Bhavneshwari decided to take the plunge and join the program, and it turned out to be a decision that would change her life.

Throughout the EmpowerHer Program, Bhavneshwari's experience was nothing short of transformative. She dove into full-stack web development, working on real-time projects that honed her skills and boosted her confidence. With the program's mentors at her side, offering guidance and support, she felt herself growing more and more industry-ready.

It wasn't easy. Like many on such a journey, Bhavneshwari faced moments of self-doubt and pressure from those around her. But she remained steadfast, supported by the EmpowerHer community, which helped her believe in her own capabilities and encouraged her to keep moving forward, step by step.

Today, Bhavneshwari takes pride in the results of her hard work. She has secured a placement — a milestone she once only dreamed of. Her journey was not just about getting a job, but about proving to herself that she could follow her passion and succeed.

In Bhavneshwari's words: *"The EmpowerHer Program helped me believe in myself and grow step by step. Thank you, EmpowerHer, for transforming my career and helping me take the first big step toward my future."*

Bhavneshwari's story is a testament to the power of determination, the right guidance, and the willingness to keep pushing forward, even when the path gets tough.

# 13

## Sameena Praveen

📍 Sanath Nagar, Telangana
🎓 B.Sc

Sameena Parveen hails from the bustling city of Hyderabad, from a neighborhood called Sanatnagar. Like many children growing up there, she had dreams and ambitions for the future. After completing her B.Sc. in Computer Science in 2012, Sameena didn't immediately pursue a career in tech. Instead, she chose to focus on social work, dedicating herself to addressing important women's issues — including health, education, and violence. Making a difference in people's lives became her mission.

Over time, Sameena began to rethink her path. While she cared deeply about social work, she felt ready for something new. With a background in computer science, she wanted to build on those skills but wasn't sure where to start. That's when she found the EmpowerHer Program at Masai — an opportunity that helped her take the next step.

EmpowerHer wasn't just a course; for Sameena, it was a beacon of hope. It introduced her to the world of tech once again, particularly coding, a subject she had veered from after graduation. She embraced this opportunity with open arms, realizing it was her ticket to a fresh start.

The journey wasn't without its hurdles. Sameena faced personal health challenges, which she bravely overcame; her determination never wavered. Each coding session and each tech lesson became a stepping stone toward rediscovering her passion and potential in technology. And through it all, her family remained her rock, continually cheering her on to learn, grow, and explore the vast world of tech.

Now, with the program complete, Sameena is no longer just dreaming—she's planning. The coding skills she's honed have unlocked new doors for her. She's eager to continue practicing and mastering her skills. For Sameena, the future is bright, and she's ready for whatever comes next.

She is grateful to Masai and the EmpowerHer program for offering her this second chance. Sameena now approaches her career with confidence, knowing that with continuous learning and perseverance, new opportunities will keep opening up. From social work to coding, she is building a fresh chapter in her professional journey.

# Gayathri R

📍 Neyveli, Tamil Nadu
🎓 M.Sc

Gayathri, from Tamil Nadu, grew up where tradition and modernity came together. She followed her interest in technology and completed an MSc in Computer Science at Alagappa University. Eager to build a career in front-end development, she turned to YouTube to teach herself. But over time, Gayathri realised that without guidance and mentorship, it was hard to make real progress.

Unsure whether to join a formal course, Gayathri came across Masai's EmpowerHer program — a coding school focused on bridging the gap between academic learning and real-world skills. Curious, she took the entrance test and passed. With that, her journey at Masai began.

Initially, everything felt overwhelming to Gayathri. Even tasks as simple as making a video were daunting. At first, it was an adjustment, but she soon found her pace. Masai wasn't just about learning how to code; it was about growing and adapting. Its intensive approach required students to tackle daily assignments with strict deadlines, compelling Gayathri to hone her discipline and focus.

What made Masai different, Gayathri noted, was its emphasis on understanding and applying concepts, far different from the rote memorization she experienced in college. With newfound knowledge and skills, she encouraged her siblings to consider Masai after their degrees, believing it could provide the edge necessary in today's competitive world.

Despite having a gap in her career, Gayathri clinched an internship, instilling hope in her family and herself. She realized the importance of asking questions, utilizing doubt-clearing sessions, and making the most of recorded lectures. This personalized support, coupled with a sense of community, played a significant role in her success.

With her family's pride and her own sense of accomplishment, smiles were abundant. Gayathri was thrilled to be employed, excited for the future possibilities, and grateful for the opportunities Masai presented. She credited the EmpowerHer program and those who guided her, including Venu Sir, Shanti Sri Ma'am, and others, for her achievements.

Today, Gayathri stands as a beacon of perseverance, transforming aspirations into achievements, all thanks to a supportive community, the right guidance, and the realization that learning is a journey best travelled with a roadmap.

# 15

# Tanu Shri

📍 Matlabpur, Uttarakhand
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Tanu Shri comes from Roorkee, a lively town in Uttarakhand, India. A diligent student at Roorkee College of Engineering, she dedicated herself to her studies. Yet despite her hard work, she often felt uncertain about how to shape the career she hoped for.

Things began to change when Tanu Shri discovered the EmpowerHer program. It offered more than just technical skills it provided guidance, confidence, and a supportive community. She joined with a strong desire to learn, grow, and be part of a network that believed in the potential of women in tech.

As a woman, Tanu Shri had faced her fair share of challenges, from self-doubt to societal expectations. EmpowerHer was her beacon of hope, constantly reminding her of her immense potential and capability to achieve her dreams. Her journey was peppered with moments of triumph and realization, showcasing the importance of determination and the right guidance.

EmpowerHer was transformative. The program equipped Tanu Shri with essential technical skills and renewed faith in her abilities. She learned things beyond textbooks and developed a belief system that whispered, *"You can do it."* The joy of landing a job was a dream realized, a moment she cherished with deep pride and gratitude. Sharing the exciting news with her family filled their home with overwhelming joy and pride.

Tanu Shri's story is proof that, with empowered support and an unwavering resolve, anyone can rise above personal limitations. Her journey is a testament to creating one's own success story, inspiring others who find themselves in similar shoes.

# Nikita Chauhan

📍 Haridwar, Uttarakhand
🎓 12th Graduate

Nikita comes from Amroha, a quiet town tucked away in Uttar Pradesh. From a young age, she dreamed of working in the world of technology—a world that felt massive, complex, and far removed from her surroundings. She was curious and ambitious, but lacked direction.

As she pursued her B.Tech in Computer Science Engineering—set to graduate in 2025—Nikita did what many students in small towns do: she tried to learn everything on her own. Bit by bit, she picked up skills. But it was lonely, confusing, and slow-going. What she needed was not just knowledge, but exposure, mentorship, and a community.

That's when she discovered the EmpowerHer Programme by Masai School—and everything began to shift.

The program offered her what she had been searching for: structured learning, real-world industry insights, and soft skill development. She connected with mentors who helped her grow, not just as a coder, but as a professional. *"The mock interviews, resume reviews, and communication training gave me confidence I didn't know I had"* she said.

What once felt like a distant dream started to feel real. EmpowerHer helped her unlock a version of herself that had been waiting to come forward.

And then came the moment she had been working toward—she got placed.

The joy in her family's home was overwhelming. She said, *"My parents were proud."* For Nikita, it wasn't just about landing a job—it was about showing what's possible, especially for a woman in tech coming from a small town.

Her journey wasn't without challenges. She battled societal expectations, moments of self-doubt, and the lack of access that often comes with growing up outside of urban tech hubs. But through it all, she stayed committed—and EmpowerHer gave her the push she needed.

Today, Nikita stands ready to take on the tech world—not just with skills, but with a deep belief in her own ability. *"This is only the beginning,"* she says. *"And now, I know I can go even further."*

# 17

# Avantika Rathi

📍 Roorkee, Uttarakhand
🎓 12th Graduate

Avantika Rathi comes from the bustling town of Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, and embarked on a journey that would change her life forever. Muzaffarnagar, a place dear to her heart, was where she grew up, filled with dreams of making her mark in the world of technology.

Her journey began as she pursued a bachelor's degree in computer science and engineering, graduating in 2025. Despite her degree, Avantika felt something was amiss. She started by building small projects on her own, tirelessly upskilling, but lacked the direction and confidence to dive into the tech industry.

Seeking guidance, Avantika discovered the EmpowerHer program at Masai. The program promised structured learning, mentorship, and a support system keenly aware of the unique challenges faced by women in tech. For Avantika, it was a perfect match to her ambitions and dreams.

Her time in the EmpowerHer program was nothing short of transformative. She thrived on the challenges, immersed herself in the structure, and embraced the community of like-minded individuals. Under the guidance of nurturing mentors, Avantika not only grew her technical skills but also flourished personally.

However, as a woman in tech, Avantika wasn't immune to hurdles. Group discussions sometimes left her feeling invisible, questioning her abilities and wrestling with self-doubt. Yet, the program equipped her with tools to rebuild that lost confidence.

Through perseverance and with the unwavering support of her mentors, Avantika started to feel like her true self—capable, worthy, and ready to take on the tech world.

With heartfelt gratitude, Avantika acknowledges the EmpowerHer program as more than just a stepping stone for her career. It was a life-changing journey, molding her into a woman who now stood tall, undeterred by the doubts she once faced.

To women aspiring to build a career in tech, Avantika's advice is simple: believe in yourself, keep learning, and stay persistent — your moment will come.

Her journey shows how mentorship, support, and self-belief can transform dreams into real opportunities.

# 18



# Prerna Mishra

📍 Roorkee, Uttarakhand
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Prerna Mishra, a determined young woman from Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Nestled in this small town, Prerna's dreams were anything but small. She is pursuing her B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering at Roorkee College of Engineering and is set to graduate in 2025.

In her quest to sharpen her skills, Prerna hit a roadblock. She was learning solo, trying to pick up pieces of code and polish her skills on her own. Yet, proper guidance and a clear path to boost her confidence were missing. This is when she encountered the EmpowerHer program, a beacon of hope and a guide to what she sought.

Joining EmpowerHer became a turning point for Prerna. This program didn't just teach her coding. She learned to speak up, boost her confidence, and polish her technical prowess. Her mentors were always there with a helping hand and encouraging words.

Fast forward, Prerna landed a job at GrowSharp Private Limited. This was huge! On sharing the news with her parents, their joy was a simple, heartwarming reminder of how far she'd traveled. Their words, *"You have done well and keep going"* meant the world to her.

Facing challenges wasn't new to Prerna. From battling low confidence to proving herself in a field often skeptical of women, she held her ground. The strength and support from EmpowerHer had been her steadfast companions in this journey.

Her advice to other girls: Believe in yourself. Life might throw challenges your way, but with the right support and a can-do mindset, anything becomes possible.

Prerna's heart is full of gratitude, especially for EmpowerHer and Masai School. This new chapter is just the beginning, and she's ready for the exciting journey ahead.

# 19



# Ananya A S

📍 Bengaluru, Karnataka
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Ananya comes from the bustling city of Bangalore, Karnataka. Growing up in a vibrant and tech-savvy town, she nurtured dreams of becoming a computer engineer. She was pursuing Computer Science and Engineering at Acharya Institute of Technology and was all set to graduate in 2025.

Before stepping into the EmpowerHer program, she was self-taught, diving into small projects, piecing together code bit by bit. But despite her efforts, she often felt like she was wandering in the world of tech without a compass. She lacked clear direction and, more importantly, confidence.

Feeling this uncertainty, Ananya decided to seek guidance and support. That's when she came across the EmpowerHer program. It promised what she needed—a community that understood the unique challenges women faced in tech. Ananya was excited by the idea of learning from mentors and preparing for job interviews alongside peers on a similar path.
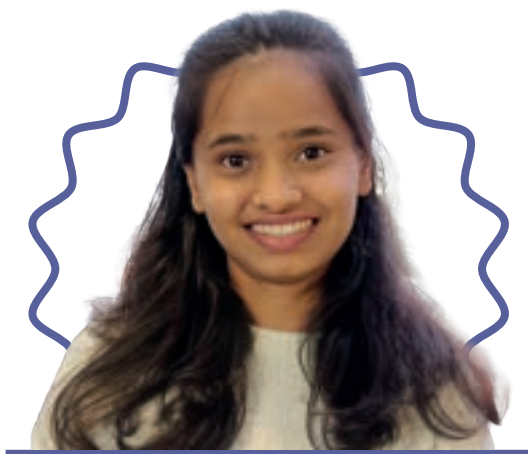
Her experience in the program was transformative. Every session added a new layer of knowledge, and every mentor showed unwavering kindness and support. The real magic happened when she met other women navigating the same journey. This bond was not just about learning together; it was a circle of motivation and empowerment, reminding Ananya that she was not alone.

As her confidence grew, so did her skills. Little by little, her doubts about her place in the tech field started to melt away. And then came the big news—Ananya secured a job at Sopras Steria! The joy of this achievement was immense, spreading smiles and happy tears among her family, who had been her pillars of support.

Reflecting on her journey, Ananya admitted that she faced her share of challenges—self-doubt and feeling like she didn't quite belong. But EmpowerHer and the supportive community around her helped her find belief in herself.

Today, Ananya stands proud, full of gratitude for the EmpowerHer and her journey— one filled with learning, overcoming hurdles, and personal growth. Her message to the world is simple yet powerful: keep going, trust yourself, and never give up. Because with resilience and the right support, dreams do come true.

# 20



# Snehal Deepal Bhasme

 Bangalore, Karnataka
 12th Graduate

Snehal Bhasme grew up in the lively city of Bangalore, Karnataka. She attended Acharya Institute of Technology, where she pursued a Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science. Despite her dedication to self-study, Snehal felt lost. She craved guidance to navigate through the complicated maze of job preparation.

One day, her professor mentioned the EmpowerHer program. The real hook for her wasn't just about learning to code but mastering real-world skills. She realized it was about building confidence, sharpening communication skills, and getting ready for interviews. Snehal knew it was the right fit for her, like finding the missing piece of a puzzle.

Enrolling in the EmpowerHer program was nothing short of life-changing for Snehal. The mentors were supportive anchors during this crucial phase of her life. Through mock interviews, Snehal learned how to handle pressure and improve her resume. She discovered how to effectively present her skills and strengths, which were vital for making a strong impression.

Time management became her new ally, as she learned to go after what she truly wanted. Equally important was learning how to stand up for herself, discover her voice, and express her ambitions confidently. The peer group provided the motivation and camaraderie Snehal needed.

Today, Snehal is successfully placed in the tech world. Her journey from uncertainty to achievement is a beacon for other young women. She wants every girl out there, questioning whether they can make it in tech, to know that the answer is a roaring "yes!" With proper support and guidance, like that provided by EmpowerHer, the sky's the limit.

Snehal feels immense gratitude for being part of such an amazing family. She's excited about the future and the endless possibilities her new skills have unlocked. The EmpowerHer program didn't just help her find a job; it helped her find herself.

# 21

# Priyanka Negi

 Haridwar, Uttarakhand
 B.Tech/B.E

Priyanka Negi comes from the scenic city of Haridwar, where she attended Shri Gurugram Public School. Like many students from smaller towns, she grew up with big dreams and ambitions.

In school, Priyanka was a curious student; she had a passion for learning that drove her. Throughout her education, she often felt the pinch of limited resources and support that students from bigger cities seemed to have. But Priyanka had a knack for solving problems, and this paved her path to engineering.

At Roorkee College of Engineering, Priyanka explored both front-end and back-end technologies. Although she gained a good foundation, she felt there were gaps in her understanding, especially in balancing both areas. Wanting to strengthen her skills, she began looking for additional support, and that's when she came across the Masai EmpowerHer program.
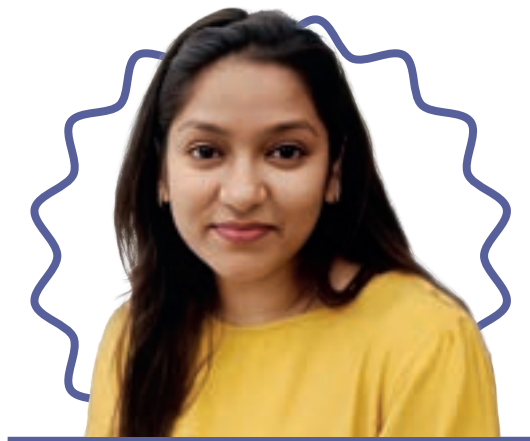
The Masai EmpowerHer Program, backed by Masai School, offered an opportunity at no cost, specifically designed to uplift women in tech. Intrigued by the program's focus on skill-building and support, Priyanka decided to join. She saw it as an opportunity to strengthen her knowledge and grow further.

During the program, Priyanka's journey was nothing short of transformative. She gained a wealth of technical knowledge, but it didn't stop there. The program helped in building her self-confidence and personal development. The environment was supportive, grounded in mentorship and community. Priyanka described it as empowering, both in her career and personal life.

The Masai EmpowerHer Program pushed Priyanka beyond her comfort zone. She participated in various projects and sessions that not only honed her technical expertise but also encouraged her to believe in herself. The mentors, the community, and the challenging projects fostered a sense of belonging and achievement.

By the end of the program, Priyanka landed a fantastic internship and placement. Securing this opportunity felt like a dream come true, all thanks to the guidance and support from Masai. With the skills and confidence she gained, Priyanka stands ready to face the future.

Priyanka's message to everyone is simple: *"Believe in yourself and never stop striving. Programs like Masai EmpowerHer are there to lift you up, enhance your skills, and empower your journey."*

**22**



# Sapna Gautam

📍 **Najibabad, Uttar Pradesh**

🎓 **M.Sc**

Sapna, a native of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, never expected that a fifth grade computer textbook would change the direction of her life. In 2016, she graduated with a degree in Biology and began working as a school teacher, guiding young minds and managing a household.

But one day, as she flipped through a student's textbook, she came across a chapter on programming languages. That moment sparked something inside her, a world she wanted to explore.

Coming from a non-tech background, the idea of learning programming felt intimidating. But the curiosity refused to fade. That's when she found the EmpowerHer Program by Masai. For Sapna, it wasn't just a course.

The journey wasn't easy. Between school duties, home responsibilities, and learning to code from scratch, there were moments of overwhelm. But she had a powerful support system—her family. With their encouragement, what once felt impossible began to feel within reach.

The Masai team made a lasting impression on her. They didn't just teach—they nurtured. They believed in learners like Sapna, especially those who didn't come from traditional tech paths. Slowly but surely, Sapna found her rhythm—writing code, completing assignments, and growing in confidence.

Then came the day that changed everything: she got placed.

The joy was indescribable. For someone who once doubted whether she belonged in tech, receiving that offer letter was a moment of quiet triumph. Her family celebrated loudly, with pride and excitement that mirrored her own disbelief and joy.

Looking back, Sapna doesn't see herself as someone who just switched careers. She sees herself as someone who opened a new door and walked through it, even when it felt scary.

She says, *"Sometimes, you find your next chapter in the most unexpected place."*

# 23



# Nikitha G R

📍 Bengaluru, Karnataka
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Nikitha G R is from Bangalore. She graduated in 2016, holding her degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering. But, like many, she found her path lined with twists and turns that she never expected.

Fast forward a few years, and Nikitha had taken time off, focusing on personal growth, exploring life, and figuring out her next steps.

Nikitha found herself in a place where many of us have been: ready to return to the workforce, but uncertain where to begin. Front-end development was like a foreign language to her until she discovered the EmpowerHer program. This was the beacon of hope and direction she needed.

The start wasn't easy. There were days filled with doubt. Each step was a battle against self-doubt and a quest for confidence. But with the program's structured learning, mentorship, and constant motivation, Nikitha forged a new path. She found clarity, rediscovering her self-worth and building confidence brick by brick.

Then came the moment she had been working towards: a job placement offer! This was a proud moment, a milestone that felt monumental in her journey of restarting a career. Nikitha, however, held onto this sweet victory, waiting for her offer letter to officially arrive. Her plan was to surprise her parents with this good news, envisioning the joy it would bring them when she could confidently proclaim her newfound career success.

Reflecting on her journey, Nikitha marveled at how far she had come. From doubts and fears to feeling empowered and strong, ready to take on this new phase of life head-on. She felt immense gratitude for the EmpowerHer program, which had illuminated her potential and surrounded her with an uplifting community that believed in her when she sometimes doubted herself.

Nikitha's journey is a testament to the power of support, mentorship, and personal tenacity. With a heartfelt thank you to EmpowerHer, she looked forward to a brighter future. Her story reminds us: with the right support and unwavering effort, you can truly turn your life around. So here's to Nikitha and her inspiring journey of rediscovery—proof that sometimes taking a chance is all you need to change your course.

# 24

# Antharya K

Bengaluru, Karnataka
B.Tech/B.E

Antharya grew up in Udupi, Karnataka. Currently pursuing her Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science and Engineering at Acharya Institute of Technology, she is set to graduate in 2025. While still in college, Antharya realized that academic knowledge alone wasn't enough to prepare her for the fast-evolving tech industry. She wanted to build both her technical skills and professional confidence, and she began looking for opportunities that could bridge this gap.

That's when she discovered the EmpowerHer program by Masai; a platform that offered exactly what she was seeking. With a clear goal in mind, she enrolled, hoping to strengthen her foundation and emerge industry-ready.

Her time at Masai proved to be a transformative experience. Not only did she deepen her technical understanding, but she also developed essential soft skills through communication training and mock interviews. With every session, her confidence grew. The supportive mentors played a crucial role, always encouraging her and guiding her through challenges, especially those unique to being a woman aspiring to enter the tech field.

For Antharya, the turning point came when she received her placement offer. The moment was filled with joy and pride, not just for her, but for her family as well. It felt like a significant milestone, a result of consistent effort and the strong support system built around her through the EmpowerHer program.

Reflecting on her journey, Antharya is deeply grateful to Masai and the mentors who helped shape her path. The program didn't just help her learn; it empowered her to believe in her potential and confidently step into the world of tech.

Her story is a testament to the power of early preparation, structured learning, and the impact of the right support at the right time. With her eyes set on the future, Antharya is well on her way to building a successful career in technology.

# 25

# Gowsalya G

📍 Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu
🎓 MCA

Gowsalya, hailing from the vibrant state of Tamil Nadu, completed her Master's degree in March last year. With a passion for technology, she decided to dive deeper into her interests by doing some tech-related certifications. This foundation started giving her a sense of direction. Her fascination was particularly drawn to front-end development, and she wanted to learn more.
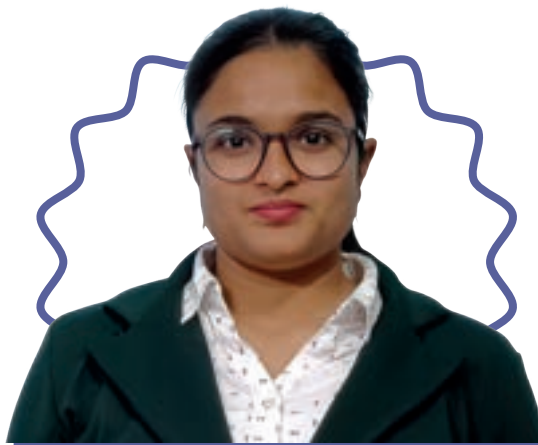
While scrolling through social media, Gowsalya stumbled upon an intriguing program that promised not just education but also offered internships for budding web developers. Since she had already earned some certifications in front-end development, the program seemed like the perfect next step. Not only did it train in front-end but also back-end development, piquing Gowsalya's interest even further.

Before joining, she had self-initiated some learning. However, the program brought a fresh wave of knowledge her way. It wasn't just about honing her technical skills; it immersed her in professionalism, interview preparation, and even taught her how to behave in different environments. Each day brought a new assignment. They were a test of her understanding and a race against the clock, teaching her invaluable skills like time management.

These assignments were cleverly designed to deepen her grasp of complex concepts, reinforcing her learning in a practical way. Evaluation was another critical component. These weren't the usual evaluations; they pushed her limits, making her ponder over how much she had actually learned. Even if she didn't always complete the full set of questions on time, she learned to celebrate her progress rather than perfection, keeping her repeatedly propelling forward.

After completing the program, Gowsalya secured a placement in a tech company. It was a beacon of hope. Her family, sharing in her joy, was thrilled at the news. She was ready to give her best shot, eager to transform this opportunity into a full-fledged career path.

In reflection, Gowsalya's journey was marred with challenges but also immense growth. Her story is one of persistence, learning to bridge gaps, and finding success despite language and cultural hurdles. She is determined to flourish as a tech professional, proving that with passion and adaptability, you can carve out a place for yourself anywhere.

**26**

# Anugya Singh

📍 **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**

🎓 **12th Graduate**

Anugya Singh, a young woman from Lucknow, always knew she had more to offer than what her daily routine allowed. A dual degree student pursuing both BCA and BSc, her schedule was packed—college classes during the day, tuition sessions she taught in the evening, and barely a moment to pause.

Even with so much on her plate, Anugya never stopped searching for that something more. That's when she came across the EmpowerHer Program by Masai School, a coding bootcamp designed specifically for women like her. What caught her attention wasn't just the curriculum, but the intent. *"They believed in women even before we believed in ourselves"* she recalled.

Once she enrolled, the transformation began.

Juggling long hours of study, evening responsibilities, and late-night coding wasn't easy. There were doubts about her abilities, about whether she could keep up, about whether she belonged in tech at all. But the structure, the community, and the mentorship at Masai made a difference.

She learned JavaScript, Node.js, and MongoDB; technologies she once thought were out of reach. But it was the discipline and self belief that had the biggest impact. Each module wasn't just about code; it was about consistency, clarity, and growth.

Then came the moment of placement.

She sat quietly with the news, absorbing it, letting it settle. Telling her family was another emotional milestone. Her mother had tears in her eyes and said, *"I always knew you'd do something big."* That moment meant everything.

For Anugya, becoming a woman in tech wasn't just about entering a new industry; it was about rewriting the story she was telling herself. She had feared she wouldn't be taken seriously, that her circumstances would keep her from reaching higher. But now, she's living proof that courage doesn't mean you're not scared; it means you keep going despite it.

Today, Anugya balances college, work, and ambition with a renewed sense of purpose. And when she looks back, she sees the girl who once felt lost and the woman she's become, who's found her wings.

# 27



# Sheelam Swetha

📍 Hyderabad, Telangana
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Shweta grew up in Hyderabad, but lacked access to the resources and opportunities that could have made her educational journey easier.

However, she had a spark in her eye and an eagerness to learn, crucial to her character. The mere idea that she could command a machine using logic alone thrilled her. From that moment, Shweta aimed to dive deeper into the world of computer science.

Her pathway wasn't smooth. The community she lived in didn't fully understand her passion. After finishing high school, she diligently pursued a degree in B.Tech in Computer Science. College wasn't easy; the challenge of keeping up with the curriculum often clashed with limited resources. But with grit, she persevered and graduated in 2024.

Shweta had a dream to become a full-stack engineer, to build solutions to real-world problems. However, the gap between academic knowledge and industry needs posed a significant hurdle. Then, she heard about the "EmpowerHer Program" offered by Masai School. With hope and a lot of courage, she registered for the scholarship test. Luck, or perhaps destiny, was on her side, and she was selected for a 5-month web engineering course.

During her time at Masai, Shweta's world transformed. The intense program equipped her not just with theoretical knowledge but also with hands-on experience in building full-stack web engineering projects. The instructors, real-world engineers themselves, offered support and insights no traditional textbook could. Here, Shweta found her community of like-minded individuals who understood and shared her dreams.

Upon completing the Masai course, Shweta landed an internship at Growsharp Technologies as a full-stack engineer. It was a moment of triumph. Shweta was excited and grateful to Masai School for opening up placement opportunities she had only dreamt of before.

Her journey isn't just a story about a scholarship or an internship. It's about the relentless pursuit of dreams, no matter the odds. Looking ahead, Shweta hopes to continue her growth in tech and inspire other young women from similar backgrounds to believe in the power of education and self-belief. Her story is a testament to the idea that with the right opportunities, anyone can leap over life's hurdles and run towards their aspirations.

# 28

# Priya Tripathi

📍 Mumbai, Maharashtra

🎓 B.Tech/B.E

In 2015, Priya Tripathi completed her degree in Computer Science, hopeful about starting a career in tech. Her first job as a web development trainee at a small startup felt like a good beginning. But life had other plans.

Her brother was diagnosed with cancer. Priya had to step away from work and devote herself fully to her family. After a long and painful fight, her brother passed away. In the shadow of this personal loss, she tried to rebuild. She joined a BPO company as a customer service representative and later worked at Axis Bank as a demat specialist. But something inside her remained unsettled.

*"I always loved coding"* she says. Seeing her friends build their careers in IT while she stepped away from the field made her long to return. Over the years, as she focused on her role as a homemaker, her confidence in restarting her career slowly faded.

Then came a suggestion from a friend of her husband, Masai School's Empowerment Program for Women. It was designed for women like her: with potential, with breaks in their careers, with stories buried under responsibilities.

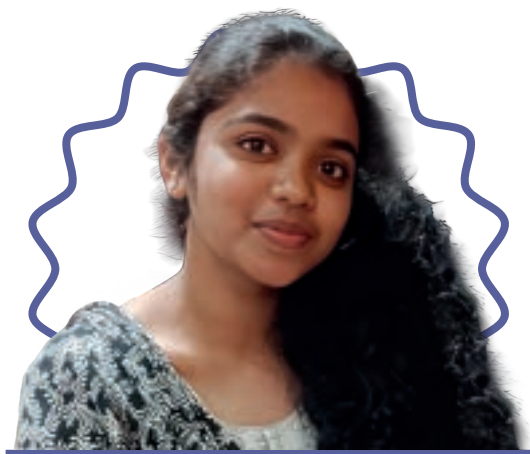At the time, Priya's baby was just four months old.

Balancing diapers and deadlines wasn't easy. *"He needed me the most then"* she recalls, *"but I also needed to do something for myself."* With every Masai assignment, every class, every line of code, she found her rhythm again.

The support from mentors like Vijeetha ma'am, Santhi Sri ma'am, and Venu Gopal sir made a world of difference. They didn't just teach—they encouraged, they waited, they cheered her on when she doubted herself.

Eventually, her efforts bore fruit. She got placed at TechJose, where her internship is now in full swing. *"I joined just two days ago"* she smiles, *"but I'm already learning so much."* Working with a team, picking up new skills, and being back in the IT world—it all feels surreal.

But what touches her the most isn't just the job—it's that her family is proud. *"They saw the struggles"* she says. *"Now they see the change."*

And so, Priya's story is not one of starting over, but of picking up the thread and weaving a new future through resilience, purpose, and belief.

# 29



# Jahnavi Alluri

📍 Bellary, Karnataka
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Jahnavi is from Bellary, Karnataka. She was in her final year of Computer Science at Acharya Institute in Bangalore, a journey that had been both exciting and filled with its fair share of questions. Like many students on the brink of stepping into the tech world, Jahnavi was wrapped up in her academics, striving to understand where she fit in this ever-evolving industry. For Jahnavi, this challenge felt even more prominent as a woman trying to carve her niche in a male-dominated field.

Thoughts often clouded her mind, triggering doubts about her capabilities. But Jahnavi refused to let these doubts linger without action. That's when she stumbled upon the EmpowerHer Program.

Jahnavi saw this program not just as a stepping stone into the tech industry, but as a platform where she could grow both technically and personally. Her decision to join the program came with the hope of acquiring not just technical acumen but also the confidence and mentorship necessary to thrive.

The experience was indeed transformative. The program provided a robust mix of technical training and soft skills workshops, all aimed at helping participants succeed. For Jahnavi, the EmpowerHer Program was like a custom-made tool kit designed to equip her with the confidence and knowledge she so desperately sought. The mentors, peers, and the strong support system that surrounded her played a crucial role in changing her confidence and outlook.

Through engaging workshops and insightful mentorship sessions, Jahnavi learned the art of presenting herself in interviews, found her voice, and most importantly, realized the immense power of self-belief. These experiences were not just about acquiring skills but were about discovering her own strength and potential.

Now, having secured a position in the tech world, Jahnavi stands proud and deeply grateful. Sharing the news of her new job with her family brought immense joy and pride, a testament to her dedication and perseverance over the years.

Jahnavi openly acknowledges the challenges faced by women in tech. It's a reality she has learned to confront with courage and determination.

To all the women tuning in, Jahnavi has a powerful message: Never doubt your potential. Programs like the EmpowerHer exist because the world indeed needs more women in tech. Keep learning, keep pushing, and most importantly, support one another in this journey.

# 30

## Saloni Kumari

📍 Narsanda, Muzaffarpur, Bihar
🎓 M.COM

Saloni Kumari grew up in Bihar. Studying in a small town often meant limited access to resources. While many around her pursued conventional paths, Saloni had her sights set on a different realm: technology.

After completing her Bachelor of Commerce in 2024, she realized her heart lay elsewhere, in the lines of code. Although she enjoyed learning commerce, she spent her free time diving into front-end and back-end development. Saloni worked tirelessly on small projects and participated in coding contests whenever she could. However, without real-world guidance, she often felt uncertain about how to move forward.

Then, she found the EmpowerHer program. It promised a community that nurtured technical skills and soft skills. The concept of EmpowerHer, supporting women entering the tech industry, resonated deeply with her. Joining the program was a turning point for Saloni. Not only did she learn coding and data structures, but she also honed her communication, teamwork, and interview skills.

The program was more than a learning experience; it was transformational. Mentors who believed in her potential and regular sessions helped Saloni focus and push through barriers. Projects she worked on during the course not only built her confidence but also helped her create a strong portfolio to present to the world. When Saloni shared her successes with her family, their pride and happiness overflowed. Saloni was not only proud; she felt empowered, realizing she was paving a path toward her dream of becoming a successful software developer.

Coming from a small town came with its challenges—limited resources and societal expectations weighed on her. But Saloni was determined. She kept learning online, surrounding herself with a community of learners and mentors who believed in her. The EmpowerHer program had built a robust foundation for her future, giving wings to her dreams of coding and technology.

Saloni moves forward with not just technical skills, but also the confidence that comes from hard work and perseverance. Her journey reflects the power of dreams and the support of those who believe in them.

# 31

## Prajakta Kudale

📍 Pune, Maharashtra

🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Prajakta Kudale is from the culturally rich city of Kolhapur, Maharashtra. Growing up amidst tradition and creativity, Prajakta developed a deep appreciation for both heritage and innovation, qualities that would later shape her personal and professional journey.

Prajakta pursued her Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering, graduating with an impressive CGPA of 9.53. But for her, college wasn't just about marks. It was a journey of developing critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and a genuine love for technology.

During her studies, Prajakta explored programming languages like Python, C++, C, and HTML. Along the way, she discovered her passion for data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. She applied this knowledge through hands-on projects such as building a spam detection system and developing an alumni portal, both of which honed her technical and team collaboration skills.

To further her practical experience, Prajakta completed an internship at Earth Logica, a Kolhapur-based company. There, she worked with Python, AI, and ML technologies, which deepened her interest and gave her real-world insight into the field she had come to love.

But Prajakta's story goes beyond academics and tech. She's a creative soul who finds joy in reading, drawing, and arts & crafts activities that not only keep her balanced but also sharpen qualities like patience, attention to detail, and self-expression. These traits seamlessly complement her technical expertise, making her a well-rounded individual.

Prajakta believes in the power of empathy, effective teamwork, and the ability to adapt to any situation. She sees these as essential ingredients for success in both life and career.

Looking ahead, Prajakta is excited to contribute to innovative projects and be part of environments that foster growth, creativity, and learning. With a deep-rooted passion for AI and a mind full of ideas, she is ready to create a meaningful impact wherever she goes.

Prajakta's journey is a blend of tradition, curiosity, and ambition; a story of someone who not only dreams big but also works with dedication and heart to make those dreams a reality.

# 32

## Nagajyothi Chukka

 Chandrapur, Maharashtra
 Diploma

Let's take a trip to a small town in Maharashtra, Chandrapur. Here, back in 2023, lived a young woman named Nagajyothi Chukka. She had just wrapped up her BTech in Computer Science and Engineering from Rajiv Gandhi College of Engineering, Research, and Technology. Her love for coding and tech was as vivid as Chandrapur's colors during the festival of lights.

Chukka's journey wasn't always straightforward. Even though she had the credentials, she felt there was something missing. She was keen on web development and took online courses. She worked on small projects whenever she could grab a moment, knowing every bit of practice was strengthening her skills. But Chukka yearned for more. She wanted structured guidance to become a full-stack developer and was on the hunt for internships to gain that precious practical experience.

Then she discovered the EmpowerHer program, a beacon she didn't know she was searching for. It offered not just education, but mentorship and a supportive community that bridged the gap between learning and real-world job placement. Chukka felt safe here, embraced by an environment that empowered women like her.

During the program, she worked on real projects and honed her technical skills. It wasn't just about coding; it was about growing as a person too. The mentors held her up, helped her through moments of self-doubt, and motivated her to push boundaries she didn't even know existed. Her technical skills bloomed, and so did her confidence.

Placement day was a triumph, not just a milestone. It was a loud affirmation of every late night, every moment of doubt, all transformed into triumph. When Chukka shared the news with her family, their joy overflowed. It wasn't just her victory; it was also theirs. Their pride shimmered through tears that welled up during celebratory hugs.

But it hasn't always been easy. As a woman in tech, she faced the whispers of doubt that society often thrust upon her. She battled self-doubt, trying to balance societal expectations and her dreams. Yet, standing under EmpowerHer's reach, she felt anchored and supported. It was her space to grow, connect, and believe in herself.

With her voice filled with gratitude, Chukka expressed her thanks to the program that had been a turning point in her life. She looked forward to what the future held, knowing that whatever it brought, she was more than ready. EmpowerHer had lit a fire within her, one that wouldn't easily dim.

Nagajyothi Chukka's story is more than just a career shift; it's a story of empowerment, resilience, and belief. From the streets of Chandrapur to the world beyond, she learned that strength often comes from the smallest beginnings and the brightest futures from the darkest doubts.

# 33

# Aishwarya Anaspure

📍 Aurangabad, Maharashtra

🎓 B.Tech/B.E

The story of Aishwarya Milind Anaspure from Aurangabad, Maharashtra is one of overcoming fears. Born and raised in a city known for its historical significance, Aishwarya had always been a curious soul, eager to learn and grow.

After completing her Bachelor's in Computer Science and Engineering in 2021, Aishwarya found herself in a non-technical job. It was not where she wanted to be. Deep down, she knew she wanted a technical career. But the fear of coding made her hesitate.

One day, while exploring various career options, she stumbled upon Masai's EmpowerHer program. This was a golden opportunity, a program designed to uplift women of all ages through coding.

Aishwarya felt genuinely excited on her first day. Yogesh, the co-founder of Masai, brought great energy to introducing the modules. The content was clear and well-structured, and Aishwarya appreciated being able to ask questions and strengthen her understanding during problem-solving sessions.

Venu and Santhi Sri played a key role in making Aishwarya's learning journey supportive and encouraging. The assignments and exams became opportunities to strengthen her skills. With their guidance, she found her pace, and her motivation grew.

Apart from coding, soft skills sessions with Shivani ma'am stood out. Her cheerful nature and wisdom helped Aishwarya build confidence, particularly in communication and body language. These skills proved valuable for her personal and professional growth.

Big kudos were in order for the placement team at Masai. They were a constant pillar of support in her search for the perfect internship. When Aishwarya landed an internship, her family's joy knew no bounds. It was a moment of celebration and triumph.

Reflecting on her journey, she realized the significance of overcoming her fear of coding. The EmpowerHer program had not just imparted skills; it had transformed her mindset. Aishwarya found strength in the stories of fellow participants juggling their roles as mothers and daughters-in-law. If they could do it, so could she.

Aishwarya is excited about this new chapter. As she thinks of the women who will join the program next, she wishes them all the best. EmpowerHer had indeed been a journey of empowerment for Aishwarya, and the transformation was remarkable.

EmpowerHer has given Aishwarya the wings she needed to soar, fueling her dreams of a technical career and a life where fear does not hold her back.

# 34



# Richa Kumari

📍 **Durg, Chhattisgarh**

🎓 **12th Graduate**

Richa Kumari hails from Bihar, a vibrant state known for its rich culture and history. Growing up, Richa faced the common struggles of many young girls in her community – limited support in studies and restricted freedom to make personal choices

Richa's educational journey led her to the Bilai Institute of Technology in Durg, Chhattisgarh, where she pursued a degree in Computer Science and Engineering. As a student, she was diligent, but felt something was missing. She wanted to build real-world technical skills and gain insight into the industry beyond textbooks and lectures.
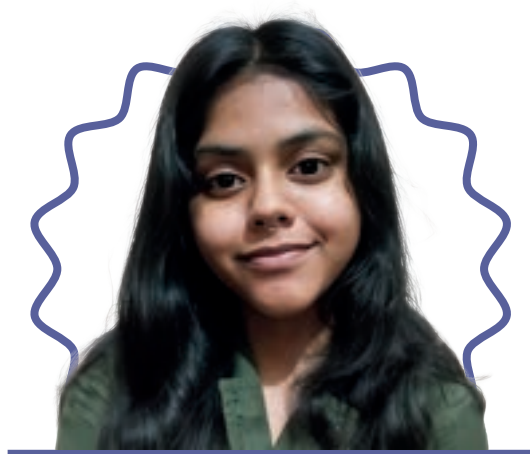
This thirst for practical knowledge drove Richa to join the EmpowerHer program. The decision was pivotal. *"It felt truly worth it and it helped me"* Richa recalls, describing the experience as incredible. Through EmpowerHer, she gained not just technical skills, but something invaluable – self-confidence, especially in a professional setting. The mentorship she received was transformational, offering her hands-on guidance and exposure to the industry she was eager to join.

The program opened doors for Richa, and soon, she secured a placement, an achievement she is undoubtedly proud of. When she shared the news with her family, they were overjoyed, expressing their gratitude and pride.

Looking back, Richa recognizes the challenges she overcame. Her belief in herself and in the strength of women kept her moving forward. Today, she is proud to have a job that brings her dreams to life.

To all the girls striving for their dreams, Richa offers words of encouragement: *"Believe in yourself and don't be afraid to take that one step that can change your life."* She emphasizes the empowering impact of programs like EmpowerHer, which played a crucial role in her journey.

With gratitude, Richa thanks the EmpowerHer team for their significant contribution to her story. Proudly, she says, *"I am proud to be a part of this family."*

# 35

## Sanskriti

**◉ New Delhi**
**🎓 12th Graduate**

Sanskriti, from Delhi, is working toward a Bachelor's in Computer Applications, with plans to graduate in 2026. Though family challenges led to a short break in her studies, she sees it as just a small part of her larger journey.

Before Masai's EmpowerHer program, Sanskriti was doing her best learning tech through any online resource she could find. She loves tech, creating new things, and solving problems. Her drive? Building tools that make a real difference in people's lives.

Sanskriti joined the EmpowerHer program not just for the skills, but for the support, mentorship, and the chance to shine. No degree required, and it was on a scholarship. She couldn't resist. This program turned out to be the nudge she needed.

During the program, she dove deep into JavaScript and React. But more importantly, she built adaptability to new tech. Now, she can work with whatever tech comes her way and truly understands the art of programming.

Her hard work paid off; she landed a role at an AI startup through the program. It's a volunteering position, but a stepping stone for her career. Her family had mixed feelings, a bit disappointed at first. But pride took over as they saw her dedication and the pathway this role was carving out for her.

As a woman in tech, Sanskriti has faced her share of challenges, mostly concerning educational mindsets. The extended family had biases about what women should do. However, her immediate family, especially her parents, have been her rock.

EmpowerHer wasn't just a program for her; it was a life-changing experience. Gratitude fills her heart for Masai and everyone who made it happen. Now, Sanskriti stands ready to overcome any hurdle and build her career in tech, fueled by passion and resilience.

And that's her story. A journey not just about tech, but empowerment, family, and breaking barriers.

# 36

# Priya Pareek

📍 Hyderabad, Telangana
🎓 B.Sc

Priya Pareek, a young woman from Rajasthan, is a mathematics graduate from Rajasthan University, Jaipur, who completed her degree in 2022. Life had always been a bit of a balancing act for her. Coming from a rural area with limited resources, she knew that her future lay in moving beyond what was expected of her.

Priya dreamt of a career beyond the textbook theories she studied. Her interest in computers was kindled when she heard about tech careers from a visiting relative. Coding had always felt beyond her grasp, a skill she never imagined she'd learn.

In October 2024, a pivotal change occurred. Priya took a bold step by joining the Masai EmpowerHer Program, an incredible Indian-Korean initiative designed to uplift women from rural and economically challenged backgrounds. This program, backed by a 100% scholarship, was Priya's chance to grow.

Joining in October 2024, within just a few months, Priya landed a three-month internship. Only a short while ago, Priya couldn't write a single line of code. Today, she can build entire websites, an achievement she never imagined possible.

The Masai curriculum was the game-changer. Unlike anything she had experienced, it was industry-focused and designed to prepare students for the real world. Her mentors, Santhi Sri and Venu Gopal, were seasoned industry experts who not only untangled her technical doubts but also offered guidance on careers and jobs. They were always ready with valuable advice, extending their support beyond just coding.

A transformative aspect of Priya's journey was the boost in her communication skills. Prior to Masai, Priya was hesitant to speak English, fearing to speak in front of people. But the program fortified her confidence, turning her hesitation into effective communication.

Within a few short months, Priya evolved from a reserved math graduate into an empowered individual ready to tackle the tech world. Her message to Masai was a heartfelt thank you, especially to her mentors who guided her hand as she wrote her first lines of code and supported her as she scripted her future in technology.

# 37

## Patan Akhila Banu

📍 Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
🎓 B.Pharm

Patan Akhila Banu from Chittoor had just completed her bachelor's degree in pharmacy in 2021. She came from a medical background, but her aspirations were shifting towards the world of technology, a field she knew little about. Growing up in Chittoor, Akhila faced the challenges many young women encounter, limited opportunities and societal expectations, especially as a married woman. But she harbored dreams of forging a path of her own.

Driven by a desire to learn and grow, Akhila enrolled in Masai School to dive into web development. At Masai, she found herself immersed in a realm of coding and creativity. Though the shift from pharmaceuticals to programming was not without its hurdles, Akhila was determined. She knew she needed to further her technical skills, gain real-world exposure, and boost her confidence in her new field of interest. So, she joined the EmpowerHer program, looking for a chance to explore her potential.

The EmpowerHer experience was transformative. It taught Akhila about the power of teamwork, honed her problem-solving skills, and gave her the exposure she sought. More than just technical prowess, Akhila discovered a newfound confidence and a sense of belonging in the tech world. She felt empowered by the experience and proud of how far she had come.

Upon completing the program, Akhila felt a sense of pride and excitement for her future. Her family was overjoyed and proud, sharing in her accomplishments. As Akhila recounted, *"As a married woman, I faced many challenges, but with determination and support, I overcame them and grew both personally and professionally."*

Reflecting on her journey, Akhila is excited about the new horizons her updated skills would unlock. She now feels ready to tackle the tech industry head-on. The EmpowerHer program wasn't just about learning how to code; it was about forging a new identity, one where she could proudly say she had found her place and purpose.

Looking ahead, Akhila is filled with anticipation and confidence, knowing she has reshaped her pathway with determination and support from programs like EmpowerHer. It's a journey of empowerment, about turning challenges into stepping stones, and for Akhila, the future looks brighter than ever.

# 38

## Pooja V

📍 Bangalore, Karnataka
🎓 Graduate

Pooja V, a recent graduate from Archarya Institute of Technology, has completed her degree in Information Science and Technology. Like many students in their final year, Pooja found herself at a critical juncture—navigating final exams while actively seeking the right opportunity to launch her career.

It was during this time of uncertainty and ambition that Pooja came across the EmpowerHer program by Masai School. With a strong desire to build her confidence, enhance her technical abilities, and develop soft skills crucial for professional success, she decided to take a leap and join the program.

Her experience with EmpowerHer turned out to be transformative. Through hands-on training, supportive mentorship, and being part of a tight-knit community of learners, Pooja discovered a version of herself that was more empowered, resilient, and ready to take on the tech world.

For Pooja, the journey wasn't just about learning to code—it was about becoming part of a supportive ecosystem that nurtured growth and celebrated every milestone. She learned to push through moments of self-doubt and overcome challenges, including limited access to guidance and the pressure of societal expectations often placed on women entering the workforce.

Her hard work and determination paid off when she secured an internship placement. Looking back, Pooja credits the EmpowerHer program as a defining chapter in her life—one that equipped her with the skills, mindset, and confidence to step into the tech industry and chase her goals fearlessly.

Today, Pooja stands as a testament to the power of perseverance, community, and believing in oneself. Her journey is an inspiration for many young women who are looking to find their place in the world of technology.

# 39

# Chaitra R G

📍 Davanagere, Karnataka
🎓 12th Graduate

Chaitra grew up in the vibrant town of Davangere, nestled in the heart of Karnataka. From a young age, she always dreamed big, and was eager to explore the world of technology. With an unwavering determination, Chaitra embarked on her educational journey in Computer Science and Engineering.

Despite facing some hurdles—like not having as many resources as kids from bigger cities—Chaitra never wavered in her resolve. She was the kind of student who would stay up late if it meant solving a tricky math problem or figuring out a complex code.

Fast forward to her college days in 2025. Chaitra is ready to graduate, a milestone she eagerly awaited. Yet, college didn't teach everything the tech industry expected. There was still a gap—a gap between book knowledge and real-world skills. Chaitra needed more. That's when she stumbled upon the EmpowerHer program.

It was an opportunity she seized with both hands. The program didn't just hone her technical skills; it was a full package. It polished her communication and soft skills, and bolstered her through mock interviews, transforming her into a confident professional.

Her mentors were guides, friends, and pillars of support. They walked alongside her on this journey, and for that, she felt deep gratitude. The skills and confidence she gained weren't just theoretical; they translated into real-life achievements. Chaitra landed a job on a platform she had long aspired to be part of. It was a proud milestone, etched in her life's journey.

The EmpowerHer program, for Chaitra, was more than a stepping stone; it was a launching pad that propelled her into a future she'd always dreamed of. Her journey from Davangere to success was now a testament to what can be achieved when opportunity meets hard work.

# 40

## Shriraksha K

📍 Bengaluru, Karnataka
🎓 12th Graduate

Sriraksha hails from Bangalore, Karnataka, and is currently studying Information Science Engineering at Acharya Institute of Technology. Like many students on the verge of entering the workforce, Sriraksha was navigating the choppy waters of placement preparation. Armed with online resources, she was trying her best to prepare for the crucial interviews that stood between her and her dreams. However, the path was far from clear. She often found herself lost and unsure, her confidence flickering under the pressure of impending interviews.

That's when she discovered EmpowerHer, a program designed for women like her who sought structured mentorship and a motivational environment. With a leap of faith, she joined EmpowerHer, hoping it would provide the technical and soft skills she needed.

Her experience was nothing short of transformative. The mentors she met at EmpowerHer were not just guides but pillars of support. With their help, Sriraksha grew not only in her technical knowledge but also personally. Her confidence blossomed, and she found herself better prepared to face the challenges ahead. The program was a turning point, a pivotal moment that made her journey feel possible and achievable.

When the day came that she was finally placed, it felt like a significant milestone. For Sriraksha, this achievement was not just about landing a job; it symbolized overcoming the unique challenges she faced as a woman in tech. She learned to balance home responsibilities with her academic pursuits and fought against the self-doubt that often crept in, particularly during technical discussions.

With the right guidance and a supportive community, Sriraksha began to believe in herself. She is deeply thankful to EmpowerHer for playing such a critical role in her journey. It helped her reach a place where she could stand tall with confidence and a sense of accomplishment. EmpowerHer was not just a program for her; it was an empowering experience that she will carry forward in her life.

# 41



# Vaishnavi K

 Bangalore, Karnataka
 B.Tech/B.E

Vaishnavi K., from Bengaluru, is pursuing Computer Science Engineering at Acharya Institute of Technology, set to graduate in 2025. Like many students, she found herself juggling college work, job applications, and endless YouTube videos and free resources. With so much to take in, she often felt unsure if she was heading in the right direction.

Realizing the need for structure and guidance, she decided to join the EmpowerHer program. Her college suggested it, and she was hopeful it would give her the right tools and confidence. Vaishnavi needed a roadmap, something to focus her efforts and reassure her she was headed the right way.

The journey with EmpowerHer was transformative. The sessions were practical and tailored to what she needed—technical rounds, resume building, interviews, and aptitude testing. Everything was explained with clarity, and the mentors were incredibly supportive. They were always on hand to answer questions and address doubts.

For Vaishnavi, this experience was a significant milestone. It fueled her excitement about her professional journey. She learned not to worry about comparing herself to others or straying from her path. Her parents' pride in her achievements further encouraged her. Their happiness and support only strengthened her resolve.

However, reaching this point wasn't without its hurdles. Vaishnavi sometimes felt she had to work harder than her peers to prove herself. She struggled with self-doubt, especially when seeing others excel in the same field. Coming from a non-technical family, she lacked guidance and support.

But with time, Vaishnavi learned to trust herself. EmpowerHer played a crucial role in breaking down her doubts and boosting her confidence. Now, she's ready to tackle the next chapter of her life, armed with knowledge, courage, and the unwavering belief that she can succeed. Vaishnavi's story is an inspiring tale of perseverance and self-belief in the quest for empowerment.

# 42

# Mayuri Shinde

📍 Shendi, Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Mayuri Shinde, a final-year Information Technology engineering student from Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, found herself at a familiar crossroads. Entering her third year of college, one question loomed large: How do I prepare for placements?

The vastness of the tech world felt overwhelming. With so many languages, tools, and frameworks out there, deciding where to begin was a challenge in itself. It was a moment filled with uncertainty about how to start preparing.

Then, during a casual scroll through YouTube, she discovered the EmpowerHer Programme by Masai. Curious and hopeful, she enrolled without knowing exactly what to expect.

What she found was more than just a course, it was a turning point.

Right from the beginning, the structure and energy of the program began to ease her anxieties. Santhi ma'am started the journey with the basics of HTML and CSS, just the foundation Mayuri needed to build confidence. In the second module, things began to click. Learning no longer felt intimidating; it became something she looked forward to.

By the time the third module rolled around, Mayuri found herself diving into JavaScript under the mentorship of Venu Sir. His patient teaching style and positive attitude helped her tackle complex topics with ease. The CSBT sessions with Shivani ma'am added another spark. "Her energy was contagious," Mayuri remembered, "and it kept us going even on tough days."

In what felt like the blink of an eye, five to six months passed. But the transformation Mayuri experienced during that time was profound. Not only had she picked up real-world tech skills, but she had also developed a quiet but strong sense of confidence.

And then came the result of all her effort, a job offer from Agenix AI.

The day she shared the news with her family was filled with pride and joy. It wasn't just about getting placed, it was about proving to herself that she could stand on her own, ready to face the industry with clarity and courage.

Reflecting on her college experience, Mayuri acknowledged how theoretical it had been. *"We were never taught how to transition from learning to doing"* she noted. But EmpowerHer filled those gaps. It gave her a roadmap, a support system, and belief.

Now, with a clear path ahead, Mayuri is ready to step into the tech world with confidence and purpose.

# 43

# Gedala Bhavya

📍 **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**

🎓 **M.Sc**

Bhavya, from Visakhapatnam, always had a love for computers and completed her Master's in Computer Science (MSc) in 2018. Life took her through various turns—she worked in IT-related roles but eventually found herself as a Customer Relationship Manager at Seven Hills Hospital. It wasn't quite the path she had imagined when she earned her degree.

Bhavya knew that she wanted to work in the IT sector and use the skills she had studied for so long. The challenge was finding the right path to do that. She began searching for institutes that could offer more specialized learning. But money was tight, and courses were costly. She couldn't afford them, and she was feeling stuck. Then, a friend came to the rescue.

Her friend introduced her to the Masai EmpowerHer Program. This program, specifically designed for women, offered Bhavya a way to learn without the burden of high fees. Excited and hopeful, she joined the program in October.

Her journey with the Masai EmpowerHer Program was both challenging and rewarding. She balanced her responsibilities at home while diving deep into learning. It wasn't always easy. Juggling her time between work and studies was a task, but Bhavya was determined. She worked hard, believing this program could be the bridge to her dream career in the IT industry.

Her perseverance and dedication paid off. Bhavya not only completed her Masai course but also secured a placement. She embarked on an internship with a fantastic organization, marking the start of her new career path. This opportunity didn't just transform her professional life; it brought joy to her family as well. Her loved ones couldn't be prouder.

Bhavya's story is one of resilience and the pursuit of a dream. Now, with her internship underway and her family cheering her on, Bhavya is all set to turn her dreams into reality. Her future is shining bright, and she's incredibly grateful for the opportunities Masai has opened up for her.

# Yamini Shriwastav

📍 Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
🎓 12th Graduate

Yamini Srivastava grew up in Jammu and Kashmir and was an eager learner, curious about the world, and excited about technology. She pursued her Bachelor's in Computer Applications (BCA) with hopes of stepping into the tech world.

Yamini faced hurdles during her studies, like backlogs that seemed to cloud her future. It was a tough patch, making her unsure of the career road ahead. She was trapped in confusion and uncertainty, feeling like she was stuck without a clear direction. She wanted more - more skills, more opportunities, and a better career.

In her search for change, Yamini discovered the EmpowerHer Program. This initiative was crafted specifically to support women in tech, providing them with the confidence and skills necessary to carve out a career path. The program promised mentorship, learning, and projects that could help participants find their footing in the tech industry.

Joining EmpowerHer was a turning point for Yamini. The mentors were there every step of the way, offering guidance and encouragement, something she sorely needed.

EmpowerHer helped Yamini overcome the self-doubt that had held her back. The program's support helped her see where and how to start anew. The structured guidance and skills she gained altered her trajectory.

Yamini felt proud and happy when she got placed, a key moment in her journey to success. For Yamini, EmpowerHer was more than just a program; it was a lifeline that offered her the tools to navigate the tech world confidently. She felt immense gratitude towards the EmpowerHer team, who helped her unlock her potential and offered her a pathway to follow her dreams.

The technological journey for Yamini was boosted by an environment that nurtured her growth and showcased her ability. Now, she stands as a role model for others from her region, proving that with the right support and mindset, you can overcome any hurdles.

# 45

## Shubhra Dwivedi

Oran , Banda, Uttar Pradesh

B.Sc

The upbringing of Shubhra, from Banda, Uttar Pradesh, wasn't too different from many others in India. She grew up in a middle-class family where education was a priority. But the road to education wasn't always easy. Resources were limited, there were no safety nets, no easy paths - only perseverance and hard work.

Shubhra attended local schools and found that she was good at maths, which led her to her graduation in mathematics in 2024. Despite the occasional challenges, her knack for numbers guided her to develop an interest in coding, but didn't have the financial means to join courses that ranged from Rs. 15,000 and up. Her middle-class background made such costs seem prohibitive, and it was frustrating.

That's when she heard about the EmpowerHer program by Masai. It was a scholarship-driven opportunity specifically designed for young women like her. She quickly realized it was her chance to step into the tech world without draining her family's finances. The program was a dream come true, a free, remote opportunity to study coding.

Once enrolled, Shubhra found herself surrounded by dedicated mentors who truly cared about her development. The environment was nurturing and pushed her to become the best version of herself. She even forged lifelong friendships along the way. After months of dedicated effort, Shubhra's hard work paid off. She secured an internship, marking a pivotal point in her life. Her internship allowed her to work on real-world projects, solidifying the idea that she was truly on the right path. It was a blend of her ambition and the support from EmpowerHer that had brought her here.

As Shubhra reflects on her journey, she feels immense gratitude. *"Thank you, EmpowerHer, and thank you, Masai, for this life-changing opportunity"* she says with heartfelt appreciation. Her story is just beginning, but she knows she's on the right track, hopeful and ready for what lies ahead.

# 46

## Swati Mahajan

◉ Pune, Maharashtra
🎓 MCA

Swati Mahajan grew up in Pune, a city known for its vibrant energy. Always interested in technology, she naturally chose to pursue a career in computer science. She completed her Bachelor's in Computer Applications (BCA) and later secured a Master's degree in Computer Applications (MCA) from North Maharashtra University in 2021.

Swati's journey was far from easy, yet her determination never wavered. The academic path she chose wasn't just books and exams, but a testament to her perseverance and grit.

After completing her studies, Swati found herself at a crossroads. She had the knowledge but was looking for real-world experience. That's when she came across the EmpowerHer program — an opportunity that offered both personal and professional growth. The program's curriculum perfectly matched her interests, and Swati saw it as a bridge to her dreams. She envisioned learning from seasoned mentors and working alongside like-minded peers.

Her time in the program was nothing short of transformative. Under the guidance of industry professionals, Swati honed her communication and teamwork skills. Moreover, her confidence and clarity in her career trajectory soared. Everything culminated in her feeling happy, satisfied, and exuberant – a testament to the hard work she invested during countless late nights.

Achieving placement was a tremendous milestone for Swati, a sweet reward for her relentless dedication. Throughout her journey, she also mastered time management, learning to juggle gaining new skills while upholding family responsibilities.

Swati's story is a celebration of resilience and growth. Her journey from Pune to achieving her career goals, learning to manage life's many facets along the way, is a heartening tale of success. And as she reflects on her experiences, she stands proud and content, ready to embrace the future with open arms.

# 47

# Fowziya Begam

📍 Thirukkanur, Puducherry
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Fowziya from Puducherry completed her Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science back in 2014. After working as a clinical manager in her family's clinic for four years, Fowziya transitioned into being a full-time homemaker. Responsibilities piled up with family, and soon maternity took front stage, pushing her dreams of a tech career to the back burner.

Despite the administrative work she had done, Fowziya's heart always nudged her towards technology. Returning to the tech world seemed like a distant dream until she stumbled upon a beacon of hope—a post about an EmpowerHer program 100% sponsored by KSIF. This felt like the right opportunity, and she was excited to move forward. She chose to take the next step.

Joining Masai brought with it a whirlwind of new experiences for Fowziya. Everything was fresh; it felt like she was starting from scratch. The initial hurdles were daunting, especially with the gap in her career. Yet, slowly but surely, Fowziya began to learn. Not just how to design a website, but also how to build a complete portfolio, how to navigate GitHub, and how to enhance her communication skills. Venu Sir and the Masai team became her guiding stars, supporting her through every challenge.

This incredible journey equipped her with a solid foundation in website design. With renewed confidence, Fowziya landed a job at Kubkas Technology. Getting placed brought her a sense of validation and respect in the eyes of her family and community. She couldn't stop expressing gratitude to Masai and KSIF for their role in reviving her career, especially with a program dedicated to empowering women.

Fowziya is proud of how far she's come and thankful for the support that helped her along the way. Her journey shows that with the right support and determination, it's possible to find new paths and rekindle old dreams.

# 48

# Bonthu Sandhya

📍 Amalapuram, Andhra Pradesh

🎓 M.Tech

Sandhya grew up in a small town in Andhra Pradesh. Her parents believed in the power of education and encouraged her every step of the way.. However, like many kids from small towns, opportunities felt limited, and the road often seemed daunting.

Unlike some classmates with ample resources, her family couldn't always provide the tuition classes or the fancy learning tools. There were moments of doubt, but these challenges only made her more determined. By 2018, she graduated with flying colors. Thrilled, she knew that was just the first step.

In 2023, Sandhya proudly completed her post-graduation. Passionate about computers, she dived into the world of software testing. But reality hit when she started job hunting. Roles were scarce, and competition was fierce. Days turned into months, and disappointment hung heavy.

Then, by chance, she stumbled upon the Masai EmpowerHer program. It promised skills, growth, and opportunities, so she jumped at the chance. But soon, she realized it wasn't going to be a walk in the park. The program was unlike anything she'd experienced before. At Masai, everything was fast-paced, with daily assignments and tracking progress.

The initial days were tough, no doubt. The routine was rigorous. But the team at Masai was motivated by one goal: student success. That unwavering support kept pushing her forward.

Sandhya's hard work began to pay off. She landed an internship, a promising step forward. The program transformed her skills and mindset. With a grateful heart, Sandhya looks towards a brighter future, crediting Masai for being that pivotal turn in her career path.

She's ready. Ready for the next adventure and the opportunities that await. And for that, she simply says, *"Thank you, Masai."*

# 49

## Palak Kasaudhan

◉ Banda, Uttar Pradesh

🎓 B.A

Palak Kasaudhan grew up in Banda, a small town in Uttar Pradesh. While she completed a Bachelor of Arts from Bundelkhand University, her curiosity for technology remained. Pursuing her interest, she decided to earn a Diploma in IT. This was her first step into the tech world.

Palak's path was not straightforward. Like many, she spent two years preparing for government exams. It was a journey filled with discipline and valuable lessons. However, she knew her true passion lay somewhere else. Palak wanted to carve a space in the tech industry, not just for personal fulfilment but also for financial independence.

Her search for the right opportunity led her to Masai School's EmpowerHer program. This program promised not just technical knowledge, but real-world experience and mentorship from industry professionals. It felt like the perfect fit.

Palak immersed herself in the program. She worked on real-world projects and received invaluable mentorship. Each task, each project, was a step towards not just gaining technical skills but also boosting her confidence and communication abilities. The program was a life-changing experience. It wasn't just about coding; it was about crafting a new version of herself.

Being a woman in tech, Palak faced moments of self-doubt. Expectations and stereotypes often made her question her career choices. Initially, she struggled with confidence, finding it hard to speak up or showcase her talents. But the EmpowerHer program, with its supportive environment, played a crucial role. With the right guidance, Palak's fears began to fade. She embraced her passion with a newfound confidence.

As Palak reflects on her journey, she is grateful to Masai School for its guidance and support. Her story is one of discovery, transformation, and empowerment. Palak is ready to begin her career in tech, with the skills, confidence, and passion she's built along the way. The future is full of possibilities.

# 50

# Rishika Kumari

📍 Pune, Maharashtra
🎓 B.Sc

Rishika Kumari grew up in Bihar. After completing her bachelor's in Biotechnology in 2021, she took up a job as a business development associate. It was stable, but something felt missing. The work didn't inspire her. *"I wasn't growing"* she later shared.

What she craved was a reset something bold, something meaningful. That's when she discovered the EmpowerHer Program by Masai School, supported by the Korean Social Investment Foundation. For someone from a non-tech background, jumping into the world of full-stack development was no small decision. It was intimidating but necessary.

The early days of the program were manageable. But as the curriculum picked up pace, particularly in the second module, things started to slip. Rishika fell ill, and her performance dropped sharply. *"I started doubting everything—my skills, my choices, even whether I belonged here"* she said.

But she didn't give up.

Instead, she chose to fight through self-doubt. She put in the hours, asked for help when needed, and kept showing up—even on the days she didn't feel like it. Her breakthrough came when she won second place in a project competition. *"That win changed something in me"* she said. *"I remembered what I was capable of."*

That small victory lit a fire within her again. Today, Rishika has stepped into the tech industry as a MERN stack developer intern. Her days look different now—filled with code, learning, collaboration, and growth. But what she values most is the pride in her family's eyes. *"Their support meant everything. Now I finally feel like I've given them something to celebrate."* she says.

For Rishika, the EmpowerHer journey wasn't just about learning to code, it was about reclaiming belief in herself.

# 51

# Ayushi

📍 Bangalore, Karnataka
🎓 MBA

Ayushi, from a small city in the Sitamarhi district in Bihar, always had a strong desire to learn. Eager to explore new opportunities, she moved beyond her hometown and stepped into the academic world of Bangalore.

She pursued a BCA for her undergraduate studies, learning SQL and C++. Technology fascinated her, but life's path is never linear. Her next step was an MBA with a focus on HR and Marketing. She completed her degree in 2020 from Bangalore University.

During her professional stint as an HR and Sales Executive, Ayushi's heart wasn't entirely in it. Her mind lingered on dreams of tech automating HR processes or diving deep into Excel and Power BI using DAX. But the reality was she never got the right opportunities to transition into tech, even when she wanted to marry her tech knowledge with her managerial skills.

Determined but constrained by her demanding job, Ayushi knew something had to change. The sales targets were relentless, and the time left for self-study, scarce. One day, she decided to leave her job. A friend had once mentioned something intriguing—Masai, an outcome-driven career school. A few hurdles, like health issues and financial constraints, had stopped her from joining earlier, but a ray of hope appeared with Masai's EmpowerHer program.

The EmpowerHer program was more than just a tech course. Ayushi found herself not only learning technology but understanding its essence, how it impacts the world and where its future lies. It was a hands-on journey from scratch that went beyond textbook learning. The mentorship from teachers like Venugopal, who was endlessly patient and supportive, played a pivotal role in her journey. Ayushi gleaned insights on personality development and even honed her English communication skills.

Grateful for Yogesh's Initiation of the EmpowerHer program, Ayushi was thankful for the opportunities it afforded her, especially as it was free. This cost relief removed a considerable barrier that stood in her way. The curriculum, rich with real-world applications, and the supportive community helped her carve out a niche for herself in the tech world.

Post-program, Ayushi flexed her new skills working on projects, creating a GitHub profile, and even enjoyed a beneficial internship. The EmpowerHer program wasn't just about acquiring knowledge; it was about transforming a life.

Now, armed with the skills and experience gained at Masai, Ayushi is excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. She's ready to embark on a career that marries management with technology, thanks to the encouragement and training she received.

# 52

## Mansi Agarwal

⚲ Indore, Madhya Pradesh

🎓 MCA

Mansi Agrawal grew up in Ujjain with a clear vision for her future. After completing her graduation in 2024, Mansi knew that she wanted to build a career in frontend development. But she also understood that to achieve that dream, she needed more than just a degree, she needed real skills, structure, and hands-on experience.
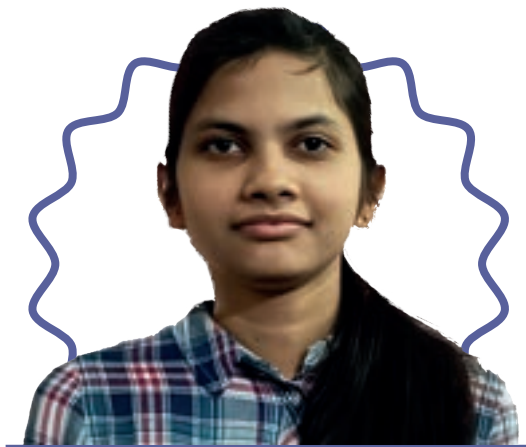
That's when she discovered the EmpowerHer program by Masai School, a 100% scholarship initiative designed to support women in tech. For Mansi, it was the perfect opportunity to bridge the gap between her aspirations and the industry demands.

She joined the program with enthusiasm and a beginner's mindset. What followed was a transformative journey. Through the course, she mastered core technologies like HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React.js, building not just theoretical understanding but also practical skills through live projects and hands-on assignments. Each day brought new challenges, and Mansi tackled them with curiosity and grit.

What made the experience even more special was the supportive environment. Surrounded by mentors and peers, Mansi grew in confidence and ability, turning her passion for frontend development into a tangible career path.

After completing the program, Mansi secured a 3-month internship at GrowSharp, where she continues to expand her knowledge and apply what she learned at Masai in real-world scenarios. The opportunity to work in a professional setting is a milestone that she deeply values, a stepping stone toward the career she's always envisioned.

Mansi's journey is a shining example of what dedication, opportunity, and the right learning environment can achieve. From a beginner in coding to a confident frontend developer, her story inspires many others to take that first step, no matter where they're starting from.

# 53

# Supriya Singh

📍 Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh
🎓 B.Tech/B.E

Supriya Singh grew up in Gorakhpur, surrounded by lush greenery and the energy of city life. Her love for computers led her to pursue a degree in Computer Science. Though college brought its share of challenges, doubts, and a hectic pace, Supriya stayed focused on her passion.

Yet, as graduation approached, the traditional path seemed daunting, and many of her classmates were seeking roles in giant corporations. Seeking a different path, Supriya's interest was sparked by coding bootcamps, especially when she heard about Masai School.

Masai School offered Supriya a unique opportunity. Their EmpowerHer course program focused on Frontend Development, a world Supriya had only dreamt of exploring. Here, she learned essential skills like HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React, JS, and Chakra UI. It was a rigorous, full-time course designed to make students industry-ready, providing not just knowledge but also confidence.

But it wasn't always easy. Supriya often struggled with her English speaking skills, a barrier that sometimes made expressing her ideas difficult. Aware of this gap, Masai offered support through activities like the Zoom Marathon Challenge where Supriya recorded herself speaking on different topics each day. This, coupled with reading challenges, slowly chipped away at her insecurity.

At Masai, Supriya received an internship offer with Curiosity AI, stepping into the real world as a Frontend Developer intern. Masai's hands-on training prepared her not only in coding but also in interviewing, gearing her up for future endeavors.

Today, Supriya is proud of her journey. Her time at Masai was transformative, equipping her with both technical skills and personal growth. She knows challenges lie ahead, but with her newfound skills and confidence, she is ready to face them head-on. Supriya's story serves as a testament to the power of determination and the opportunities that come with the right guidance.

# Pooja E

 Bangalore, Karnataka
 B.Tech

Pooja is from the bustling city of Bangalore. Born and raised here, she is deeply rooted in the tech hub of India. A student of Acharya Institute of Technology, she will graduate with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in 2025. From a young age, Pooja was fascinated by technology.

In school, Pooja was a diligent student. But being from a traditional family, support wasn't always at hand. While other kids had resources, Pooja often had to find her own. Still, she persevered, letting her love for learning guide her. High school brought her face-to-face with computers, sparking her dream of studying computer science.

Pooja's transition from high school to college was a pivotal moment. Despite family's wishes for a different path, her passion for engineering pushed her forward. Though not without hurdles. Financial constraints almost kept her from an engineering degree, but sheer determination and a small scholarship sealed her fate.

While studying, Pooja felt she was missing some real-world skills. Around this time, she discovered Masai's EmpowerHer Program through a friend. Intrigued and with skepticism, she dived in. Masai promised what her traditional education lacked, a pathway to being job-ready.

The EmpowerHer Program was intense but transformative. Here, Pooja learned frontend web engineering, HTML, and CSS, skills she only touched in her college course. Projects were hands-on, teaching her how to create websites and bringing her closer to her dreams. Masai bridged that elusive gap between textbook knowledge and practical tech know-how. Most importantly, it taught her resilience and communication, crucial skills for the tech world.

Fast forward to post-placement. Pooja couldn't believe it. She landed her first job, a role perfectly aligning with her newfound skills. The look of pride in her family's eyes was worth every late night she spent studying at Masai. Masai had equipped her not just with technical skills but with confidence, a precious gift for her journey ahead.

Pooja is now a part of the tech workforce in Bangalore, living her dream every day. She's grateful to Masai for turning her passion into a tangible career. As she climbs career heights, Pooja also dreams of inspiring other young women, showing them that with determination and the right support, anything is possible.

This is Pooja's story, a journey of challenges, discoveries, and triumphs, led by a path of learning and opportunity provided by Masai.

# 55

## Srushti B Pattankar

📍 Bangalore, Karnataka

🎓 B.Tech

Srushti B Pattankar, is from Shivamogga, Karnataka. She was a bright student, and she found her way to Acharya Institute of Technology, where she pursued a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Engineering. Her journey was not without challenges, particularly when it came to understanding complex coding languages and technical concepts. However, Srushti was determined to overcome these hurdles.

The college offered Srushti numerous opportunities. One that stood out and piqued her interest was the EmpowerHer program by Masai School. The idea of women's empowerment resonated with her, and along with a few friends, she decided to take the assessment to see if they could secure a spot. Her efforts paid off, and Srushti embarked on a transformative journey.

Throughout her internship, Srushti learned about web development and various languages such as React and JavaScript. While the learning curve was steep, mentors from Masai were always there to offer guidance and support.

As her education drew to a close, excitement and anxiety mingled together regarding what lay ahead. Placement was on everyone's mind, including Srushti's family, who were supportive and eager for her success. When Srishti got placed at Infosys and received another offer from an off-campus recruiter, joy swept through her entire family. The journey, with its ups and downs, felt worthwhile.

Challenges in understanding new tech didn't deter Srishti. She learned to rely on resources like the Internet when lost and reached out to her mentors whenever stuck. Discovering that hard work diminishes difficulty made Srishti appreciate the value of perseverance.

In the end, Srushti's time with Masai empowered her, strengthened her skills, and prepared her for the professional world. Her story inspires others to embrace learning, seek support, and never lose sight of their goals. Masai had extended not just education but an empowering lifeline, turning aspiring individuals into confident professionals, ready to conquer the world. Now, Srishti is ready to take the next step in her journey, confident and prepared for what lies ahead.

# 56



# D R Guru Priyanka

📍 **Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh**

🎓 **B.Tech**

D.R. Guru Priyanka, from Andhra Pradesh, found her path through the EmpowerHer program. She completed her studies at Acharya Institute of Technology in Bangalore, graduating in 2025. Like many final-year engineering students, she was focused on academic projects while searching for ways to bridge the gap between academics and industry. She looked for guidance to strengthen her skills and build the confidence needed for placements.

Throughout her studies and budding career, Priyanka faced challenges, as most do. Thankfully, she avoided discrimination herself, but she was aware of the bias many women around her experienced. It was a reminder that while progress is being made, there's still more to be achieved. Priyanka keeps her head held high, understanding her worth and hoping for a world where talent, skills, and hard work are what truly matter, not gender.

Priyanka's decision to join the EmpowerHer program came from a deep desire to be part of a community filled with inspiring women. She wanted to be in a space where learning and growth were the norms and where women could mentor each other. She believed that a program specially designed for women would help set her on the right path, equipping her with the technical skills and mindset needed for the early years of her career.

The experience within the EmpowerHer program turned out to be an amazing journey. Priyanka dove into learning and built interesting JavaScript and React projects. With each project, she built not just her skills but also her confidence. The mentors she met through the program were a true source of support, encouraging her and her peers to aim higher and reach for bigger goals. Surrounded by motivated coaches and a network of peers, Priyanka felt empowered, inspired, and importantly, prepared for the placement season ahead.

Priyanka felt proud to be part of the EmpowerHer program. Getting placed was a significant boost, strengthening her belief that with hard work and self-confidence, she could achieve her goals. Her family, always supportive, shared in her joy. Their pride made her journey even more meaningful.

Through EmpowerHer, Priyanka not only enhanced her capabilities but also found her place and voice in the industry. Her story serves as an inspiration, highlighting the power of unity, guidance, and self-belief in navigating one's career path.

# 57

# Chintha Gunasree

📍 Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh
🎓 B.Tech

Chintha Gunashree comes from a small town named Dharmavaram in Andhra Pradesh. Growing up, she always had a spark for learning but didn't always see herself in the world of technology.

Chintha found her calling on computers during her school days. Even though the resources were scarce, and support for girls in tech wasn't exactly abundant, Chintha's determination paved the way for her. She was a curious student, often staying after school to tinker with computers whenever allowed, seeking knowledge beyond the classroom walls. Her efforts to teach herself gave her a good foundation in computers.

Despite challenges, Chintha's school experience led her to enroll in Acharya Institute of Technology to pursue engineering in Computer Science. The transition wasn't easy. Being in a place with more resources and support for tech learning was a whole new world. However, she kept her focus, balancing academics with projects and internships, dreaming of great placement opportunities. But something was missing. She craved structured mentorship and an environment supportive of women in tech.

It was then that Chintha discovered the EmpowerHer program at Masai. This decision changed her life. She desired a place where she could grow, gain confidence, and connect with like-minded women, and that's exactly what she found at Masai.

During the program, Chintha absorbed all she could like a sponge. Learning from industry experts was a game-changer. Her mentors guided her through JavaScript and React, web technologies that once seemed complex. With guidance, she completed projects using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, sharpening not just her coding prowess but her problem-solving skills as well.

Networking was another benefit. Chintha connected with inspiring women who motivated her and mentors who offered valuable guidance. Her confidence grew, and she began to see in herself what others had long believed she was capable of. Before she even graduated, she secured a job—an achievement that brought her both pride and relief.

Perhaps her proudest moment was sharing this success with her family. Their joy and pride filled her with warmth and satisfaction. But Chintha knew this accomplishment was not just for her. It symbolized breaking stereotypes, battling self-doubt, and navigating fields where women are underrepresented.

EmpowerHer not only prepped Chintha for her career but forged in her a new purpose: to uplift and inspire other women eyeing the tech world. Moving forward, she dreams of continuing her journey and encouraging other girls from places like Dharmavaram to chase their dreams in tech.

Chintha's story is more than just a personal victory. It's a beacon for many, proving what a strong will and supportive community like Masai's EmpowerHer can achieve. She's now ready to take on the tech world, one code at a time.

# 58

# Muli Pujitha

📍 Vellore, Andhra Pradesh
🎓 12th Graduate

Muli Pujitha, originally from Ellore, Andhra Pradesh, moved to Bangalore to pursue her B.Tech in Information Science Engineering at Acharya Institute of Technology. Set to graduate in 2025, she found that some of her most valuable learning happened beyond the classroom.

*"Back then, I was just another engineering student"* she admits. She struggled with both technical concepts and soft skills, and like many of her peers, she felt unprepared for the real demands of the industry. That's when she discovered the EmpowerHer Programme by Masai—an initiative that promised more than just coding lessons.

What caught Pujitha's attention was the Bootcamp-based structure of the program, where both technical and soft skills were emphasized. And it was free. More than that, the personal approach of the Masai team made it stand out. *"They didn't just teach—they checked in, followed up, and really cared if we were learning"* she said.

Through the program, Pujitha gained clarity and direction. From regular assignments to separate doubt-clearing sessions, everything was designed to push her potential forward. Weekend sessions with industry experts helped her polish her communication and gain perspective, things she hadn't found in traditional internships.
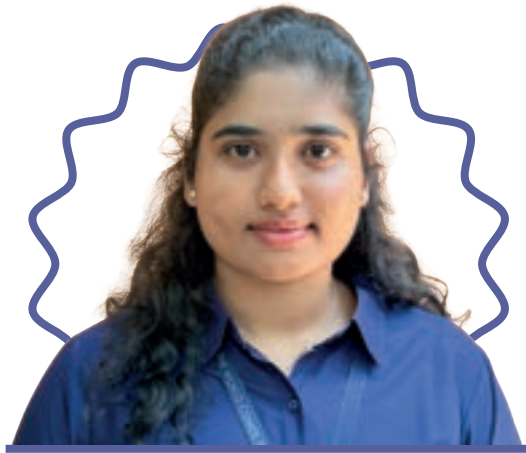
But it wasn't easy.

Moving from her hometown to Bangalore brought its own set of challenges. *"I didn't know anyone. I didn't speak Kannada. And my English wasn't strong"* she shared. It was a lonely and overwhelming experience at first. But slowly, she began to adapt. Her participation in the Masai program gave her a reason to keep going and the tools to improve.

Balancing college in the mornings and Masai sessions in the afternoons required discipline and careful time management. Yet she stayed committed. And her efforts bore fruit when she was placed as a Front-End Developer. Receiving that offer letter felt like a turning point—not just for her, but for her entire family.

*"The pride in their eyes was unforgettable"* she said.

Reflecting on her journey, Pujitha now believes one key lesson stood out above all: You have to be your own cheerleader. There will be struggles, self-doubt, and moments of discomfort, but it's the willingness to keep going that makes the difference.

Today, Pujitha is stepping into the tech industry not just with skills, but with confidence and deep gratitude. *"Masai and the EmpowerHer Programme changed my life"* she said. *"They believed in me until I could believe in myself."*

# 59

## Lalitha Sri Boddu

📍 **Bangalore, Karnataka**

🎓 **B.Tech**

Lalitha Sri grew up in a supportive environment where her family and community encouraged her ambitions. From a young age, Lalitha was fascinated by computers and technology. Growing up, she never faced significant challenges in pursuing her dreams, thanks to her supportive parents and friends.

She embarked on her educational journey at Acharya Institute of Technology, enrolled in the Computer Science and Engineering program. Throughout her academic path, Lalitha was a diligent student, always eager to learn more about the ever-evolving world of technology, particularly web development.

In her 7th semester, Lalitha stumbled upon an exciting opportunity offered through the EmpowerHer program by Masai. This initiative focused on nurturing skills in computer science and web technology, particularly for young women aspiring to enter the tech world. Lalitha jumped at the chance and dove headfirst into the program.

During the program, Lalitha had the chance to meet and learn from knowledgeable mentors and professionals in the field. It was an enriching experience where daily assignments kept her sharp and engaged with the subject matter. Each module came with its challenges, requiring her to complete projects and evaluations. These evaluations were thorough, involving 2-3 mock tests before the final assessment, which ensured she was well-prepared.

As the program came to an end, Lalitha secured a remote role as an aptitude trainer with an EdTech company. The opportunity brought her genuine happiness, as it allowed her to combine her skills and interests in a meaningful way. Her family was proud and supportive, glad to see her find a role that she truly enjoyed.

Working remotely gave Lalitha peace of mind, and her company's supportive environment made the experience even smoother. The team took steps to ensure that she felt safe and comfortable in her new role, which meant a lot to both Lalitha and her family.

Thanks to the foundation laid by the EmpowerHer program and her unyielding passion, Lalitha thrives in her current role. Her journey serves as a testament to the power of pursuing one's passion, backed by a strong support network and an empowering educational environment. Looking ahead, Lalitha remains determined and optimistic about continuing her work in the field she loves, confident in her ability to make an impact as an aptitude trainer.

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## Pooja Gautam

📍 **Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh**

🎓 **B.Sc**

Pooja Gautam grew up in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, always curious about the world around her. She loved numbers and studied Mathematics at Christ Church College, graduating in 2023. Alongside her degree, she pursued a diploma in Computer Science from the Government Polytechnic College, which she completed in 2024.

Despite her interests, Pooja faced challenges. At her college, she often had to learn independently because the class environment wasn't the best. Teachers skipped classes, leaving students like Pooja to navigate their studies on their own. A big obstacle was not having a personal laptop until later, which made coding tough. But her summer training in her second year sparked something new. She developed a chatting app and realized her love for tech and coding.

After finishing her diploma, chance led Pooja to Masai's EmpowerHer Program. A friend shared a message in her church group about this five-month course, complete with internships, and encouraged her to explore it. Pooja knew it was a perfect fit, but her family was concerned. They worried about the financial strain and whether more study would pay off. Determined, Pooja promised to give it her all, and her family agreed to support her.

At Masai, Pooja found what she'd been looking for. She filled out the enrollment form and, for the first time, experienced the swift responses from people like Vijeetha ma'am, something she'd never encountered before in her education journey. She faced challenges like network issues, health troubles, and personal problems, but the support she received was incredible. Venu sir was patient and kind, always ready to explain things multiple times if needed. Shivani ma'am helped Pooja and others with their communication skills, boosting their confidence to speak up.

Despite setbacks, Pooja powered through her main evaluations with help from her mentors and her belief in herself. She didn't think she'd make it to placement orientation, but she did. Applying to 21 companies and getting shortlisted by 13, she found herself interviewing with companies and landing an internship.

Today, Pooja is thriving in her internship. As the youngest in her family, with two elder sisters who didn't have the same educational opportunities, Pooja is determined to support her family and honor her late father's memory. Her journey isn't just about her career, it's about changing the course for her family and proving that with the right support and determination, dreams can become realities.

Pooja extends heartfelt thanks to the entire Masai team especially Yogesh, Vijeetha ma'am, Venu sir, Shanti ma'am, and Shivani ma'am, for their roles in her transformation. Her story is one of resilience, growth, and the belief that anyone can succeed with the right guidance and opportunities.

"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."

Michelle Obama

# Faces Behind
# the Pages

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