

## **Alumnus Triumphs despite Several Struggles**

The University of Fiji alumnus Ms. Komal Kavita Prasad's journey to success is one filled with obstacles.

The 23 year old, Bachelor of Commerce graduate, had a difficult childhood. She was the only child in her family and had lost her father at a very tender age.

"My childhood was a constant struggle because I came from a poor background. I was brought up by my mother who was cleaner at the University and my grandmother. My mother always dreamt of me working in a white collar job and worked tirelessly towards it," she said.

Ms. Prasad was excited to start her new life as a University student in 2014 but days before she was to start, her mother passed away. Shattered by the incident, Ms. Prasad continued with her studies despite the traumatic experience.

"I continued with my studies because I wanted to advance my mother's dream. I wanted to make her proud. In these few years, I have had many uphill battles, I have had my share of lows in life, but I strived onwards for my mother," she said.

Ms. Prasad further explained that the University gave her second chance to life. She mentioned that UniFiji was not only affordable; it offered quality education through its well qualified and helpful lecturers. She said that without such support from the University faculty and staff, it would have been much more difficult for to complete her studies.

She also thanked her grandmother, uncle and aunty who had supported her financially and motivated her throughout her journey at the University.

Ms. Prasad works for Energy Fiji Limited as a Revenue Officer and intends to pursue further studies at The University of Fiji.

Her advice to prospective students is to never give up despite the struggles they faced because there was light at the end of the tunnel.