I remember when I was a kid, my mother once gave me the responsibility to prepare the monthly budget for our home. To her –as well as mine- surprise, I realized that I had a natural knack for doing this, figuring out the various components of the budget, for example, budget for the food items and managing all the expenditures. This was my introduction to the world of economics which intensified in the next years to such an extent that it became my favorite subject. When I grew up and my views extended beyond my home, I saw the poverty and economic inequality in the country. This realization hit me more strongly when I discovered that the bright young daughter of our housemaid was unable to attend school due to her family’s economic condition. Although I did my best to not let this come in the way of her right to education, I realized that even though I taught her, there were many other girls and boys who couldn’t even avail the basic right of education due to the poverty in which they live. This was a multi-faceted and complicated problem. It gave me the resolve to understand it right from its root: economics and to do what I can to solve it.

As I began to dive deeper to know more about our country’s economic condition, I came to know that India is one of the most rapidly developing countries in the world. India’s GDP, in absolute terms, has grown from a mere Rs. 2.7 lakh crore to Rs. 57 lakh crore in 67 years of independence. However, despite all this, not all the people of the economy are benefitting from it. According to a recent report of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), India is one of the most unequal economies in Asia with a Gini coefficient of 51. This massive inequality in the distribution of wealth is one of the many reasons of social injustice, lack of education among children and other problems.

My curiosity never lets me rest and I am in constant yearning to know and learn more. I am an avid reader of news, especially the economic affairs of the world and interpreting them and relating them to the economic concepts I have learnt till now. For example, the Indian Government recently announced the demonetization of some currency notes to curb black money or unaccounted money hoarded by tax evaders. It was a very debatable topic and I discussed its various implications the very next day with my economics teacher, in school. We talked about how the credit available with the banks would increase due to increased deposits, leading to lower interest rates etc.

The knowledge of economics has also increased the desire of helping others in me. The more I learn about economic inequality, the chaos and problems caused by it, the more impatient it made me to do something apart from studying it. This was when I joined an NGO named Make a Difference (MAD) that helps underprivileged children of an Indian state, Assam. I served as a motivational speaker, encouraging children to never give up education and to be steadfast in its pursuit. Furthermore, understanding the importance of practical knowledge along with theory, I also did internships at MTS India, and J. Sagar Associates. Both the internships helped me to understand the gap between theory and practice and how it can be bridged.

I am very keen to pursue the B.Sc. Economics degree as it combines several interesting modes of learning which includes lectures, smaller-group seminars, written assignments, project reports and examinations. I aspire to pursue a M.Sc. in Economics after my under graduation because it aims at equipping the students with the main tools of a professional economist.

For a student like me, it’s hard to miss the chance to study Economics at UK, which is known for its excellence in education. The fact that many major financial institutions have their headquarters and offices in UK underlines its relevance. The opportunity to witness different cultures and experience studying in a diverse environment is yet another thing that attracts me to the country. For me, this is a huge learning opportunity at the best of places I can imagine and I hope I will get a chance to study there.