

2022 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Children's Category – Honorable Mention]

## **My Values?**

(Original)

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As a ten years old boy, my values are derived from my parents' upbringing and my faith, Islam. I see the world through my parents' teachings. They taught me about honesty, respect, kindness, forgiveness, love and how to read, write and how to count.

My parents are amazing. They are kind, humble and understanding. Both my parents are educated and open-minded.

Both my parents and grandparents have high morals. At a very young age my parents taught me about honesty. It is hard to tell the truth especially when you are in the wrong. I should be responsible for my actions and not blame others. I should not take sides of a conflict but find solutions. When I forget to do my homework, I cannot create stories but to be honest to my teachers. Once I lie, my reputation will be marked as a liar. My parents trust me to do my homework without any reminders. The choice is mine to make whether to do homework or play video games online. I always choose to be honest with my education. Once my mother accidentally threw my dad's important documents. She could have lied to my father but she chose to be honest. I watched and learnt. Honesty is one of my core values.

My grandparents are sixty years old. They are weak and fragile. I always see my parents respecting them. All decisions are consulted through them. I have never seen my parents being rude with my grandparents, even when my grandparents are in the wrong. I was taught to respect everyone. I should not misbehave with my maid, friends, teachers and relatives. Once I was so angry at losing a cycle race with my friends and I pushed my friends. I was grounded by my parents. I was not allowed to play with anyone. I realised that I cannot race by myself. I need my friends. A lesson was well learnt. Respect is now

one of my core values.

Kindness makes everyone happy. We should be kind to everyone. In my faith, we were taught "*We feed you only for God's sake; we desire from you neither recompense nor thanks*". We should not expect anything from being kind. I should always find an opportunity to be kind to someone. I always see my father helping my mother in cleaning the house and cooking. When my mother is sick, my dad will take care of my family. I am very proud of my father. One of my father's colleagues does not have a car so my father offers him a ride to work for free. He is always there to offer help without hesitation. I learnt to help others beside my family. Kindness spreads happiness and positivity. Kindness is one of my core values.

My faith is one of core values. It teaches me how to be a human. I have to pray five times a day on time. This teaches me to be punctual. I need to read the Quran every day. It teaches me to gain knowledge that will benefit me and the society. I have to fast for thirty days in a year. It teaches me the values of food and water. I have to pray with everyone in the mosque. There is no special place for kings in mosques. I can stand in the same row with the king and pray. It teaches there is no racism. In my faith, those who embraced my faith are ambassadors of faith. It teaches me to respect everyone. My faith teaches me to be kind.

These are the values that I carry every day.