

For thousands of children forced to work in South Asia's hand-made rug industry, RugMark provides an education and a better future.



KUMARI BAMJAN

“RugMark has given me the opportunity to study at this school, it has changed my life... I am studying hard and I know how important it is... to have education.”

“My name is Man Kumari Bamjan. I am 15 years old and from Deurali Village in a remote part of the Sarlai district of Nepal - about 500 km away from Kathmandu. I was 9 years old when my parents sent me to work in the rug factory with my aunt and uncle, so I could support the family as we are very poor. My parents work as agricultural labourers and can't afford for my brothers and sisters to go to school.

When I worked in the factory I was always frightened and hungry. The RugMark inspector came and found me and persuaded my uncle to send me to the RugMark centre. My life is very different now - I am in class 8 at Laboratory Higher Secondary boarding school in Kathmandu. Now I study in class, I eat well and I am never hungry. I love going to school - we study from 10am to 4pm, and after that the time is our own to play and study. Sometimes I go the zoo, or go swimming, or for a picnic with my friends, it is wonderful.

RugMark has given me the opportunity to study at this school. In the future I want to be a good social worker and earn enough money to send my siblings to school.”

Man Kumari Bamjan Age15 - Former rescued child now attending high school.