



In the future I want to be the top student in my school.

I am Meron Diriba, a 3rd grade student, born on May 6, 2004. I live with my family at Kuriftu, near Addis Ababa. There are eight children in our family: three males and five females. My parents used to support us by working previously in the Wonji Sugar Factory as daily laborers.

Unfortunately, the factory closed and was transferred to another place, and life became very hard for our family. When my parents worked in the factory, even though the income was small and insufficient, it was at least constant. But after the factory moved, my parents spent every day in search of work. Sometimes they came back home having found nothing.

When I started school in grade 1, I realized I could do very well in my classes. But when my parents were unable to afford food and school supplies I could rarely attend school. My absence from school affected my courage and, as a result my marks in class suffered. From time to time I was even grouped with the weakest of the class students. I disliked this very much because I loved school and knew

I could rank among the top students. But the things which hindered me from using my full potential were out of my control.

Then I received a chance to join the Kuriftu Child Sponsorship Project of Save Generation Development Association. They provided me with all the school material I needed, including reference books, plus food and medication. I am now free from those past burdens and fear of the future.

Now I am able to use my full potential for my education. In addition, I can take additional classes in the summer in English and mathematics. My present school results are very good and I rank among the top students of my class. In the coming year, I plan to continue working hard so I can receive an award.