

ENGLISH

REACH FOR THE TOP

~Summary~

PART- I

Santosh Yadav

Santosh's Early Life

Santosh was born in a small village named Joniyawas of Rewari district in Haryana. In her village, birth of a girl child was not welcomed. Before her birth, a 'holy man' was about to give her mother the blessing of a son but her grandmother insisted that they wanted a daughter. Santosh is the only sister to her five brothers. Her family named her 'Santosh' as it means contentment which shows their happiness on her birth.

Santosh was not like the other village girls in her childhood. She wore shorts while other girls in her village wore traditional Indian dresses. At sixteen, most of the girls in her village used to get married, but she refused to get married and wanted to study.

Santosh's Education

Despite being rich, her parents sent her to the village school. She decided to fight the system so she enrolled herself in a school in Delhi against her parents' wishes. She went to Jaipur for higher studies after completing her schooling.

Santosh's Dream of Mountaineering

As Santosh's hostel room in Jaipur faced the Aravalli Hills, she used to watch people climbing the hill. She got curious and went to meet the mountaineers one day. She asked them if she could join them. They agreed and encouraged her to take mountaineering. She enrolled herself in a course at Uttarkashi's Nehru Institute of Mountaineering and then she didn't look back. She informed her parents about this and apologised to them for taking admission without their permission.

Santosh as Remarkable Climber

Santosh went for an expedition every year and developed a remarkable resistance to cold and the altitude. Her determination and strong will power helped her a lot. She had physical stamina and mental toughness which were most necessary for climbing.

Santosh's Dream Comes True

Conquering Mt Everest is a dream that every climber wishes to fulfil. Santosh achieved this success in 1992 when she was only 20 years old. She became the youngest woman in the world to climb Mt Everest. Within a year, she scaled Mt Everest again and became the only woman mountaineer in the world to climb Mt Everest twice. She also saved the life of Mohan Singh who was her fellow climber.

Santosh as True Environmentalist

Santosh shares her feeling of hoisting the national flag on the top of the world. She says that unfurling Indian tricolour on the Everest was a proud, spiritual and undescribable moment for her. She collected and brought down 500 kilograms of garbage from the Himalayas.

Honour by the Indian Government Santosh Yadav was honoured with one of the top awards, the Padmashri in recognition of her achievements, by the Government of India.

PART- II**Maria Sharapova**

Maria Sharapova Attains Top Position in World Tennis

Maria Sharapova, a teen sensation, attained the number one position in world women's tennis on 22nd August, 2005. She took only four years to achieve her dream. The journey actually started nine years ago when she was sent to America for her formal training.

Maria's Training in America

Maria was born in Siberia, Russia but Maria's father Yuri took her to America for training as a tennis professional. She was separated from her mother for almost two years when she was not even 10 years old. Her father earned as much as he could to keep her tennis training going.

Maria's Tough Times Make her Strong

Maria felt lonely and missed her mother badly. The other athletes made her to tidy up the room and clean it. The tough time made her strong and determined. She also learnt how to take care of herself. Her motto was to work hard to fulfil her desires.

Maria as a True Patriot

Maria lives in America but she still calls herself a Russian. However, the United States is a big part of her life but at heart, she is a Russian. She dreams of playing Olympics for Russia if they allow her to play. It clearly shows that she is a true patriot.

Hobbies and Interests of Maria

Maria's hobbies are singing and dancing. She reads Arthur Conan Doyle's novels. She has a great sense of fashion. She is fond of pancakes with chocolate and orange drinks.

She finds money as motivation but she dreams to become number one in the world and this dream keeps her going.

Conclusion of Reach for the Top

In the chapter – Reach for the Top, students learn from two inspiring women that due diligence, dedication and hard work always pays off and reaps us a fruitful outcome. This chapter serves as an encouragement for students to take note that if they find some motivation to pursue their dreams, they should make the best use of it in order to walk the path of success.