

Life is the best teacher. It shapes us through hardships, and it never fails to teach the lessons we need to learn. I was raised in a family that fought for opportunities and for a tomorrow that was uncertain. My father spent his life battling against the odds in a world where education was an afterthought, not by choice but by circumstance. He was passionate about learning and worked extremely hard for it. He went to university with no money for books, and even when society told him to give up, he kept going. He instilled in me an unwavering confidence and the understanding that knowledge is power.

I was raised on this foundation and studied as much as I could so that I would become the individual my father had struggled for. He enrolled us in the best international schools despite being told that educating daughters was a wasted investment. He battled for our education and was convinced that learning was the greatest gift he could offer to us. I took this lesson to heart early on as a child and learned English at a young age, and still today I carry this lesson with me, as I am currently learning Turkish. My father was ready to lose everything just to provide us with the support he never had. That was when I knew I could not disappoint him.

I persisted with my studies relentlessly and challenged myself to perform better. And then when the pandemic struck. Economies collapsed, businesses shut down, and families lost their sources of income. The pandemic was a wake-up call for me. I realized that financial freedom isn't guaranteed; it must be built through knowledge and planning. I was reading *Rich Dad Poor Dad* by Robert T. Kiyosaki during that period, and one sentence strongly resonated with me: "The single most powerful asset we all have is our mind. If it is trained well, it can create enormous wealth."

This revelation sparked my interest in finance. I began to see business as not just a means to make profits but as a complicated mechanism that requires effective financial planning to expand and survive. My experience in the marketing department at SA Bio Enterprise reinforced this realization. I gained a priceless understanding of branding, consumer psychology, and business strategy. I saw the essential role that finance plays in establishing long-term survival, and this experience deepened my passion for investment strategy, risk analysis, and the nuances of finance decisions.

Furthermore, working as an English teacher helped me to master the art of simplifying difficult concepts.. Meanwhile, my passion for art remained my unshakeable constant, encouraging creativity and strategic thought, both of which are priceless tools in the field of marketing. Together, these experiences intensified my love of finance and accounting and blended analytical rigor with successful problem-solving.

Beyond finance, writing is my lens to explore life. I'm working on *Azal: The Samyioon*, a dystopian novel of resilience and revolution.

I look forward to the challenges that I will face in pursuing accounting and finance at the prestigious University of Manchester. My dream is to help businesses and individuals make sound financial decisions and address the widespread problem of financial illiteracy that grips my nation.

What sets the University of Manchester apart is its program, world-class standards, innovation, and strong industrial connections. Furthermore, the university's commitment to applied learning will empower me to drive my agenda for the development of both the local and international financial sector.

Aside from my aspirations, I aim to break societal limitations. Women and girls in my nation are taught that pursuing an international education is nothing but a dream. Through my journey, I hope to inspire girls to push beyond boundaries and chase their dreams fearlessly. This is my opportunity to change my life and the lives of women back home. With the world-renowned pinnacle of brilliance of Manchester guiding me, I believe that I will make my mark in this world.