

November 27, 2019

To the Class of '55,

I want to first thank you for your donation. I have been able to travel to a country of my dreams and experience an adventure I will truly never forget.

When I first toured Cornell College, I was told about a class that traveled to India with an incredible politics professor. Once I was enrolled into Cornell, the first thing I asked my advisor about was that class. She told me all about it, explained that it would be class about gender and development, and also told me about when I could take it next. I signed up as soon as I could. Four days ago, I came home from the POL331 block abroad in Maharashtra, India.

My experience in India was empowering. The word 'empower' was a huge topic of discussion in our time together in Jamkhed, Maharashtra. We talked about the importance of empowering women in order to build and develop third world countries. I came away from the class understanding the fluidity and literal impact of words like feminism, confidence, empowerment, and strength in rural Indian villages. The value of this course is learning hands-on about the practices that are useful for the sustainability of healthcare in rural areas. All of these attributes produce well-rounded students. This course also creates students who become enthralled with sustainable service, and can apply these lessons across the board.

Everything that this block taught me I won't ever forget. More importantly, I will forever remember the importance of this travel scholarship that helped me achieve my dreams and brought me to discover the different angles of development and gender. Because of this scholarship other students, like me, will be able to discover their passions, too.

Thank you again!

Miranda Hall '22



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

Figure 1: A canyon we hiked to on our last day in Jamkhed at sunset.
Figure 2: Some preschoolers and I at Joyful Learning Preschool on CRHP's campus.
Figure 3: My peers and I on graduation day dressed in saris.
Figure 4: Overlooking Pune at sunset.