Everyone wants to achieve their goals, although some goals are bigger than others. For some achieving their goals is harder and reality is that 98% of people do not achieve them1, as they take up a lot of time and some do not have the opportunities.

Imagine a boy in a small village in rural Uzbekistan. He has a brother and a sister, his father works as an electrician and his mother looks after the children. This boy dreams of being a teacher but has less opportunities than most in achieving his dreams. If his dreams were not achieved then, he would probably stay in the village and work as an electrician, like his father. No opportunities, no chances to break this circle. Sounds hard, right?

So, he decided to change his future for the best and started to work hard to achieve his dreams. He left Uzbekistan aged 16 for a bigger city, where he worked in the afternoon and studied in the evening and he soon attended a university. He had to work multiple jobs so he skipped a lot of lessons and was expelled and had to join the army, where he stayed for two years. It was during that time that he realised that to achieve his dreams he needed to study and get into a university. He was preparing for his entrance exams whilst in the army, and was accepted by Moscow State University. There he studied for 5 years and after was offered a job, teaching economics. He broke the circle but wanted to achieve more. He studied more and worked harder and was awarded with a PhD in economics and became the Head of Insurance department at the University. Teaching was his life and he wanted to be the best he could be so he studied even more and worked even harder to achieve his ultimate milestone - a Post Doctorate degree in Economics. All of these fantastic achievements have lead him to where he is today. For him «the hard part was probably studying for the entrance exams while being in the army but the hardest was to not give up my dreams»

This was Rustem Yuldashev, my grandfather.

I wanted to address this issue because I think that it is unfair that some people get better opportunities than others due to factors such as their wealth. In my opinion, this is unfair because it means that people who do not have as many opportunities would have to work harder to achieve their dreams. The reason I chose my grandfather for this interview was because I think that his story was very inspiring and proves that if you try your hardest, you can still achieve anything you want, even if you do not come from the most privileged background. My last question for Rustem was “ What is your advice for people who feel like their dreams are impossible?”

 “Re-define your impossible.”

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1 <https://www.wealthresearchgroup.com>