

2020 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Youth Category – Honorable Mention]

One Planet The Earth, One Family Mankind

(Original)

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Dear Purva in 2020,

As the sun is setting for another good morning tomorrow, I am sitting next to a bonfire in the lap of the mighty Himalayas and writing you this letter in 2030, a decade ahead from you. I invite you look at me from 2020 with a telescope, you will see how small I look in front of nature, egoless. Birds are flying below me, clouds above and the stars shooting over my shoulder look like a film set. There is serenity in the winds as they sing hymns to mankind about a being one family. In between trysts of global partnerships for development, the world has united to the awakening of the human race as we conquer higher consciousness and rise above our differences, prejudices, egos, and stereotypes.

Look there below! See those twinkling lights of the cities? They are all environmentally sustainable safe places for animals, plants and humans alike. We co-exist with nature and practice world peace. We have rejected societal inequalities and progressed together towards innovation that has helped us battle climate change. Feel the warmth from this bonfire? The love in our hearts is warmer. Good health and well-being envelop our minds and bodies as we connect based on love not wars. Prosperity is not a competition amongst nations, families or individuals. We promote prosperity while protecting the planet. Rising above greed and selfishness, nature has reminded us to share resources with each other and no child today sleeps hungry or is poor. Look there below! See the river gushing down the hills? Education has empowered societies and we have found solutions to clean water and sanitation. Clean and affordable energy powers our infrastructures and industries. The life on land is as beautiful and protected as the world below water. Looking beyond diversity, we respect each other's cultures, learn from it and blend some takeaways to evolve as a global culture of peace and love. It is a beautiful world and I am lucky to see it from this height of the Himalayas.

You must be wondering what I am doing on the mighty Himalayas? Well, I am shooting a film for a world peace foundation. I am here with a bunch of friends from various countries, together climbing the Mount Everest. This climb is a celebration of a mission completed. The journey has been a decade long, and our relentless efforts are very sweet for us to reap. On this journey I was often asked which nationality I am...and before I say I am Indian, I say- "I am a Global Citizen". This is exactly what my film is about. We complete the film tomorrow morning as we reach the summit of the highest mountain in the world. We, the global citizens of the world, reach there to fly and celebrate the flag of Mankind & Planet Earth.

You might think this is a dream, but I would like to guide you towards it being a reality. All I can say is spread the message of 'one planet the earth and one family mankind' and see how our love can heal the world and make it a better place in less than a decade. We don't need a Mandela, Buddha or Gandhi to change the world, all we need is to listen to our own inner voice and align ourselves to spiritual purity and contentment. We have the power within us to overcome all obstacles outside us. Remember to keep gratitude for the life we have and celebrate it in tune with the universe and nature. So, why be late? Start your journey to the mountain of world peace and solidarity, I promise you it feels great. After all, the letter in your hands is your invitation and enlightenment.

Sending positively charged magnetic vibes,
Purva Aggarwal (2030)