

SUSTAINABILITY:

MESSAGES FROM THE NEXT GENERATION



This book has quotes from young people from The Lebanon, England, Sri Lanka and Malaysia. They talked about sustainability and principles; wrote and drew their answers and developed advice for leaders. Here are their messages.

This book is free. The young people would like you to make a contribution to a charity of your choice. Their own preferences are charities for children and young people with cancer, and <http://www.sarvodaya.org>

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THE IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABILITY

To live

To live

Is to love

To make this world a better place

To reach the top of the mountain

To get the star in the sky

To feel free and fly

To make your family proud

To hold on

And go on

'Cause there is nothing stopping you yet to be what you want

To make your dreams come true

'Cause if you believe in faith
Everything could happen in one shout
To feel the passion inside
To find that one person you could trust
'Cause to live
Is to stay
To believe in yourself



The developed world continues to prosper while the crisis of the developing one seems to have no end. One example is extra poverty. There is surplus and extreme wastage in medicines and HIV AID. Illiteracy and famine

sustainable leadership, we can help create a better world for our future generation that grows and blooms like a tree.



Our future is a world where both the environment and technology have their place; a world where the sun rises and sets on people joining hands and working together to create a better tomorrow.

!!!!JOIN HANDS FOR THE FUTURE!!!





This picture shows a butterfly with such contrasting ideas (namely the rich and poor) that they are literally out of the world. What we need to do is make sure that this butterfly lands on the Planet Earth. The significance of the butterfly landing on the Earth is that when a butterfly lands, it does so with its wings together.



Sustainability is the ability to keep a stable, safe and working environment. For example, the sustainability of the earth is based on how we look after it and the population etc.

Why is it important? Because in order to have a working environment it must be safe and stable – you can't live in comfort if you don't know whether things will dramatically change any minute.





Sustainability is important so the younger generation and the generation after can have a brighter future

If it is all about you, it is a shallow existence. One day it will all catch up with you. It won't do you or any one any good.

What is sustainability? The clue is in the word. It is about sustaining the world for future generations and the good that is intrinsic in the world; because the world is worth it.

People should stop being lazy. Most of the time they do not take a bath and use deodorant and this damages the ozone layer.

Sustainability need not be a cause just promoted by leaders like Gandhi. The teacher who accepts the responsibility of teaching students and treating them equally paves the way for a sustainable future. All children, regardless of

class or nationality, can acquire education and improve their lives and thereby their communities



Our world is being handed to the next generation along with the benefits and disadvantages of the choice to either live sustainably or not. Three symbols represent factors of a balanced world: people, planet and profit, all of which should be passed down.



Sustainability is becoming a self-centred person and creating a unique individuality (as a good human being) when living in society.



Sustainability is useful to for the future generation. Ancient history can then be known to the next generation.



Sustainability is carrying out things constantly with clear vision so it will exist.



For the continuity of the human race, virtues, customs & morals are more important than food. To be a whole person you should have these qualities. If a person is forced to offend, there's no turning back.



I have to be satisfied first and then see to the need of others; especially poor and needy people.



Sustainability is for a greater future; for a better world with peace,
To live in society, for the benefit of the future, to achieve OUR future goals,
To serve people while being transparent.



EQUALITY

The world is full of people of different races, cultures, religions and views. If we are not able to treat everyone EQUALLY we would not be able to get past our differences and work together. We would not be able to take care of the wider world for future generations.



It is a shame to think that right now, in the twenty first century even with all this development and everything we have achieved, we still aren't treating each other as equals. To think that in most parts of the world women are oppressed, people of different races and religions are fighting for equal rights. This is uncivilised.



Equality is about providing the chance for everyone to voice their opinion, giving them confidence. Without this, where would leaders be?

Martin Luther King - He started a great movement. Let's continue.



THE PRINCIPLES

Self-Care and Self-Control

We are willing to reduce, share or give up personal pleasures and comfort and personal wealth for the benefit of the community, country and the world.

We are less selfish and more selfless, thinking of others and wanting to save the planet.



Integrity

All our actions are transparent and accountable and linked positively to our value base. Truthfulness and sincerity is vital.



Patience

We are patient, gentle, approachable, sympathetic and kind. All actions promote peace and non-violence. We use our powers wisely. We do not harass or bully others.



Freedom of Heart and Mind

We love and respect self, one another and the environment. We listen with an open mind and heart. We work and listen to everybody. All of our actions reflect this totality.



Courage and Fearlessness

We are prepared to act and step into the unknown. We move into free-fall, act bravely and let our values steer us on the true path. We are confident enough to take positive risks.



Working for Future Generations

Our actions take into account the need to repair the damage that has been done to the world and aim to prevent further harm. We work towards leaving a more peaceful, conflict free world where we are all equal.



Productive Living and Working

We work and live efficiently and effectively within these dimensions, making wise use of available resources.

If a person wants to change the world, he/she must be willing to start with themselves. People should learn that good things don't come all at once and they should be willing to wait until the fruits of our labour ripen. These principles teach people to learn to be free. This basically means that they believe in themselves and summon the courage to make a difference.



If you don't follow them (the principles of patience, freedom of heart and courage) you don't give people the respect and opportunities they deserve, things also remain stagnant and don't productively change and develop. For example if you're in a group of people and you're leading the group: If you're not patient and constantly get angry with everyone for not understanding or cooperating they will retaliate by not trying or getting impatient themselves, the result is no work getting done and everyone ending up in a bad mood.

If you have a closed mind, like in the theory of 'groupthink' by Irving Janis – only one opinion will be agreed on and this may not be the best possible opinion or solution so others are just discounted. If you have no courage in a situation then no one will grow or develop as they will follow your example and courage is a positive characteristic – if you can't take risks you'll never see other ideas or things that could help improve your idea or your ability to communicate and learn.



SELF-CARE AND SELF-CONTROL

Self-care and control is important because in order to create a better world for everybody else, people should start with taking care of themselves and looking at the type of person he/she like Michael Jackson sang, ' If you wanna make the world a better place, take a look at yourself and make that change.'

It is important to nourish body and mind before you worry about the world. Self-care and self-control are important characteristics in order for a sustainable world. Unfortunately the world now has too many players caring for their self-interest before others. Self-interest drives business and entrepreneurs who in turn drive the leaders of the world who currently have the power to shape the future world. Future leaders should practice self-control more and perhaps remain true to their motives. Then everybody starts off good. Power and money corrupts.

With leadership comes power and with power comes greed. Self-control ensures that this does not happen. Self-care centres your mind to live with caution of yourself and others –without the external control of emotions such as anger etc.



INTEGRITY

If leaders of countries don't practice what they preach and remember the lessons they learned as a child about honesty and being fair, sustainable leadership won't exist.

Integrity ensures that hypocrisy does not cross with what you preach. Through honesty remain true to yourself.



PATIENCE

Patience.

• Patience is very important in our life because it will stop problems from occurring. For example, if a person is teasing on his friend, and his friend is patient he will be calm and not make a problem. So we should always be patient to prevent violence and make life easier.



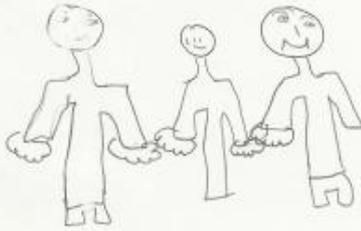
No Patience.

• Life without patience in my opinion will be a complete distraction. For example: if any person you know is trying to get on your nerves, if you listened and hit him or started a problem it will lead to a big problem. So that is why being patient is very important. And without patience everything will turn out horrible, and life will be harder.

Patience allows people to learn through their mistakes. Humans aren't perfect.

Patience – because in order to hear others and enable them to understand and learn just as you did. You need patience because you need to give them the respect and time they deserve.

Patience is important so that we ~~can~~ prevent problems, achieve our goals, stay in the right direction, ~~and~~ In addition it increases the peace in the community.



FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

It is important to care about people and the environment. We owe it to future generations to let them live in a good sustainable world.

Taking care of the wider world for future generations.

We should take in consideration every single action we take as every single action will effect our world in a positive way or in a negative, that's why we should think 1 step ahead to benefit our grand children.



Say No to plastic! yes to paper!

Absence of the Dimension

Disasters, pollution, No Benefits, selfish, are a few of the perils that we will face, if we don't widen our thinking and start to take into consideration the future our next generations will suffer heavily.

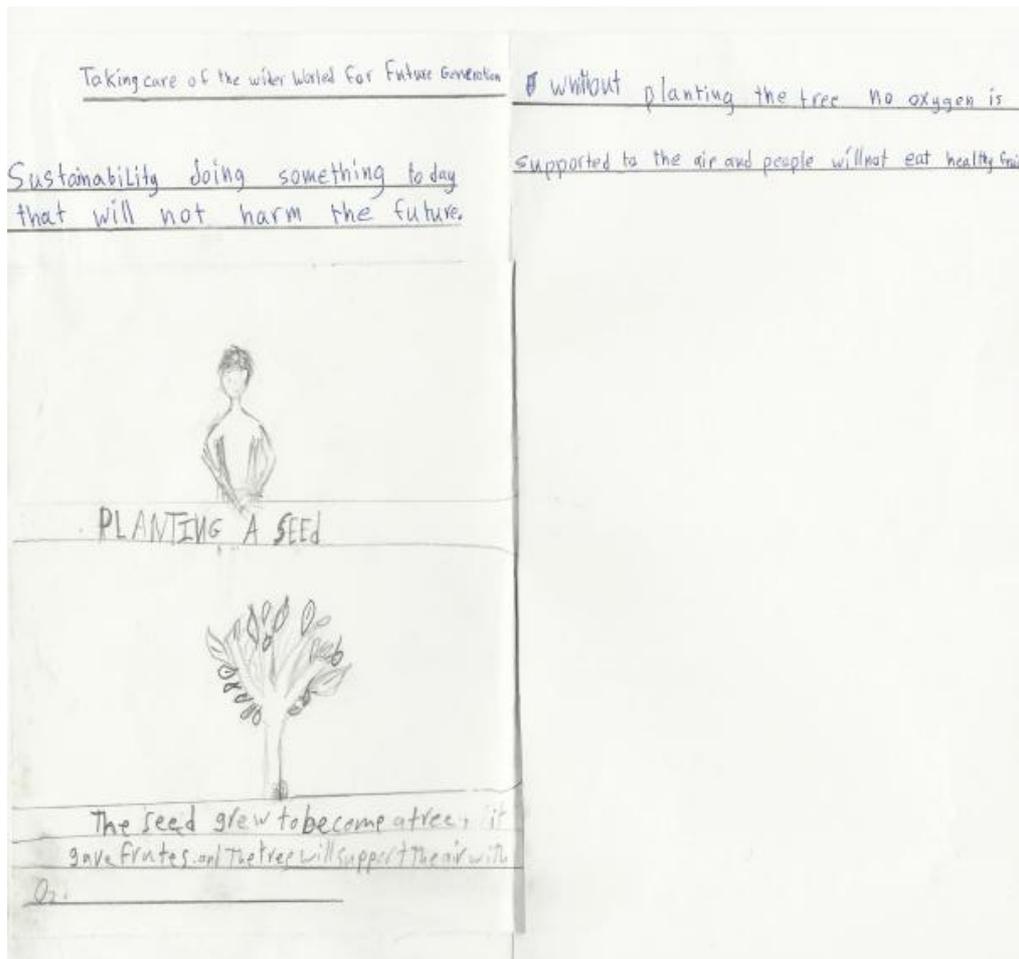
Abort all negative problems and have practical solutions to help our future generations prosper.

Kifah Sultan
Ali Haddaj
Ali Darwish
Ahmad Majed
Mohammad Awad

Taking care of the Wider World for future Generation.



When the trees are cut the air will get more polluted, and people will have many disease and is cause to death.



COURAGE

Risk taking is a large part of our lives. Without these risks, the world would not have become what it is.

Change can only be brought about by courage. If you fear to fall, you will never rise.

Courage is important for us to be able to respect ourselves and everyone around us. We need to have courage to stand up for who we are and what we believe in. Courage is the building block of equality starting from miniscule things like in our school to our country.

To take new risks and find strength and teach others strength you must have inner courage, the ability to go for things you may not be comfortable with, that's how you grow as well.

Courage can be seen in times of hardship when people are united to help each other.



PRODUCTIVE LIVING AND WORKING

Live like there is no tomorrow –that way everything is done.



FREEDOM OF HEART AND MIND

The greatest quality humans need to adopt, if we plan to be sustainable, is freedom of heart and mind. As long as we remain within the cages of our prejudice and our unwillingness to accept the unique, or what we find different, problems of racism, communal rife, exploitation of the weak etc will continue.

This is what is preventing us from coming to agree upon a global conscience for the betterment of the world. Sustainability can only be achieved if we learn to accept each other for our individual character instead of criteria such as nationality, social status, caste and sexual orientation etc...

A closed mind doesn't help or solve anything. The ability to listen and accept many different situations and opinions is important and only helps things develop and grow. Having a closed heart and mind prevents anything from growing positively.

Freedom of heart and mind is important to make a full man. If one does not have this freedom then one is indeed unable to express himself clearly. He will only be captivated by the essence of his own heart and thus this will affect his ability to express his views on a particular subject. This particular person might add to even solving a major problem in the world, if he expressed rather than keeping to himself.

We see it in public speaking at debates and elections and in family. These people express their views because they have the peace of mind. I express my views clearly in spite of what situation it is but I do so in a reasonable and mannerly way.

Your choices should be your own when your mind is open. You can explore a variety of options which will be a vehicle to break boundaries.

Only when you are free internally will you be free externally.

Think for yourself and don't let others influence your decision. It's your choice to make. Keep an open mind.



WHAT SHOULD LEADERS DO?

I think I should just constantly remain more aware of myself in everything I do, in social situations. I need to give others more of a turn to hear everyone's opinions because we all learn off each other. Many of our experiences may be the same but there are so many that are different.

I go to an international school; everyone's from a different country and society – we're all able to learn and feed off each other so patience and the rest of the dimensions are important to remember.

Leaders and decision makers should continue to open their minds and hearts and perhaps change their institutional way of teaching and thinking; hearing other opinions from many different sources is important.

We should go in parallel with Nature.

The leader should first think and act by the principles first and set an example for others. Think of the people who believe the principles.

To be frank, I think our leaders should show all these characteristics. Most of our current leaders are people who don't deserve it. They should be stripped of their privileges. Our leaders should promote good will and unity and the usage of renewable resources.

Integrity –an effective leader should keep up with her/his promises because people respect a leader through trust.

Don't make promises you can't keep. And think well before you say anything that will raise false hopes amongst those you lead.

Where do I see the principles in everyday life? Nowhere.

Leaders should give us conditions in which we can become better people.

Decision makers should make decisions that benefit everyone not just themselves.



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