I still remember my dread during the months leading to my tenth board examinations. I felt the weight of my whole life and career pressing on me during the weeks of May 2015. I was determined to prove myself to my parents and teachers.

Tired of hearing my teachers tell parents that despite having the ability, I was not putting all my efforts in getting good grades, I had begun to loath parent-teacher meetings. Even though they never forced their expectations on me, they were always sad at the fact that I was carelessly letting myself down and was not pursuing my dreams with the required seriousness. I’ve always dreamed about being powerful enough to make an enormous impact on the world around me in some way or the other. My dreams have always morphed and shifted from imagining myself as a Lawyer to running the country as a prime minister but at the very core of my dreams, the true principle has always stayed the same and it was to be in control and conscious of myself and have the capabilities to positively influence the lives of others around me. However, I was too restless to settle on one thing and my mind constantly searched and explored different things and I wanted to try various opportunities.

However, despite all this, for the first time, I started to prepare for exams all by myself. Despite the pressure and my own restless state, I worked hard and managed to turn an E in international Maths in ninth grade to an A\* in my final exams. I always used to think that pressure can make even the toughest people cave in, but in my case, it proved to be a portal through which I was able to discover my ability of focusing on a determined goal.