

2022 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Youth Category – Honorable Mention]

## **MY VALUES**

(Original)

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Each and everyone's belief about what is right and important in life, is what directs their chain of thought and ultimately their deeds, which shape the society that we live in. Personally, I treasure the values of responsibility, integrity, discipline, resilience and cooperation.

Responsibility is a key principle that I practice. I always strive to be accountable for all I do, be it house chores, school work or even communal duties. Responsibility gives rise to competence. I try my level best to do my best in all tasks on my shoulders. I believe that one should give their all in anything they attempt and do it to utmost perfection. They should also not wait for authorization in order to do something; it should come from within. In practicing responsibility, I hope to create a society of go-getters and self-driven members who are ready to break any barriers and build society. Most importantly, a society where the Kenyan youth in particular, do not wait for job opportunities but create them.

Integrity is another core value I emphasize on. It has made me trustworthy and reliable. It brings about a corruption-free society which is an ideal building block of a sustainable economy. If Kenyans uphold integrity, prices of food commodities will not be hiked to the advantage of self-absorbed politicians nor shall we have uneducated people in the society because bursary funds have been embezzled. It is my ardent hope that I one day become president of Kenya and sweep out corruption from the system. It is my dream that a common citizen enters a public institution and services rendered to them, without being forced to give any bribe. In doing so, the society will be fair and just.

Furthermore, discipline is a fundamental value that has to be ingrained in our lives. Discipline is the ability to control one's own body, mind and behavior. I best live a

disciplined life by strictly following all rules at home, school and other institutions. I also practice discipline by adhering to my revision timetable and proper dietary habits. By disciplining ourselves, we will form a morally upright society which cannot be swayed by anything whatsoever. It therefore creates conducive environment for bringing up children who will tomorrow reflect today's society.

In addition, I unceasingly uphold resilience. I usually term it as the ability to 'bounce back' after an unpleasant situation. Life is never a smooth stretch. It always has its ups and downs. Undoubtedly, I have had many disappointments in life but my resilient attitude is what has kept me going. I always collect the broken pieces, put them together and try again and again. Even if I encounter more setbacks, I never give up. It helps me improve continuously in all aspects. If the community embraces this mindset, it will be failure-resistant. Companies will no longer close down due to some few financial constraints. The society will be aggressive and will birth a resilient economy, which cannot be affected by even the worst pandemics which are now beginning to crop up.

Moreover, co-operation is an important value I cherish. Co-operation is the ability to work together to a common purpose. I advocate for teamwork among my peers and in my immediate community. Brotherhood enables society to harness mutual understanding. A united society will be born once we uphold solidarity. It will not only enhance social harmony in Kenya—a forty-four-tribe nation but also among all religions and races all over the world. We shall be united and focused on important issues pertaining development. A society that endears brotherhood will no longer be incited to politicians to tribal clashes or civil wars. Oneness will revive the 'Harambee' spirit which is deeply rooted in the traditional African spirit of co-operation.

I believe that these dear values I have shared above will make the world a better place. A world where peace and progress are a norm. A world where everybody knows that remaining true to their values and virtues makes a positive difference.