

Age is not a barrier to obtain education: Bibi



*Janifa Bibi (left)
with her mum Nassar Bibi.*

“It is never too late to achieve your academic goals as age should never be an excuse to pull you back,” said Fiji National University (FNU) graduate Janifa Bibi.

After being in the workforce for nearly thirty years, Bibi embarked on a journey last year to upgrade her qualifications.

After one year of hard work and perseverance, the 52-year-old was overwhelmed when she received her Diploma of Human Resource Management.

Bibi, who studies at FNU’s National Training Productivity Centre (NTPC), said like other working students, she had to juggle work, studies and her personal commitments.

“It was a difficult and hectic journey for me as I have a full-time job and I also have my youngest daughter to look after,” said Bibi.

“Coming back to an institute like FNU after many years to study was a life changing experience for me as it taught me that no matter how old you get, education has no age.”

The mother of four proudly acknowledged her three daughters for their support in filling in the vacuum when she was busy with her assignments and work.

“My daughters really encouraged me to pursue my studies and took over my responsibilities allowing me to feel relaxed when I went for my afternoon classes.

Bibi who is a Human Resources Officer at Fiji Ports Terminal acknowledged her supervisor Hasthika Dela for encouraging her to pursue further studies at FNU.

“My employer, Fiji Ports Terminal was really supportive towards my education and I really appreciate the support provided to me by my supervisors. They also sponsored my studies.”

“The diploma course at FNU was really helpful as it felt like I am doing theory work in class while my practical work was being done at work on a daily basis”

As a human resources officer, Bibi is responsible for preparing payroll, arranging and attending training sessions, hiring and interviewing new staff and counselling workers with discipline issues relating to work ethics.

Bibi plans to further her education through the Fiji National University.