

BRAIN CABINGS





In Celebration of the 115th National Day

An Initiative of Samtse College of Education and Samtse Dzongkhag

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No matter what task you are assigned with or whatever responsibilities that you need to shoulder, give it your best! No matter how trivial or inessential that task seems as long as it has been assigned to you, you need to carry it out with due diligence and give it a 100%.

- Druk Gyalpo Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck

FOREWARD

It has been a delightful experience to be a part of this pioneering initiative undertaken by Samtse College of Education and the Education sector of Samtse Dzongkhag. The publication of this second issue of our annual publication, Brainwaves: Creative Callings is the product of this collaborative effort resulting in the compilation of creative entries contributed by aspiring young writers from various schools under Samtse Dzongkhag. This initiative was conceived to provide a platform for the students, teachers and other officer-goers of Samtse Dzongkhag to not only showcase their creative ideas within the genre of their choice but also to express their love and gratitude towards our Beloved Kings and nation in general.

This year's publication themed, "Our Future, Our Responsibility" is in commemoration of the 115th National Day Celebration, an auspicious occasion to get glimpses of the reflections of the citizens of Samtse Dzongkhag as they dwell on the different roles and responsibilities that they would like to take up in the future. It is a heartwarming and fulfilling experience to go through the sublime thoughts of our students put down in eloquent language. As a reader, one can sense the positivity, hope, love, gratitude and a sense of pride in being a Bhutanese expressed in all its innocence.

I am hopeful that the main aim of this open competition to 'instil a sense of patriotic duty towards nation building and citizens' responsibility in the promotion of a sovereign and prosperous nation' has been achieved with active participation by calling upon all the schools and public to participate in this creative writing competition.

I would like to congratulate those of you whose writings have been selected for this e-publication and extend my deepest appreciation to all those who took part in the Competition. I remain hopeful that this endeavour would help motivate and encourage our students to develop their sense of creativity and hone their writing skills. I look forward to seeing active participation from all agencies in helping us carry forth this unique initiative as a part of the National Day Celebration in Samtse Dzongkhag year after year.



Passang Dorji Dzongda Samtse Dzongkhag FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Samtse College of Education in collaboration with Samtse Dzongkhag Education Sector is pleased to release the second

issue of BRAINWAVES: CREATIVE CALLINGS, which is a result of a partnership initiated in 2021 to commemorate the National

Day Celebration in Samtse Dzongkhag. Aligned with the current restructuring and transformation of the civil service and

education reform in the country, the Creative Writing Open Competition for 2022 has been organised on the theme "Our

Future, Our Responsibility".

This initiative was conceived with an objective to provide a platform for young school students, our future leaders and

custodians of the country to unleash and unlock their creative writing potentials and pay tributes to our benevolent Kings

for their selfless leadership inspired by the Bodhisattva wisdom and compassion. In 2021, the participation was limited to

school students under Samtse Dzongkhag and the students of Samtse College of Education. For 2022, we have created an

open category for adults extending the opportunity for participation to civil servants, corporate employees and commu-

nity members in Samtse, and have also added a video essay as a new genre of creative expression. We hope that such op-

portunities to engage in creative compositions to commemorate and celebrate occasions such as a National Day will leave

behind an indelible legacy that can be cherished and treasured beyond the 115th National Day Celebration.

In an age when young Bhutanese are increasingly dissuaded, distracted, and influenced by foreign cultures and lifestyles,

such opportunities and platforms to harness and celebrate their creative intellect and imaginative potentials can help

them to be more mindful and aware of the values and significance of such national events thus instilling a deep sense of

nationalism and loyalty to the King, Country, and People. We are also hopeful that this kind of initiative would help foster a

sense of ownership in the celebration of special national events such as a National Day. The feelings of positivity and opti-

mism; responsibility and accountability; commitment and determination to pave a future that is better, secure, and safer,

articulated quite eloquently by the young budding writers are very reassuring and heartwarming.

From a total of 34 schools in Samtse Dzongkhag and the open category participation open to college students, civil ser-

vants, corporate employees and community members, the competition saw a total of 18 video essay entries, 376 entries in

English, and 38 entries in Dzongkha. Samtse College of Education would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dasho Dz-

ongda for his patronage, Samtse Dzongkhag Education Sector officials and School Principals for their support in the overall

coordination of this initiative, and our most valuable writers – the school students for their participation.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of the publication. Happy 115 National Day!

Rinchen Dorji, PhD

President

Samtse College of Education



श्र-श्र-राष्ट्री तया व सिन्।

र्वातः नः भ्रुद्धेन्यः स्वितः क्षेत्रः व्यव्याः स्वत्रः स्वत्रः स्वत्रः स्वत्रः स्वत्रः स्वत्रः स्वत्रः स्वत्र वाह्यः क्षेत्रः स्वत्रः स्वतः स्व

वःगर्लेबः-द्यरुषः कुं ग्रीयः त्यावः सुनः तदी। । स्रीयः नेवः प्रेयः प्रेयः प्रेयः प्रेयः प्रेयः प्रयः । स्रीयः प्रेयः प्रेयः प्रयः । मिल्रः प्राप्ते ग्रीयः प्रयः प्रयः । मिल्रः प्राप्ते ग्रीयः प्रयः प्रयः । ।

मुत्यायनः मर्डन्स्युग्यसः र्घेम् त्युः चत्रमा ते स्था ।

स्टम्मे : ख्रेग्यः स्थ्रेग्यः मा : स्ट्रेन् : या चर्मे : चर्मा : स्या : स्या

क्यरायकाः भ्रमाः भ्रेष्ट्रमाः भ्रेष्ट्रमाः भ्रम्याः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ्रमाः भ् भ्रमाः स्वारं स्

ब्रेंब यथ कें द्र पर पर दें ग्रथ पर अप द्र ग्रय किया थय छोत्र। विवेद स्त्र क्ष्म होत्य मुद्र कें प्रयोध स्त्र कें प्रयोध स्तर्भ प्रयोध स्त्र कें प्रयोध स्त्र स्त्र कें प्रयोध स्त्र स्

र्भें वे

- ३वःडेनाःसऽसःर्रमसःमर्विदःयाः । मयदःडेनाःसऽसःर्रमसःमर्विदःयाः । सःद्रयतःस्वःत्वःत्वःमाःयतःक्तः। । सःग्रेवःक्षयः व्वःग्रेःम्बरःनव्यःखेदाः । सःग्रेवःक्षयः व्वःग्रेःम्बरःनव्यःखेदाः । र्षेदःक्षेत्रःम्बरःव्वःग्रेःम्बरःव्यःवेःव्यः। । र्षेदःक्षेत्रःक्षेत्रसःक्ष्यःम्बरःखेदसःश्चें। । र्षेदःक्षेत्रःक्षेत्रसःक्षेत्रसःभेवः
- स्रवायम्य स्रीत्र स्र

- र्खें ५ 'र्दे ब' खेब 'र्रे 'र्दु 'य-४ 'र्क्षे ४ 'य ५ ५ ५ १ । त्य ५ व्य 'यद्ये 'व्य मा 'अथ 'अ 'यद्दे 'मी था । क्षे 'य मा थ 'र्मे 'गा 'र्क्के ५ 'य में 'खे 'त्य दे । । र्खे ५ 'र्पे ब 'रु ब 'खाय थ 'यद्ये 'ह मा थ 'खेब 'बा ।
- हैं रु.हैं रु.बेर्-श्रें तरि। । मान्यायम्यायम्यायदेन र्मा । यम् रुनायम्यायस्य स्त्रें न्द्री । रुन्-ग्रें न्यायम्य स्त्रें न्यायम्य स्त्रें न्यायम्य स्त्रें । । रुन्-ग्रें न्यायम्य स्त्रें न्यायम्य स्त्रें न्यायम्य स्त्रें ।
- विद्यस्यायः हॅन्यायः द्वंत्यं व्हंत्। रें. पड्ट्राय्यं व्ययः यदेः द्वयः व्यवः यद्याः । विद्यस्यः हॅन्यायः यदेः द्वयः व्यवः व्यवः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः यदेः द्वयः व्यायः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः यदेः व्ययः व्यवः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः यदेः व्ययः व्यायः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः यदेः व्ययः व्यवः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः यदे व्ययः व्यवः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः यदे व्यवः व्यवः विद्याः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः व्यवः व्यवः विद्याः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः व्यवः विद्याः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः व्यवः विद्याः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः । विद्यस्यः हें न्यायः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः । विद्यस्यः विद्यस्यः विद्यस्य विद्याः विद्यस्य विद्यस्य । विद्यस्यः विद्यस्य विद्यस्य विद्यस्य विद्यस्य विद्यस्य । विद्यस्य । विद्यस्य विद्यस्य
- धुः नक्षः नदिः स्त्रेश्वः योग्यायः पदः त्वः । व्रदः अर्वे : नदेः स्त्रेगः पः यावयः पयः रेवः । व्रद्ययः रेवः : ययः व्यवः पदः रेवः व्यदे। । द्यवः स्वरं : ययः व्यवः यवः व्यवः । । द्यवः स्वरं : ययः व्यवः यवः व्यवः । ।

CREATIVE CALLINGS

र्या पर्चे प्रति स्वाम्य स्त्रीम्य प्रति ।

यत्रमा पर्वे प्रति स्वाम्य स्त्रीम्य प्रयत् ।

राय स्वयः प्रयुगा प्रति क्वा प्राप्त प्रति ।

विराप्त स्वयः प्रयुगा प्रति क्वा प्राप्त ।

विराप्त स्वयः स्वयः स्वे प्रवे विषयः प्रस् ।

राय स्वयः स्वी स्वयः स्वे प्रति स्वयः प्रस् ।

त्राप्त स्वयः स्वी स्वयः स्वे प्रति स्वयः प्रस् ।

त्राप्त स्वी प्रति स्वयः स्वयः स्वे प्रति स्वयः प्रस् ।

त्राप्त स्वी प्रति स्वयः स्वयः

यश्चर्यात्रभ्रम्भवश्यः भ्रूष्ण्यात्रभ्यश्चरः भ्रूष्ण्यः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूषः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूषः भ्रूष्णः भ्यूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्यूषः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूष्णः भ्रूषः

શુંન જ્વાયાદ્યાના તું ક્યા

त्यम्यायर्थिमः श्रीः पर्याप्तः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्यायः विद्याय स्वायः विद्यायः व र्ड-देःगव्यसः ५८:यदः चति । भ्रुवः र्वेट्ट्रेट्यः यसुगः सुगः यस्यः सेनः स्याः । भ्रुवः र्वेट्यः सुगः यस्यः सेनः यस्यः । भ्रुवः र्वेट्यः स्युगः स्युगः स्युगः सेनः ।

यद्यायः व्यायः व

व्यवित्रः कुं त्युः संयोधायाः श्रीत् । व्यवित्रः कुं त्याः त्यव्यवाः श्रीः । श्रीः वर्ष्याः त्यव्यवाः त्यायः हो। । स्रोतं वर्षाः त्यव्यवाः स्रोतं ।

क्रिंग न्द्रम् स्तरे त्व्व्या सुवा

- ध्रुवःमःश्रेशःवद्यःत्र्न्न्वेमःख्रेवा । क्रायःचःवदःचदःक्रुयःचं व्यव्ह्र्यःव्य्ने । क्रायःचःवदःचदेःक्रुयःचं व्यव्ह्र्यः। । क्रियःमःश्रेशःमदेःव्युवाःख्याःव्युवा। ।
- त्र्वुगः पुरायक्षः पाने क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः व्यक्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः व्यक्षेत्रः व्यवक्षेत्रः व्यवक्षेत्यः व्यवक्षेत्रः विष्यवेतः व्यवक्षेत्रः व्यवक्यवेतः व्यवक्षेत्रः विष्यवेतः विष्यवक्षेत्रः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्यवेतः विष्य
 - यत्त्व्याः अः र्वेष्यसः प्यान्यस्य स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्वान्यः स्व स्वान्यः स्वान्य
 - क्रीयःश्रीरःहुणःयुक्षःयवरःश्रेःस्री ।

 रुक्षःक्रुवःरुद्धःयःववणःयर। ।

 क्रीयःवरःश्रीरःहेःसःववणःयर। ।

 क्रीयःवरःश्रीरःहेःसःववणःयर। ।

- स्यान्दिक्षात्याः स्यान्त्राः । स्यान्द्रिक्षात्याः स्वान्त्राः स्वान्त्राः । स्वान्द्रिक्षात्याः स्वान्त्राः स्वान्त्राः । स्वान्द्रिक्षात्याः स्वान्त्राः स्वान्त्राः ।
- चर्डुक्बें 'द्रदःख्र्य्यक्टुं चर्गे 'चल्या ख्रे । वद्ग्याले 'चयाया' घचय्य 'अर्ड्य दे 'वे 'ख्रे । य' सुद्ग्'द्र- 'क्टुं सुद्ग' पर्वे व 'य्य- 'द्र्गे । य' अर्ठ्यय्य 'यव्यव्यक्ति व व्यव्यक्ति ।
- ब्रिंट्याक्षेत्रः सम्बद्धः द्वायः क्षेत्रः यह वाक्षाः । स्रोत्स्यः स्त्रें द्वायः द्वायः । क्षेत्रः स्त्रें द्वायः द्वायः । क्षेत्रः स्त्रें द्वायः स्त्रें वाक्षाः । क्षेत्रः स्त्रें व्यवस्यः स्त्रें ।
- अर्तेर्द्रश्यत्व्युग्यत्तेः कुणायनः तदी । वःगर्ले वः र्त्तुः मीः यगः यदः छोव। । अः द्रयदः युग्यः दर्गे द्रयः यञ्चुनः वेः त्या । अगः युग्यः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः ।
- अर्तेट्यायर्भाग्यवित्यात्यान्ति । वर्षे प्रवासम्बद्धाः स्वास्त्रात्यात्ति । वर्षे प्रवासम्बद्धाः स्वास्त्रात्त्रात्त्रा । स्वास्त्रात्वे । वर्षे प्रवासम्बद्धाः स्वास्त्रात्त्राः ।

CREATIVE CALLINGS

बी:८्यट:भ्रु:कें.कु:यश:देटा । प्वाय:पदी:कु:अ:य्य:पदीया । कु:य:पद्य:पुर्वा केंद्र:कुद्य:यदी:खा । प्या:विश्व:पदी:येवाश:वु:केंक्य।

चर्नेक्वेबर्नचन्त्रें ईं प्याप्त्रें हैं 'संख्यें व्याप्त्रें प्याप्तें व्याप्तें व्यापतें व्याप



ब्रूट्य गट्य र स्था र्डेबा

 য়्वेत् अन् अः इस्याः क्युं र्वेन् न्येन्य न्येत्रेन्। ।

तक्रम्माले अन् म्यत्रे म्यत्

र्डुण्यः सेश्वासे द्वास्त्रियः द्वास्त्रियः द्वास्त्रियः स्वास्त्रियः स्वास्त्रस्ति स्वास्त्रस्ति स्वास्त्रस्ति स्वास्त्य

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र्ह्य्। प्रदःस्य स्टास्य मुद्यः स्टुप्य स्था ।

राष्ट्रेस्यः स्वाप्य स्त्रेत्यः स्वाप्य स्त्रेत्यः ।

स्वाप्य स्वाप्य

यम् स्य क्षेत्र्यः म्री क्ष्यः स्य स्थायः स्थाय स्य स्थायः स्यायः स्थायः स्थायः स्थायः स्थायः स्थायः स्थायः स्थायः स्थायः स्था

त्र्यालात्रस्त्रीत्रः स्टेश्वास्त्राच्यात्रस्त्राच्याः । भ्री. हेत्रः पाश्चरः हेत्रः स्टेशः स्टेशः स्टेशः स्टेशः स्टा । भ्री. हेत्रः पाश्चरः हेत्रः स्टेशः स्टेशः स्टेशः स्टा । म्बुरःभ्रनःहॅरायः त्यम् केशः क्षेत्रयः मेशः । षः त्यः कुरः गृदेः चञ्चरः त्यश्यः क्षेत्रः भ्रनः क्ष्र्त्। । चॅवः कथः चर्मेः न्दर्भः त्यश्यः क्षेत्रः भ्रनः क्ष्र्त्। । र्देर्यः न्दायेतः हः प्येनः स्टर्शनः ने चेष्ण्।

र्ष्ट्रेष्ठ.ट्रेश्व.योट्श.व्ह्रेट्ट.ट्र.व्ह्रेट्ट.ट्र.व्ह्रेष्ठ.ट्रेश्व.योट्ट.ट्र.व्ह्रेष्ठ.ट्रेट.ट्र.ट्र. । भु.याञ्चयात्र.यहत्य.लेश.योटा.घ्रेश.यह्रेट.यवीया.योश । ट्रेट्ट्रश.यट.स्र्रेश.ट्रेट.ट्रे.वट.श्ल.श.च्रेट्ट. ।

मुणायनःस्टानर्डद्रायात्रुधसाञ्चीत्त्रम्यसान्ता । निवातःश्चीतःस्यान्यसानीतःतुःतस्यान्यसान्। । र्वोत्त्रमीक्षिमार्चेदःसुनसान्यस्यान्यसान्। । स्वापायनःस्टानर्डद्रायाः प्रस्थाः स्वेद्यसान्। ।

POEMS

Key Stage I

My King

You built Bhutan. I will help you.

When I become big,
I will become your guard.
Becoming a Police is my ambition
I will protect you, My King.
I will save our country.

When I see you on television.
I like to meet you
But I am small.
When I become big, I will become a Police
Officer

Then I will meet you. For now, I will keep you in my heart.

- Tshering Gyeltchen, Class II, Chongzhu Primary School, Tashicholling, Norgaygang.

Advice from an 8-year old

Be kind to People Respect our Nation Respect our King And protect all the young ones.

Don't smoke and fight with each other
If you want to see a future bright
Just now you can work
For a good thing and not bad.

If you love your country, do something good. For our King and the country, be a good person.

I will see you and I will learn from you.

- Januka Rai, Class II, Sengdhyen Lower Secondary School. Januka is a bright student and she loves reading and writing.



SHE

She tries to be perfect, Whatever role is forced upon her. Being a daughter, sister or wife, She gives her best in everything.

They are blind to see our gifts,
As caregivers, time givers, and advice givers.
We smile with strength through our sorrows.
These scars are our battle scars,
For we are all amazing beings.

Yet, she is judged!
For her hair, for her clothes,
For her looks and every tiny detail.
They say being sexy is the new cool,
And she's a victim of that stereotype.

She tries to be perfect.
Whatever role I forced upon her.
Be it a friend, daughter or sister,
She gives her best in everything.

- Kelxang Yuden Phuntsho, Class II A, Yoseltse Middle Secondary School. She is good in academics as well as in non-curricular activities. She is a talented and creative student. She has a good reading habit and participates in literary activities in the school.

My King, My Country and My People

My King is my hero
Who lifts my country from zero
We are all blessed with living Gods
For we are born in a heavenly abode.

My country is a dreamland for millions
She has the strength to live for trillions
We all live in peace
For she gives us ease.

We are known as Bhutanese
We are known for our mindfulness
We all believe in Tsa-Wa-Sum
Pray for my King, Country and People.

Jamyang Ugyen Yoesel, Class III, Namgaycholing Primary School. She participates actively in many literary activities and competitions in the school. She is a hardworking student who exhibits enthusiasm in different activities besides excelling in academic performance.



Our King

Our King is Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck
He is our superhero.
He has gifted us with
Free education and medical facilities.

Our King has good relationships

With many others.
He looks after people,
Like his own children.
We love you, Your Majesty!

In future, I will serve our King, Country and people. As a token of gratitude From the depth of my heart.

Thank you, Your Majesty!
For guiding us.
Showering us with love and care
Under your leadership.
Long live our King!

– Tsherab Yoezer, Class III, Gangthok Primary School. Tsherab loves reading and plans to become a script writer in future. He participates in many literary programs and competitions in school and is one of the friendliest persons in his class.



My King and Queen

My King is brave like Superman
My Queen is as gorgeous as Elsa.
They are very kind, always helping people
Sometimes my King cooks for his people.

They are the best in the whole world
And I love them so much that I feel lucky.
My King and Queen have two cute Gyalseys
I feel safe and happy because of my King and
Queen.

I am thankful to them for everything
I saw them only on T.V. One day I will go to Thimphu
To meet my beloved King, Queen and Gyalseys
Long live Your Majesties, you are loved by all.

- Tandin Tshomo Gurung, Class I B, Peljoring Higher Secondary School.



Uniqueness of Being a Bhutanese

My country and home is Bhutan
With big mountains that are like a wall
It protects us from all wars.

People wear Gho and Kira
Our beautiful national dress.
People speak Dzongkha
Our unique national language.

Ruled by a King
With the most gentle heart.
Bhutanese are blessed under His rule
And we worship Him like a God.

We come together
We work together.
We respect each other
And that is the beauty of being a Bhutanese.

- Pritika Chhetri, Class III, Depheling Primary School. She is 10 years old and is from Sangachoeling, Samtse.



POEMS

Key Stage II

Study! Study! Study!

My teachers would go Study! Study! Study! Oh, how I hated it when they said that.

When I got home, My parents would say Study! Study! Study! Oh, how I hated it when they said that.

Oh, how I wish
I listened to them when they said that.
Now I am stuck digging out.
Trash! Trash! Trash!

How did this end up becoming my future! Study! Study! Study!

Lhamo Dolkar, Class V B, Norbugang Primary School.
 She is an enthusiastic learner and a proactive reader.
 Lhamo loves art and exploring new books. She even maintains journals and posts videos of her reading journey online.



My Future, My Fault

Oh, how I regret everything! It started with a plastic bag and then a bottle but I threw it everywhere.

Now our land is polluted, wherever I look
Everything is a mess!
People are sick,
animals are dying.
And it is all my fault!
If only I had not thrown rubbish everywhere.
Now I have only myself to blame.
Animals have perished; plants are polluted.

Our desires are the main source of these pollution

And soon it will be the cause of our end. And it is all my fault!

But now, it is also my responsibility and my future.

– Sangnga Tshodean Wangdi, Class V B, Norbugang Primary School. She loves dancing and is an entertainer in the class. She manages time effectively to complete tasks on time and contributes to class discussions. Sangnga has shown keen interest in reading, writing and participating in co-curricular activities.



We Were Saved

At this current moment
I remember, this
Tiniest monster that
Troubled everyone around the globe.

Everyone fighting day and night.

Following safety protocols

Of social distancing and

Staying home to save lives.

Every industry, every business

Were affected by this

Tiniest monster on earth.

It did not even spare our schools.

I missed going to school,
I missed my friends and teachers.
Overall I missed all the
Chances of education.

Blessed to be born in Bhutan Under wise leaders. We weren't disadvantaged by this monster. Education continued in full swing.

> With the introduction of Different plans to involve us, We weren't left behind By our Great Wise Leaders.

> > I take this opportunity
> > To thank all our Leaders,
> > Who saved us from this

Tiniest, yet the deadliest monster – Coronavirus.

– Meg Raj Ghalley, Class V, Tashithang Primary School. Meg Raj comes from a farming family. His subject teachers describe him as an enthusiastic student. He likes to play with his friends during free hours and sometimes reads books.



One Nation, One people

Like the Raven, we fly For one day, it'll touch the sky. Like the Takin, we stay Jumping and leaping in the bay. Like the Cypress, we grow The difficulties we throw. Like the Blue Poppy, we look Not even afraid to face the book. So, this is who we are Thinking and looking very fair Don't you mess with us Cause you will taste the dust. And living in peace Full of hugs and kisses Led by a King Who loves to sing That song of peace That one dare to miss Orange, White, Yellow Pelden Drukpa Gyalo!!!

– Ugyen Sherab Jamtsho, Class V A, Samtse Lower Secondary School.

Leadership of the King of Bhutan

A leader is a person, who leads and leaves no one behind.

A leader is a person who teaches us good things.

A leader is a person, who rules with greatness.

A leader is a person who is respectable.

A leader is a person who is helpful.

A leader is a person who saves us from difficulties.

A leader is a person who thinks of his people first.

A leader is like a mask that protects us from COVID-19.

A leader is a person who thinks good.

Bhutan is blessed with great Kings.

A leader is a person with a kind heart and

That's my King

Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck.

 Suk Mith Lepcha, Class IV, Bukay Primary School. Suk Mith jss begun her schooling at Bukay PS her pre-primary. She hopes to become a teacher in her future.



Our Future, Our Responsibility

We travel to the future,
Lighted by the torch of education
Through the path unknown
To reach the destination,
Citizens as fortunate as rest,
To serve the King, Country, and People,
And take our country ahead,
Our future, our responsibility.

- Rinchen Y. Dorji, Class V, Samtse Lower Secondary School.

Our King

"The future lies in the hand of our youth"

I always remember the quote when I get up early in the morning

For Bhutanese citizen's happiness can only shine through the heart of
the Man with a kind heart.

For me, our King is my green forest
With fresh air to breathe in the inspiring words.
For me, Our King is fresh water
With the power to quench my thirst.

With His good deeds for His people and country
Happiness and peace flourished in Shangri La.
Everyone is treated equally
And given equal opportunity to serve the country
Through his De-suung project.

My King is my heartbeat.

I will always thank my King in my life

I will never forget my King.

I am ready to serve my King and country

To spread love and happiness in the country.

I always pray for our Kings' good health.

I can stand on my own feet to make my country

Prosper with peaceful happiness.

 Remon Raj Rai, Class IV in Jaringay Primary School. Remon always tries his best to reflect his reading through his writing. He loves reading books from different genres and consulting with his teachers about his writing skills.



POEMS

Key Stage III

My Future, My Responsibility!

It was a sunny day
When I was walking on
The streets all alone
I saw a man
At the construction site.
I looked carefully
And shivered
For he was an old man
Sweating under the load
Of concrete mixture he carried
I felt sorry for him.
Then I looked at myself
And wondered,
What would MY future look like?
The thought startled me.

Then I remembered my King's advice
'Your Future, Your Responsibility'.

But what do I do

When nothing is clear?

What should I do?

Premika Ghalley, Class VIII A,
 Peljoring Higher Secondary School.



I was scared.

I Foresee My Future

Sitting on the chair
With my hands on my chin
Eyes focused on the ceiling
With my bubble of thoughts playing.

Whose dream shall I fulfil?
Mine or my parents?
They want me to be a teacher
Who makes the younger generation learn.
But I dream to be a doctor
Who treats the sick, and saves life to earn.

The thought is stuck in my head
For I lie confused about what is ahead
The only thing that I know is my capability
For my future is my responsibility.

– Chandrika Ghalley, Class VIII B, Peljorling Higher Secondary School.



Dreamers

To sit and dream,
To sit and read.
To sit and learn,
About the stories from afar.

Dreaming across the horizons, Seeing a world I have never been. Just by sitting in this four-cornered room, With a special book, of my own choice.

To all of my fellow dreamers HELP ME!

I long to venture into a world

Built with our very own hearts and beautiful

imagination

Not sit still in this derelict four-cornered room.

 Tika Ghalley, Class VII, Yoeseltse Middle Secondary School. Tika has been reading varieties of books since childhood, and shows her love for reading by participating in numerous literary competitions. Her teachers describe her as a hardworking student. When she is not busy reading, she enjoys playing football.



Our Future Lies in Our Hand

We are the ones who are going to sail through our life

We are the ones who are going to enjoy the time

We are the ones who are going to face an unknown future

We are the ones who are meant to take all the responsibility

For a better future.

Accept your mishaps with perseverance
Accept your past without regret
Accept your present without fear
Accept your future without being upset.

Our future lies on our footpath And it's the responsibility on our head What we are doing today Is a mirror of our future ahead.

The weapon for a brighter future is Education More important than that our imagination. We have to be prepared all the time For obstacles are part of our life's expedition.

We are the future of our world
Don't lack the diligence the world seeks.
Our future needs our hard work
To carve a future that succeeds.

Our future is our responsibility
We youths have strong ability
To take our future responsibility
Our future lies in our hands!
Our future lies in our head!

– Jigme Wangdi, Class VIII D, Norbugang Central School. JIgme loves reading and writing. He looks at reading as a way to enhance his vocabulary and writing as a way to help him articulate his thoughts.



What Will Our Future Hold?

Who are we to become?
Are we to become
People, who think about their future?
And care for others?
Or a heartless and rude person?

If we become responsible humans, We heal our motherland, not destroy it. Our generations will enjoy Life because of you, me and us.

Selfishness and cruelty in us
May bring short-term happiness,
Might live a comfortable and luxurious life.
May prosper and become wealthy today.

But what will our future hold?

How would they live?

Where would they find happiness?

Aren't we responsible?

It's in my hand, in your hand and
It's in our hands,
To foresee the kind of future our generation
holds.
It is our responsibility, our future.

Today, for my King, country and the earth
I take a vow to be extra careful of my actions.

Inspire people through my humanity And take responsibility for our future.

Karma Wangmo Yoesel, Class VII, Peljorling Higher Secondary School. She likes drawing, reading books, cooking and visiting sacred places. She just started writing poems, and this is her second participation in open writing competitions. She plans to continue writing in the future.

One Nation, One people!

Why do we poke fun at each other when we know that we belong to the same nation? Why do we despise each other when we know that we belong to the same nation? Why do we brawl with each other when we know that we belong to the same nation? Why do we hinder one another's life when we know that we belong to the same nation?

We are from the same nation,
why do you and I make a fuss not to clean?
We are from the same nation,
why do you and I squander for stupid things?
We are from same nation,
why are you and I not following our nation's priorities?
We are from the same nation,
why are you and I being ignorant about our nation?

We are from the same nation,

Can we not see our nation as how it could be?

 Ugyen Tshomo Sherpa, Class VII A, Samtse LSS.
 Ugyen is a 13 year old girl from Dagana. She loves to read books about teenagers and loves to watch movies.



POEMS

Key Stage IV

Your Future is Growth

The weight of my future awakens me

With dazzling alarm in my mind.

The Future is ahead

Unpredicted and unknown!

Time is running into a glimpse with no warnings.

It's the youths who write the untold stories of the nearing future.

We are wise not by the recollection of our past,

But by the responsibility for our future.

Accept responsibility for your life,

Know that you are the one

Who will get where you want to go.

Responsibility is the price of freedom you ought to pay.

Our future is hidden in the deep part of our souls,
Our future is waiting for a better voice
Among the depths of our ocean.
We should strive to do our best, we should strive to achieve success.
Many years will go by like the river flowing through the hills.
Someday soon we will all become somebody:
Some of us will become the next doctors; the next lawyers, maybe even the next scientists.

What we plan today is the success for tomorrow

For some of us, the future is still like a dream waiting for the clock to scream,

For some, it's still a fantasy.

But for some of us on the Pathways

Make the choice either to live it, dream it or regret it.

Pave the way for success and growth.

The future is yours and your responsibility is growth.

Take the next step and make a difference in your future.

– Sonam Dema, Class X, Tendruk Central School. She is from Soeltapsa and enjoys reading novels and composing short poems in her off hours.

Bhutanese Culture and Tradition

Paradise of earth lies at Asia's heart, Where exotic forbearing God does reside. Bhutanese resides as warmth on the hearth, Sharing love and care on this earth.

Unique identity has created the country's noble history;
Its culture leads every heart to divinity.
Countless stars blink in the country,
For every creative person lives the life of nobility.
Dress with the biggest pocket they wear and carry,
Descent and uniqueness is its national identity.

Uncountable sacred places and deities dwell,

That purifies the heart of every being.

Bhutanese culture flourish so well,

And cared for by every Bhutanese humble being that dwells.

Wearing of gho and kira emanate one people,

Promoting Bhutanese culture and the refining nation.

Speaking the national language Dzongkha brings bliss,

Truly, it is God's creation.

Culture and Identity – like shield and sword,
Protects Bhutan from falling to other countries' prey.

This tiny country has a powerful shield and the sharpest sword,
Which makes Bhutan vast and proud.
Bhutan is real paradise on Earth,
Which attracts every individual's heart,
Where a noble and merciful King does reside.
Our Bhutan will never fall behind.

 Ashik Rai, Class X, Dorokha Higher Secondary School. He is an ardent reader, writer and loves singing and composing lyrics. He lives in Melongang, Dumlakha and dreams of becoming a singer and a writer.
 He is also a poet, and some of his poems have been published online.

Sun of the Nation

The lamp of compassion ever glitters, In this universe like blossoms and stars. The Eye of heaven glows every day, Making the nation warmer to live in.

Gem of heaven fallen Adorns our King's pious crown. On this fair dragon land, Where peace and prosperity never end.

Warm love and care for all men.
We feel our nation is the palace of heaven.
Where the seed of divine grace,
And let us feel the pristine solace.

That is the sacred spirit of our King.

Precious prayer, I offer to Your Majesty every morning.

Our King, the treasure house of compassion Ever shine as the bright sun of a nation.

Moni Raj Rai, Class IX, Dorokha Higher Secondary
 School. Moni Raj is a passionate poet. He enjoys browsing the internet and flipping through the dictionary to select the right words for his writings. He spends his spare time writing poems.

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↔--**⊕**-----

All of our Tomorrows to Come

Time moved fast in a flash of light Our future buried deep within the grave site Inactive youths lazing till midnight And our responsibilities, a sore to our eyesight. The future we buried eventually starts to decay We realised tomorrow wasn't going to be ok Its heart started to sink Towards the wrong future, we fell Our future is our responsibility, we tell And the country learned a lesson. We have responsibilities for a reason Do things right So our future will be bright Do wrong And this future might turn out like a flop song. The simple trick is The future is in our hands Wash your hands frequently with soap and water And you'll have a clean and bright future on this

- Sika Rai, Class X student from Peljoring Higher Secondary School.

→

Dragon Land

Our Heroic Kings

The father of Gross National Happiness, The seed of peace and prosperity ripened. The fruits of GNH seen and felt, And is all wisdom of a visionary monarch.

The leader of the motherland Knight Commander of the thunder dragon Who united the sovereignty of this motherland And had the seed of peace sown.

The late Third King of Bhutan;
The father of modern Bhutan
Having envisioned the need for globalisation,
Ushered the country to the outside world.

The Visionary Fourth King; Had the seed of peace sown and nurtured; People had accumulated merits, To be born under such exemplary leaders.

The People's King, the Fifth Druk Gyalpo, So kind and selflessly works for His people, Gave everything in terms of everything Who can be more heroic than such leaders?

Nemith Lepcha, Class X, Gomtu Higher Secondary
 School. She loves writing poems as well as other forms
 of writing. She participates in many activities and says
 that she wants to fulfil her dream of publishing a book
 by continuing to read.

Pride of Being Bhutanese

In the hidden lowlands of this blissful country, Lies many beautiful valleys with pristine territory.

Holy droplets showers high, from the womb of the Dragon sky. It expels sullenness, and commence to make pure art out of happiness.

Beyond the horizon that lies,
There resides our gracious ruler.
Who diligently serves the nation,
And embrace it with compassion.
He is the luminous sunlight,
Who radiates the rays of solace and delight.

Proud am I as Bhutanese,
To live and breathe in this territory.
Blessed am I to be born as
Daughter of thunder dragon country,
For all aeons and eternity,
I pray to be in my beloved country.

– Ashika Rai, Class X, Dorokha Higher Secondary School. Ashika is a jovial student whose love and passion for writing poems is portrayed through her numerous compositions of poems.





School Days

Memorable were those days,
Hide and seek we raced,
Every time you walked away
I always swept along with you.

Together we roamed the street,

Through times thick and thin,

Dancing under the moonlight blissfully,

While our hearts swell with a sense of pleasure.

Every hour we spend together at school,

Feels nothing but like a fraction of a second with you,

Since fate bounds us together in this lifetime,

I pray that our strings don't get burned in the next.

Ugyen Norbu, Class X student, Yoeseltse Middle Secondary School.
 He is very good both in games and studies. He participates in numerous games and literary activities conducted in the school.



POEMS

Key Stage V

I Don't Believe in Destiny

I am in the driving seat of my future
I get closer to it every day
Everyone says that the future is a mystery
But I know how it will be one day!

I don't believe in destinies, I make them The road is filled with obstacles, I break them Responsibilities are all mine, I take them My inner champions are asleep, Iwake them

The past and this teenage phase are rough
But I look up to The Great Fourth for lessons
Being a King at seventeen might have been
really tough
Yet He simply ruled with vision and a lot of
aspiration

I don't believe in destinies, I make them The road is filled with obstacles, I break them Responsibilities are all mine, I take them My inner champions are asleep, I awake them

The future awaits with a lot of battles
I take responsibility to make it right
I don't blame my life for any uneven rattles
Because more than victory, I cherish the fight

I don't believe in destinies, I make them The road is filled with obstacles, I break them Responsibilities are all mine, I take them My inner champions are asleep, I wake them

Histories have never been my destinies

It was an experience and a stepping stone Several physical and mental injuries That's how my inner Hero was born

I don't believe in destinies, I make them The road is filled with obstacles, I break them Responsibilities are all mine, I take them My inner champions are asleep, I wake them

Even my present is sometimes hard to adore
As it feels suffocated and cold
Because I succeed less and fail more
But each failure fuels me to become extra bold
I don't believe in destinies, I make them
The road is filled with obstacles, I break them
Responsibilities are all mine, I take them
My inner champions are asleep, I wake them

I have my future vision
I gather my courage to begin
Now I am set on a mission
With a warrior mindset

I don't believe in destinies, I make them The road is filled with obstacles, I break them Responsibilities are all mine, I take them My inner champions are asleep, I wake them

I want to hold on to this new courage in me For I take the teenage lead of a visionary King Who shook the world with magic a teenager could bring.

I am responsible for myself, and this is just the beginning.

I don't believe in destinies, I make them The road is filled with obstacles, I break them Responsibilities are all mine, I take them My inner champions are asleep, I wake them

 Madan Krishna Neopaney, Class XII Science, Peljorling Higher Secondary School. Madan joined this school in 2018. He has profound love for music and has also composed songs for open competitions. Besides the love for music, he enjoys reading books on self-improvement. Use the invisible tools of life
To evade the hardship of life
Know your ability: Make the difference
For Our Future is our Responsibility

- Namrata Gurung, Class X D, Norbugang Central School. Namrata is from a small village called Yulukha. She loves learning new things and has lots of hobbies such as baking, reading books, listening to music, dancing, and learning facts about life.



Carpenter for Life

Let's become formative carpenter
Pick better wood for education
Hammer it, cut it and make it better
Remove the turmoil of life with a saw
Let your goals be known
Just make the best use of your time
To have a smooth flow of change.

Mention your base for determination

Let them sing of your strength

Be patient and focus on the flow and change

Move with the flow and adapt to the change

Hammer your goals with hard work

Let the world see the difference.

As you built the furniture of your future
As planned and with patience

→

Our Future, Our Responsibility

The past is in our Head
The future in our Hand
Let's use the authentic present
To make a better tomorrow.

Waste not your time
For its no man's slave
Use it for the right purpose
Bring change and remember your responsibility
Move on with time and be responsible!

A mesmerising glimpse of a glorious kingdom, Our country is amazingly filled with fantasy Let's be responsible and bring change in intellect. A developing country, it is

With ambitious being so colourful

Lets come together and

Take it to the mighty peak of this glory.

- Pratik Maya Chhetri, Class X A, Norbugang Central School. Pratik Maya is from Gayshinggoan. She loves reading story books and strives to make her parents proud of her. She aims to be a police officer or doctor and serve the country.



Future Builders

Embraced by the green beautiful mountains,
Engulfed by the pristine clear water that runs down,
Recognised by the unique national identity,
This is our country Bhutan.

Beings who aren't any different than the almighty,
Saviours who let no harm destroy the prosperity,
Parents whose love are unconditional for their children,
Is the selfless, farsighted visionary leaders, our Great Kings.

The luckiest being born in this precious country,
Blessed with unending happiness and peace,
Guided by the King of Kings
And destined to build the future of our nations
Are we the people.

The future of our nation lies in the hand of youths, It is a sentiment often expressed by His Majesty.

Proving to be a true citizen of the country
Is a responsibility every citizen must take.

A future where peace and happiness continue, Identity and sovereignty unharmed unbound, A Nation looked upon as an example

This is what we should strive for.

Hence, it's not too late for us,

To wake up and start working today,

Towards the path of building this good future,

For we shall reap what we sow.

- Rita Rai, Class XI A, Tendruk Central School.



Rational Change

Far from where we stand Lay heaven with serene paradise Filled with fresh air and adapting conditions; A life filled with colours of joy and pride The pin of influence changed everything. With mighty might Serene nature turned into ignoble sights Things came with a brand so expensive Emptiness and loneliness prevailed life Pollution and disaster overlapped each other Heaven turned into misery without even a pause. Where did we fail? How did we fall? Time will pass when land fails to cultivate World burns into pieces Seizes all happiness without guilt Now and forever, people will live in chaos. For decision change cannot be delayed

For the future is ours to regain pride

For the betterment of nature and creatures of kind
It is time to pay back responsibilities
To regain the lost serenity of the world
For the existence of life, returning is a must!
Change is must with no excuse
Let's be responsible for the future is ours.

- Suraj Subba, Class 10, Norbugang Central School.

Suraj is from Mandreni village under Samtse Dzongkhag and has dreams of becoming an engineer. He worries about the effects of global warming and hence wishes to discuss his views in a larger forum.



Pride of Being a Bhutanese

Blessed with a loyal emperor
As he takes bigger responsibility
To provide us with sovereignty
And flourish the prosperity.

We, the proud citizens
Believe in deeply rooted culture
Our souls are so religious
With heartfelt grace
When we wear our national dress.

Enjoying the abundance of peace Fresh air gives the sweetest kiss With the care that we always receive Happiness in our hearts always exist So, we're delighted to be Bhutanese.

Protected by friends, not guns
Though our country is tiny
Nationwide happiness is what we have.
As our King is a living god,
We feel proud to be His sons and daughters.

– Sanji Maya Tamang, Class XII, Dorokha Higher Secondary School. Sanji has been an ardent reader and writer who loves writing. She has been showing her utmost love for literature by participating in other literary activities in the school.

OPEN CATEGORY

Covid-19

Covid-19, the viral pneumonia
Mysterious of its true origin
Emerged from Wuhan city of China
Known to have no certain vaccine
Maintained no boundary to spread
It wreaked widespread devastation
And took tens of thousands of lives.

The outbreak leaped from nation to nation
Positive cases rose cumulatively day by day
Death tolls multiplied each passing day
Transmission became a global havoc
Affected nations placed control measures
But no country succeeded in containing it.
Leaving life on earth in jeopardy.

Sandwiched amidst affected neighbours

Bhutan maintained her superb efforts

Few imported active cases

Local transmission kept at bay

Death case never recorded

As the nation's effort surely triumphed.

Sacrifices and services of our dynamic King Efforts discharged by the government Power of prayers from the monastic body Supports rendered by the health officials Aid put forth by armed forces and volunteers Certainly shielded the nation's security.

The pandemic tested people's patriotism
To collaborate with the spirit of solidarity
To safeguard and combat its transmission
To defend and sustain peace and harmony.
Through strict compliance of health protocol
Heartily abided by the measures in place.

The risk factor compelled schools to close
Potential threat forced border gates to seal
Strict law dragged violators behind bars
Youths chose to return home from abroad
And I decided to become a De-suup: Guardian
of Peace

To serve Tsa-Wa-Sum in a little way I can Till the time, the virus stops to subside.

– Dorji Wangchuk, Teacher, Norbugang Primary School. Dorji loves reading nonfiction and philosophical books during his leisure and also has a passion for writing poems, short stories and articles inspired by real circumstances. This poem was written while he was serving the nation as a De-suup on the border.

Pride of Being Bhutanese

Scents of early spring flower, Cuddled with mystics of unpolluted air, Mountains touching the depths of heaven, Bhutan is a pride for all Bhutanese.

Monk in robes dance to the beats of cymbal,

Men sing along to the fields ploughing,

Women listens to the tune rocking a child on her back,

A humble life all Bhutanese lead.

Mountains covered with blankets of forests,
Animals roaming around undisturbed,
Birds build their nest in haste,
Bhutan is a home for all creatures.

From typical thick snow in the north,
To the mystic jungle in the foothills,
A country divided by the terrains,
But joined by a single prayer.

Blessed by the generations of Kings,
Father to fatherless and mother to motherless,
Leading the citizens with their visions,
Our King is a pride for all Bhutanese.

Blessed by the deeds of Guru Rinpoche,
Crafted by the vision of Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel,
Handled by Desis to the Kings,
Bhutan is a country beyond blessed.

 Lhamo, Teacher, Dorokha Lower Secondary School. Lhamo love for reading started in middle school and has not faded since. She hopes to extend her love for reading to writing. This poem is her first attempt. She hopes to continue her hobbies for future competitions.



देवे कुषार्थे।

त्तः बट्टा, ट्यादः स्वाचान व्रवाद व्याप्त क्षेत्रः स्वाचान स्वाचान स्वाचान स्वाचान स्वाचान स्वाचान स्वाचान स्व स्वाचान स्व

क्षेत्र श्चित्वत्वत्वतः श्रेत्रभावतः वील्याच्याः अत्यत्वेत्वत्वतः श्चित्वत्वतः वित्वत्वतः वित्वत्वतः वित्वत्वत स्वाल्याः स्वालयः स्वाल्याः स्वाल्याः स्वाल्याः स्वालयः स्व



रमी'रे'मा

श्च. प्रांचायर्त्वायः शु. श्च. प्रांचायः प्रा

र्श्विनः दर्धतः हुं मीशः स्टायुः विंद्यमे । व्याप्त विंद्यमे । वि

देग'तहैब'अहैंअ'य'तदी सुब'र्क्डैग्अ'द्रथण'देश्चेंद्रय'श्चेंद्रय' श्चेंद्रव'येव'हेग'येद। विस्थापाय श्चेंद्रव'येव'हेग'तवद'वे'गे'देप'त्रहेग'सेव'हेग'येव

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स्याग्रुया

द्रे.लुब्री इ.च.मश्रिषा.चुरायद्वी. पर्चिम.क्विता.प्यच.कु.बटाहेब. ट्र.बा.कुमा.लुब्री पर्चिम.मु.क्विता.पट्टी. मध्या.लुरा. शु.सूरामश्रिया.सी. इ.च.मश्रिषा.चुरायद्वी. पर्चिम.क्विता.पया.कु.बटाहेब. ट्र.बा.कुमा.लुब्री पर्चिम.मु.क्विता.पट्टी. मध्या.लुरा. शु.सूरामश्रिया.सी.

मुश्रः राजरुशःग्रीःम्रीणत्त्रःयर्ट्टे, मोलेब्रःम्रीणाययःग्रीःम्रीणत्त्रःस्य स्थान्यःश्चरः स्थान्यःश्चरः स्थान्यःश्चरः स्थान्यवंशःश्चरः स्थान्यवंशः स्थान्यः स्यान्यः स्थान्यः स्यान्यः स्थान्यः स्थान्यः स्थान्यः स्थान्यः स्थानः स्थान्यः स्थानः स्थानः स्थान्यः स्थानः स्था

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बुं ते : बेत : बे

मंश्रुयायदेत. पर्यंग्रेम्, मैण्यायय. भुःश्रुप्रामंश्रियाली. मीश्राविष्यायदे, देश्विषात्तदे, प्रमाष्ट्रमालीयो हे,देरामेश्रुमाप्तपः श्रुप्रामंश्रीयालीय भीश्रियायदे, प्रमाष्ट्रमालीया भीश्रियायदे, यांचाक्रिसालीयो हे,देरामेश्रुमाप्तपः श्राया

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तर्त्रीयाःश्चार्त्रात्त्रवेश्चात्रात्त्रहेषः चम्नमार्त्वेश्चार्यः विष्णायनःभव्यत्त्रवेश्वः विष्णायनःश्वेशः विष्णायनः विष्णायः व

लबाबा । तमः श्री.ष्ट्र.की.लब्र.इट. शह्टे.न.पत्त्रिय.लब्र.टेम.बुट.मैश.चर्डेबा.चुर. श्रुंय.लब्र.चटेच.टेब्स.वर्ट्य. विवाश.हुटे. प्ववा.कु.चुर.खे.यु.ख्रय. तमः श्री.कु.की.लब्र.इट. शह्टे.न.पत्त्रिय.लब्र.टेम.वर्ट्यां.लुं.खे.कथ.त्रमः शु.टेचट.बर्ष्ट्यः श्री.ती.पक्तीं.न.जुट.न. विवाश.ती.पत्तिल.च.शुट. कीला.वच.वट. टेबोप्र.चपु.कुंश.वचः श्रीट.नपु.धीं.लुं.खे.च.इवे. खे.श्र.क्य.च्या. श्री.ती.पक्तीं.ची.च्याप्ट.हुवे.लबः टचक्स.नपु. कीला.वच.वट. टेबोप्र.चपु.कुंश.वचः श्रीट.नपु.धीं.लुं.खे.च.इवे. खे.श्र.क्य.च्या. श्री.ती.पक्तीं.च्याप्ट.हुवं.लबः टचक्स.नपु.

यज्ञ मुः अर्क्षे पदीः वेदासुभू दर्भे पाया कुदाय वदाः क्षेत्रप्रेता । याया के वदास्य जीवा भी देवा सुगा विद्दार यदा प्रस्ति । विद्यास्य विद्यास्य प्रस्ति । विद्यास्य । विद्यास्य प्रस्ति । विद्यास्य । विद

इ.च.चश्रेश

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लर.म्बेश.म्ट्रियुण.प्रमुं.पर्टु.लूर्ट्ना.लुची वे.त्यं चेशश्रता.प्रमुं.पर्टु.लूर्ट्ना.लुची वे.त्यं चेशश्रता.प्रमुं.पर्टू.पर्ट्यं, क्रियायचा.पर्ट्यं, क्रियायचा.पर्ट्यं, व्यवं,त्यं,त्यं,

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पर्चियात्म्यः चर्चात्वह्च्यःप्यन्द्रम्भ्यात्म्यः विष्यः विषयः विष्यः विषयः विष्यः विष्य

क्षेत्र'ग्रथयः क्रेंब'पदीः सुबः केंग्रथ'द्रधायाः देश्वेंच'याः कुटचावटः श्लेंच'देत्रः 🕡 यावटासूच'छीव'अश्रा

८.च२४.मी.घ.पूर्यास्ट्राची.घमष्या

त्तर्नुत्त्राक्षः नृत्त्रां क्ष्यं क्यं क्ष्यं क्ष

पक्त् त्रण्यान्तर्भीत्र्यां क्षेत्राचित्रः क्षेत्रः व्याप्त्राच्याः व्याप्त्रः व्याप्तः व्यापतः व्याप्तः व्यापतः व

न्तरमः देवः र्यमः भुषः प्रमः इवसः नहम्मयः परिः भूनयः तुः वदेश्चितः मुः दुः वदेः र्यमः नर्दे । व्यमः मुनः से दुग्या दे विन्तर्भः प्रयः । विन्तर्भः । विन्तर्भः । विन्तर्भः प्रयः । विन्तर्भः । विन्तर

पर्दः संस्थान्य स्थान्य स्थान

२.श्रह्मा-प्र-त्यव्यान्य-प्रवाद-प्र-त्याप्त्य-प्रम्यान्य-प्र-त्यान्य-प्रम्य-व्यान्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम् संस्थि-प्रप्त-भ्राप्त-प्रम्य-प्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्रम्य-प्य-प्रम्य

चंडुन्द्रंब्रःद्रश्यःस्थाःव्हर्याः स्थाःत्वर्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्याः विद्य त्याः त्युक्षः विद्याः विद्य

यद्ग'न्नन्थे'तर्ने' श्रेंन'रेथ' 🔟 घ'गा'श्रे'यथथ'से'तश्चेन'ये। श्रुंन'य्वांत्रेग'या'वेंग'या'वेंन'थिव। श्रेंन्न'श्रेंन'यांत्रेत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्रेन'यांत्त

नेति'स'र्तेन्स'मः नेति'ने'न'न्नप्याव'त्ना

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तर्चुमाः भ्रेष्णे वास्तरे न्यतः १ अश्र

८.स.ष्ट्र. क्रूच्यात्रः क्रूच्यात्रः क्रूच्यात्रः वित्रक्षयः क्ष्यात्रः वित्रक्षयः क्ष्यः वित्रक्षयः वित

ড়्बान्ना यर्चेबाःक्रिलःष्ट्यः तर्रुः वर्ट्स्ट्रेट् स्वेबान्यः त्रांष्ववाः स्वेद्यः न्यावनः स्वेवाः स्वेवाः स्विवाः स्वेतः स्विवाः स्वेतः स्वेवाः स्वेतः स्वेवाः स्वेतः स्वेवाः स्वेतः स्वेवः स्वेवः स्वेतः स्व

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इ.तम्-ल.हे. श्वयःह्विषःह्वं त्यन्त्रं मूं त्यन्त्रं मूं त्यन्त्रं मूं यावायः त्यावः त

८चडश्रायबुगायदेशेश्रेश्रेश्चर्त्वं पृष्ट्वं स्टान्यर्ष्यं नेश्वायत् वित्र वित्र वित्र विष्णं वित्र वित्र वित्र स्टान्यर्द्धं गां वे प्यत्रेश्वर्त्वत् यबुगा क्वयायय वर्त्या यदी प्रायत् रायाय वित्र के वित्र वित्र वित्र वित् यसः क्वेंट्यस्य वित्र विवासी वित्र वित्र

चेतुःश्चर्यतुः स्रुप्ता विश्वश्वासीयायद्भिकातायायाय्वरस्त्र्यस्य स्वित्तायाय्वर् स्वेत्रा विश्वश्वास्य स्वेत्रम् स्वित्राययायाय्वर् स्वित्राययायाय्वर् स्वित्राययाय्वर् स्वित्रायय्वर् स्वित्रायय्वर् स्वित्राययाय्वर् स्वित्राययाय्वर् स्वित्राययाय्वर् स्वित्राययाय्वर् स्वित्रायय्वर् स्वित्राययः स्वित्रायय्वर् स्वित्राययः स्वत्राययः स्वत्रायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यः स्वत्रायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः स्वत्यायः

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ट.चरुष्र.भैजायच.कु. ट्र.धेबोषा.पर्ट. ट.चरुषा.प्र्यं.बोषा. चरेबो.पहूष.पर्चर.टेब्र् ट.चरुषा.कु.पर्चेबो.भैजायच.चर्चेषा.भै. भैजायच.

त्यन्त्रः वर्ष्ट्रः वर्ष्ट्रवः सुन्नायः स्वरः द्वानः वर्ष्ट्रायः वर्ष्ट्रवः वर्ष्ट्यः वर्ष्ट्रवः वर्ट्यवः वर्व्यः वर्ष्ट्रवः वर्ष्ट्रवः वर्यः वर्ष्ट्रवः वर्ष्ट्रवः

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गुर्ने प्यूवः १ प्यूरः दूवः वर्तेः वर्षायः इति वर्षायः वर्

तर्चुम कुण प्वय भी प्रश्रेष ५ ८ ६ ६ म्यू र में भूर

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मोलय.यट्यु. तथा.सूना.चचट्यू.अ.पटस.जु.च्यू.स्या.सून

र्ज्न कुर्ने वु.स्ट्र- विषयः भ्रीतायनः कु.स्ट्र अविषात्र तामान्तः कु.स्यायनः कु.स्यायाः स्थायनः स्थायनः स्थायन अस्यायन्त्र प्रस्थायन्त्र स्थायनः स

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त्रज्ञुगाः शेषोत्रायते प्रयापः १ वर्षा

लीबार कुबा लूट स्वाजी सुंब कु तर्ह कु . टाउर्च बाता लुच चुर सैच सु जी ती रावर के बात लूच सु स्वाजी स्वाजी स्वाज स्वाजी स

च.श्रेट्-र.प्यच्-र्यः व्यव्यान्यः श्रेट्-श्रं अष्ठ्यश्चान्यः श्रेट्-प्रचेषाः च.श्रेट्-प्रचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यचेषाः श्रेट्-र्यः व्यव्यानः श्रेट-र्यः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः श्रेट-र्यः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः श्रेट-र्यः व्यव्यानः श्रेट-र्यः व्यव्यानः श्रेट-र्यः व्यव्यानः श्रेट-र्यः व्यव्यः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यः व्यव्यः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यानः व्यव्यः व्यव्य

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पर्चित्राश्चा सुष्ठः निर्मात् श्रेष्ठा सूच्या सुष्ठा प्रमाण पर्चित्रा मिला प्रमाण स्वाप्त सुष्ठः सुष्ठः प्रमाण स्वाप्त सुष्ठः सुष्ठः प्रमाण स्वाप्त सुष्ठः सुष्ठः स्वाप्त सुष्ठः स

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तत्त्वा से द्रमतः १ समा प्रमुद्र दर्गिया

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हुं. चार्रलं. वेशकान्नरेट्हुंट्हंन्सूंश्वेर्ड्राव्हूंश्वेर्ड्राव्हूंवाहुंद्राव्हूंवाहुंद्राव्हूंवाहुंद्राव्हूंवाहुंद्राव्हूंवाहुंद्रावहंद्र्यवहंद्रावहंद्र्यवहंद्र्यवहंद्रावहंद्र्यवहंद्र्यवहंद्र्यवहंद्र्यवहंद्र्य

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रेचिरःट्वा हिष्याप्रः रेचिरःखुट्डूं.चुट्ड्युं.चोष्यःहे.लूट्नाःखुषी ।

हे.च्वा हे.चव्या हे.चव्येशःहुचा म्यत्व्यं देटः म्यावेष्यं क्रीयाव्याचेष्ठ्याः क्षेत्राच्याय्यं हे.च्याव्याच्याय्यं हिष्यां विष्याय्यायः विष्यायः विष्याय्यायः विष्याय्यायः विष्याय्यायः विष्याय्यायः विष्याय्यायः विष्याय्यायः विष्यायः विषयः विष्यायः विष्यः विष्यायः विष्यायः विष्यायः विष्यायः विष्यायः विष्यायः विष्यः विष्यायः विष्यायः विष्यः विष्यायः विष्यः वि

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यू:बीर-पर-रूत्व'पर्ने प्रथथ हे'प्यदेश श्रें व यूर्व'वर- श्रें व यूर्व'र्वे था १४ व ये व र यूर्व'र्वे यूर्व'र्वे व यूर्व'र्वे यूर्व'र यूर्वे यूर्व'र यूर्वे यूर्व



ESSAYS

Key Stage I

I am a Chey Chey Scout

Bhutan is a beautiful country blessed with a kind King. Our King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck kept us at home and saved all of us from Covid-19 while He went around the country to take care of His people. He gifted CodeMonkey to all the children. I really enjoy playing CodeMonkey because it is so much fun. I feel thankful to our King and would like to show my gratitude in three ways.

Firstly, I will continue to wash my hands to stay away from germs and stay healthy. If I don't get sick, I could go to school to learn and enjoy CodeMonkey too. Also, my country can save medicine for other sick people.

Secondly, I will continue to develop my reading habits because reading makes me smarter and more powerful. I can learn about different people, places and new ideas. Reading makes me creative. I read one page before going to bed each day. My mother said that our King wishes to see every Bhutanese child read. So, I would like to read for my King.

Lastly, I would like to become a kind and humble person just like our King. As a Chey Chey scout, I promised to do my duty to God, self and others. My scout leader taught us that being responsible, kind and sharing makes a Chey Chey scout. I help my friends with CodeMonkey, I take care of my own waste, and I am kind to everyone. So, I think I am going to grow into a kind and loving

person by developing these small good habits.

– Yeshey Tshogyal Dorji, Class II, Samtse Lower Secondary School. Seven-year-old Yeshey loves playing CodeMonkey, reading and swimming. She also likes to paint and draw. She takes pride in being a Chey Chey scout.



Proud to be Bhutanese

'Bhu' means - High 'Tan' means - Land

Together, Bhutan is our country. People here are called as Bhutanese. Bhutan is a very small country. It is between two big countries – China and India.

However, due to our forefathers, our country is still peaceful, strong and as one nation. I feel very proud to be a Bhutanese because our country has its own national language that is Dzongkha that we all speak.

I feel proud to be Bhutanese because we all wear our national dress, that is gho and kira which others don't have. We have our strong and helpful King.

I feel proud to be a Bhutanese because our country is full of green forest. Due to the green forest, we get fresh air to breathe. We Bhutanese always drink clean water. So, I am very

proud to be a Bhutanese citizen of the country Bhutan.

- Lesen Subba, Class I, Dipujra Primary School.



Exploring Self

Our King has always said that, "Today's students are the future of tomorrow". So, we need to always work hard so that we can fulfill the dream of our King. We must take responsibility and complete the task given to us by our teacher. It is our responsibility to make our future better by doing the right thing.

Our life is what we choose to make. If we choose to follow the wrong path, we will have a difficult end. But if we try to listen to our parents and teachers, we will reach a good ending. We have many resources that will last for many future generations, but if we do not use those resources carefully now, we will run out of them in future.

Firstly, we need to start thinking better about ourselves. We must not speak bad about others, instead think well about others and help them. There are many other simple things we can do like being punctual in the class, and completing homework on time. Taking care of our younger and respecting elders.

Secondly, we must take care of our wealth. In simple ways, we can close the tap after we have used it. We must plant trees and replace every tree we cut because the forest is our greatest source of water and oxygen. It is our duty to keep these resources for our future and not use all of them now.

Thirdly, we need to keep our environment clean. We should not throw rubbish because it will destroy our beautiful country. We must keep ourselves and the surroundings clean to stay free of diseases.

Therefore, if we can start doing these little things today, we can surely make a big difference in taking care of our future. Finally, I would like to request everyone to start thinking about what you do now to make our future better. This is important because our future is our responsibility.

– Manisha Dhal, Class III, Denchukha Lower Secondary School. Manisha's favourite subject is English. She actively participates in classroom discussion. She likes to read books and volunteers to share her readings in the class.

Our King

Our King is like a God for everyone. Our King is very diligent and hardworking. Our King protects our kingdom. The King lives a busy life. He leads ministers and officers. Our King works very hard to keep us safe. His name is King ligme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck.

Because of the King's leadership, the ministers and officers are doing their work happily. Because of the King's hard work, joy and happiness are everywhere in Bhutan. Our King protected our kingdom from Covid-19. The King loves His people very much. The King is great for His people. Our King is a saviour for our Bhutan.

Everyday the King works very hard to keep His people happy. The King has His own way to lead. If the King visits a place, everyone will welcome Him with love. Our King works day and night. Everyone in the kingdom loves our King. Bhutan is the land of Thunder Dragon, and the King is called the Dragon King.

Leadership of the King is a very big responsibility. Our King does everything for His people. Bhutan is a small and beautiful place. There are schools everywhere in our country. The King gives children school supplies because He wants them to study. The school children get food from the King. We love to go to school, and we love our King.

- Kelxang Yuden Phuntsho, Class II, Yoeseltse middle

Secondary School. Kelxang loves reading and writing. She is keen to participate in every literary activity in the school. She is very good in studies and is a creative and talented student. She is also the topper of her class.



Being a Bhutanese

My name is Rewas Chhetri. I am eight years old. I study in Class Two in Depheling Primary School under Sanga Choling gewog in Samtse. I am a Bhutanese. I am very proud to be a Bhutanese.

As a Bhutanese, I feel very proud to talk in Dzongkha and English. In our school, we have a rule to talk only in English and Dzongkha. I enjoy talking in our national language the most. Every day, I practise speaking in our national language, Dzongkha.

Our National Dress is Gho and Kira. It is one of the most important symbols of our country. It makes us look different from other countries. I feel very happy to wear our national dress. My father and brother also wears gho, and my mother wears kira.

His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck is our King. He is very kind and gentle. I love my King very much. We celebrate all the important national events in our school. Our country is very peaceful. I love my King and the Country.

Rewas Chhetri, Class II, Depheling Primary School.
 Rewas is from Depheling Toed in Sangngagchholing gewog.



My Class Lesson

I am going to write about Bhutanese culture and identity. The way we live, talk, eat, and dress is called culture. Bhutan is known as a country with rich culture, and people over the world love our culture. They even come to our country to see and experience our beautiful culture.

As every country has its national identity. My country has its own national identity too. Dzongkha is our national language. Gho and kira are our national dress. Cypress tree also known as tsenden shing is our national tree. Blue poppy, the cute flower growing on the high mountains is our national flower. Archery is our national game. Takin is our national animal, and raven is our national bird. Ludlow's Bhutan Swallowtail is Bhutan's national butterfly. I learnt all of these in my class today.

Different parts of our country have different dialects like Khengkha, Sharchop, Mangdep, Lhotshampa, Kurtoep and many more. Everybody knows our national language Dzongkha, and

everyone loves to speak our national language.

Every Dzongkhag has different festivals like losar, durga puja, deepawali and tshechu. During these festivals, all family members gather happily together, dressed in their best clothes, eat delicious meals and mostly, they pray to have a good life next year too.

Our country is unique in many ways. Due to these unique things, we can remain as one sovereign country. And I as a future citizen would like to pass down our rich cultures to our younger generations.

- Khentsho Yoezer Wangchuk, Class II B, Samtse Lower Secondary School. Khentsho likes to play football and read books during his free time. He wants to become a footballer when he grows up. His favourite subject is ICT and Arts.



ESSAYS

Key Stage II

My vision for Bhutan and my role in achieving this vision

At present, Bhutan has developed in many ways. We have good roads connecting all parts of the country. There are schools built across all remote areas. There are also hospitals and basic health units built for all citizens. Bhutanese and their living styles have also improved and changed. Many people are travelling out of the country to study and work. My vision of my beloved country is where all the people are working together for the King, country and people. My role in achieving this vision is becoming a teacher and teaching the next generations the culture, values and importance of serving the tsa-wa-sum.

After 10 years, I see myself graduating from Samtse College of Education and becoming a teacher. Before that, as a student, I see myself working and studying hard for the goals I have set for myself and my country. I study smartly and use my time wisely to complete school work. It is because marks are important for me to pass the board exams with good percentages. I also learn other important lessons such as driglam nam zha, cultural dances, school activities, sports, and many other lessons taught by my teachers. These lessons will be helpful in future, and it will also help me become a well-mannered and cultured Bhutanese.

Other than my textbook lessons, whenever I get free time, I try to read articles about our country and histories of our beloved Kings. This helps me to realise how much they have done so that we can live peacefully. I also try to read news and watch BBS whenever I get time to watch television. I listen to the speeches of our Kings and Queens. Although I do not understand all of it, I get motivated and inspired by a few words that I understand.

I listen to adult people's conversations and talks and have learnt that many Bhutanese are leaving the country to work in East Asian countries and other western countries. My parents always remind me to study hard and serve the King and the country because the King has done and given so much to us.

Till date, I haven't seen other countries providing free education and health facilities for their citizens. Whereas in our country, the government is providing free education, health facilities and other essential needs. It is all because of our farsighted leaders in our country. Not only have our Kings developed the living standard of our parents but they have developed transport systems, education sectors, health sectors, and many more to be mentioned. As a proud citizen of Bhutan, I would like to salute our beloved King's dedicated service for the betterment of the country and tsa-wa-sum as a whole.

Therefore, when I become a teacher, I will do

my best to teach children about the importance of preserving our culture and values, patriotism and serving the tsa-wa-sum. As a student, we must do our best to learn what our teachers teach us in schools apart from classroom lessons. The future of our country is in our hands and we must visualise how we can be a part of the good future that we will create for future generations to come. It is now our duty to repay the sleepless nights our Kings, leaders and forefathers have spent for us by sensibly and mindfully shouldering the responsibility of our nation's future.

- Sherab Dema, Class VI, Namgaycholing Primary School, Tashicholing. Sherab has been actively participating in numerous literary activities and competitions conducted in the school. Her class teacher describes her as an energetic and active student, always ready to participate in the class and other activities conducted in the school.



Our Future, Our Responsibility

Our Fourth King, His Majesty King Jigme Singye Wangchuck said, "The future of the country lies in the hands of the youth". I feel this to be very true, and I believe the youths are responsible for the future of our country. Since we are the future, we must work to create a bright

future which is solely in our hands. I feel very honoured to take responsibility for my country and its future. In the past, I feel like we didn't know how to take responsibility with heart and soul for our country. But now we are educated enough and have the knowledge to decide how we will contribute to our country.

I understand that I have to take responsibility for my future. This is not an easy thing to do. I should know what I am going to do with my future that can be good for my country, or it can ruin me. If I am not able to contribute to my country, it will be a waste of me being a Bhutanese. As for me, I try to make good decisions considering all the help His Majesty and the government provided when we were under lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. For example: health services provided vaccines, groceries were dropped to our houses, and any help necessary for the people to survive their life was provided at our doorstep.

People of Bhutan are fortunate to be born in Bhutan as I know that our country is the only country that provides free health facilities and education facilities which are very important tools that we need in our life. My country is giving everyone of us an opportunity to brighten our future. Therefore, everyone should not lose this opportunity to do something great to make our King and country proud. Likewise, I would like to urge everyone to take our own responsibility to make our country's future bright. We are the ones who can bring change or else no

one is going to do it for us and for our country. His Majesty has taken a huge responsibility for the people and the country altogether. Now, I feel it is high time for me to take my role because it is my duty to do well for my motherland. My responsibility is to study hard for a bright future and successful life. Now I am in class V. My responsibility is to listen to my teachers, do my work on time, follow the rules, code of conduct of the school. As a class captain, I have to learn how to help my class to have a conducive learning environment, how to be kind and share and love my friends because those are my duty to do as a class V student. So, every individual must think and do our duty in a productive way to make this place a paradise.

Lastly, I understand that I have to take responsibility for my future. I can change more things today than tomorrow. And I always have my King to help me and push me.

– Manjita Rai, Class V, Phuntshopelri Primary School. Manjita's ambition is to become a doctor. Her hobbies include playing football and reading books. She participated in this creative writing competition because she wants to improve her spelling and writing skills.



Discipline of the Self

It is in our hands to decide whether we want to have a happy and prosperous future or an unsuccessful one. I guess everyone wants a happy and fulfilled future.

I feel it is important for everyone to develop proper self-discipline for a successful future. I feel that self-disciplined people have a higher chance of having a better future over others who lack self-discipline.

For me having self-discipline does not mean that we have to do big things. Self-discipline starts with small things like being responsible with your waste, writing your homework on time, reading a book or fulfilling your set goals or improving your grades. I feel that being a self-disciplined person is the same as being a responsible person who creates a better future.

Likewise, a person who is lazy and not self-disciplined will not achieve anything in life. They will not finish their homework on time, they will have poor grades in study. So, an undisciplined person is not being responsible for his or her own future.

If we self-discipline ourselves and become responsible for things like taking care of our own waste, turning off the water tap after use or switching off the lights, then it will become a good habit. Such basic habits can help in pro-

tecting our environment for the future generations and for ourselves. Likewise, if we read books, do our homework every day, and eat healthy food, we can easily succeed in our studies and ensure a secure and comfortable future.

Lastly, we all should be self-disciplined because it decides what kind of future we will have. Unless a person is very lucky, I do not think being undisciplined will not help anyone have a good future for themselves as well as their country.

– Pema Selden, Class V, Norbugang primary School.

Pema was awarded the first position from her class in the mid-term examination, 2022. She is one of the enthusiastic students participating in any literary activities conducted in the school and is a fluent reader and scores good marks in language subjects.



I Know My Future

Everybody has dreams of having a bright future. I also have dreams for the future like every other person. I dream of a good job, with lots of money and a beautiful SUV car.

But with dreams and hopes also comes responsibility. It is hard to think about a personal future when I have not experienced much of life. There are so many paths I could take. I do not know what direction I will be heading in to-

morrow. I can only hope that I make wise and careful decisions about my life. Every choice I make will affect my future. I know my goal and ambitions, and I shall work hard to achieve it.

A goal I definitely see in my future is completing my studies from a College. Education is one of the most important values one needs to have in life. Taking responsibility for my own learning is one aspect that I am going to give priority for my future.

We should be taught to be responsible from our childhood, to be prepared for the future. However, many of us (including me) do not feel responsible for our lives. We have to change our priorities if we want to become successful. The road in front of us is unseen, and we cannot see where the road leads. For that we have to prepare ourselves from now itself to win the battle whether big or small.

Our future is not far from now. It is what we do today, for if we work and study hard we will reap a bright and successful future. On the other hand, if we take it lightly now, we will experience a difficult path. We reap what we sow.

His Majesty the King rightly said "We cannot foresee it, but as long as we approach it with the right intention and values. I assure you of a bright future. The future will reflect what we do today". With this, I feel I know what my future will be because I will approach it with the right intention and values.

– Pema Jatsho Wangyel, Class V B, Norbugang Primary School. Pema exhibits leadership qualities and is a great learner. He has shown keen interest in reading, writing and exploring new ideas. His hardworking and organisation skills always stand out.



Reading Books - My New Responsibility

Books truly are our best friends. Although books do not have a soul, books are always there to help and be a companion when my friends are not there. There are different types of books like fiction, non-fiction, short stories, and moral stories and so many more that I cannot even list it all. Books are the medicine to heal depression, sadness and loneliness that we feel in our lives.

Just last week I was reading a comic book. I do not actually remember the title of the book, but the story was about two best friends. It was a Japanese comic book, which had English translations. I started to read it, and the story was about two boys named: Naruto and Sasuke. Naruto and Sasuke were childhood enemies. Naruto was always jealous of Sasuke because a girl named Sakura had a crush on Sasuke. Sasuke did not like Sakura at all, but Naruto did not know this.

Naruto and Sasuke would always fight and argue with each other about almost everything.

But, although Naruto and Sasuke would always fight with each other like enemies, a bond was built between them they never expected. The exact words Naruto said to Sasuke even between fights was "It's because I'm your friend!". But still, they both fought until both of them lost their right arm.

So, I would say that book saved my life from knowing the true meaning of friendship. It is a bond that keeps us close, no matter how far we may be from each other. This one comic book changed and transformed my life for good, and whenever I feel bored, I read story books. I heard people say reading has lots of benefits like we can improve our English grammar, improve imagining and so on.

The other thing in my life that inspired and motivated me to develop interest in reading and books is through the influence of girl in my class. This girl is the academic topper in my class. She is good in all the subjects, and she reads lots of books, and it has given her lots of improvement.

So I picked this story book about Naruto and Sasuke, which has touched me deeply. Now I feel like I should read more books, not for anybody but because I can see things that I did not know before.

– Yeshey Wangchuk, Class VI, Samtse Lower Secondary School. Yeshey is a 12-year-old and hopes to join the national volleyball team in future. He also aspires to become a Dasho.

My Hero

Hero is somebody who commits an act of some type of bravery or who has shown an admirable quality such as great courage, bravery or strength of some kind of character. My King is my real hero who defines the real meaning of hero unlike Krish or Spiderman. Hero is someone who is special to one's life and who brings a smile to the faces of thousands of people by solving their problems. To me, my King, widely known to the whole world as King Jigme Kheser Namgyel Wangchuck, is a person to whom I look upon as a great inspiration and a real meaning of my hero.

My King was born to our Fourth Druk Gyalpo Jigme Singye Wangchuck and Queen Mother Azhi Tshering Yangden Wangchuck on 21st February in 1980. In 2008, He was enthroned as our Fifth King, and now He is happily married to Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck, who is another icon for many Bhutanese people. Now His Majesty and Gyaltsuen are parents to two young handsome princes.

I am forever grateful to be born as His subject because my family and I are always safe. We never felt unsafe being born under the reign of the Wangchuck Dynasty. My King is a great human being, genuine, selfless, and warm hearted person who never lets His people be in danger. This was proven during the time of COVID-19 where He endured unending hardships and sacrifices by touring around the country putting His own life at risk at the peak of COVID-19 pandemic just to keep His subjects safe and protected. Unlike other leaders, my King does not believe in staying sat the comforts of His Palace but has been always on the road, walking under the sun and rain for the wellbeing of His people and country. His Majesty met with people and granted kidu to many people who lost their jobs because of COVID-19. My hero even thanked and showed His gratitude to each frontliner with gift hampers on several occasions.

His Majesty always gives me hope to live one more beautiful moment of my life. His Majesty is the reason I did not miss out on schooling despite being born to a poor family. I have been getting free education since class PP, and I am still blessed to receive the continuous support from His Majesty. And yes, I don't have to buy notebooks because in my school I get free stationery too. Even during the pandemic, I never missed my lesson though education was interrupted because we were taught through SIM (Self Instructional Material), and our teachers did door-to-door teaching.

In 2020 and 2021, there had been no sign of an end to COVID-19 pandemic, yet my King stood wise, and we were constantly reminded that we will overcome it. Unlike other countries, we were able to lead reasonably normal lives

in Bhutan. Not only during the pandemic but throughout our life, my King made sure that every person living in Bhutan, be it Bhutanese or non-Bhutanese avail free health facilities.

Therefore I would like to extend my humble prayers and best wishes for His Majesty's long life and good health. And may His Majesty continue to inspire young minds.

– Tshering Lhamo, Class VI, Gayshing Goan Primary School. Tshering is twelve years old and is enthusiastic in learning and never fails to impress her teachers and give hope to her mates. She currently serves as the house captain of Chung house and as a scout leader.



Hard Work

'Hard work is the key to success.' If I talk about hard work, it is an art or skill that will make our future bright and everyone knows that. We cannot find jobs unless we are hard working and well-educated. Wth an amazing speed of development in our country, there are some people who do not value hard work as money has made things easier for them.

Hard work can help us in different ways. Hard work is not only about studying, but it is about arts, skills and talents. Many people do not know their own talents, but they discover their talents by working hard. Hard work is not a

thing to buy, but a skill to learn and master. To be hard working, you must work every day and focus on what you are doing. Hard work will help you find yourself. There are many youths who do not like to do even a bit of work as they get more interested in drugs and relationships, and at last these youths are the ones who suffer having no jobs and would be roaming in towns. This can make such youths vulnerable to working as servants for others thus leaving their dreams and aspirations unfulfilled.

Last year, there were fewer students who passed from Class X. It was very shameful for the schools in the country. Nowadays students are not studying and not even worried about their examination and future. Instead, the teachers seem to be more worried about them.

As a youth of this country, I think if these habits of the youth go on, then after five years, our country will lose all beautiful qualities that make us great. So, we should stop indulging in laziness and instead focus on building a new future that is more promising and comforting. As a Bhutanese, we should be a hard working person and develop our country for our own self. One should study hard and work hard because it is one's own future. If you brighten it up, it is your own victory, and if you fail, it will also be your own loss.

- Ngawang Lhamo, Class VI A, Tendruk Central School.



ESSAYS

Key Stage III

Take a Teeny Tiny Step Today

"Our Future, Our Responsibility". Likewise, with rapid change in the world, a new generation rises with a different set of responsibilities. The new generation must take the lead and take our country into a brighter future, and they must take responsibility as new leaders. But for all of that to happen we must start in our youths and learn to be the next leaders, learn how to take our country's problems as our own, enhance our critical and problem-solving skills and try to use these skills and knowledge in our daily lives.

One of the main responsibilities is the preservation of culture, tradition and cultural heritage. As the world evolves, it brings about new changes. As someone rightly mentioned, 'change is mandatory for extraordinary results'. Similarly, one of the most relevant technologies invented is smart phones. Smartphones help in many different ways, but one side effect is that the younger generations get influenced by trends and other cultures they see on the internet and forget about their own culture, heritage and tradition. If we carelessly avoid preserving our culture, there is a huge risk that our country will one day lose its title of being an independent nation. Therefore, it is our responsibility to preserve our unique tradition, culture and heritage while also implementing changes to evolve with the new world.

The responsibility we have is the preservation of our environment. As the world changes, new technologies are produced. But to produce such technologies, factories are mandatory, and some factories produce and emit toxic chemicals which harm the environment and cause problems like pollution. But the most imminent problem is global warming, and it is our responsibility to find solutions and ways to reduce such problems for a better future not only for our country but for the world as a whole. So, some measures that we can follow to reduce such problems are – putting off unnecessary cooling and heating devices during bearable climatic conditions. Avoid producing and buying packaged foods and reducing pollution by taking public transport.

Another responsibility is to refrain ourselves from indulging in activities such as teenage pregnancy, substance abuse, gang activities and other such harmful activities. It is our responsibility to take care of our future and choose what kind of life we will live and what kind of life we will lead our country towards. Our King rightly pointed out that the future of the nation lies in the hands of the youth. So, let's take the inspiration from our beloved King and avoid being engaged in such harmful anti-social activities and work towards quality and wholesome education for a better future.

Lastly, as a future citizen we must carry the responsibility of preserving our culture and tradition while also changing with the evolving world. Solving issues concerning the nation by

starting to take teeny tiny steps by starting to put off the water and lights when not in use. Take a single step each day, and there will be a time when your tiny, little efforts would make a huge impact on you as well as on your future generations. Our future is our responsibility, take a tiny step today!

– Sherab Dorji, Class VII, Norbugang Central School. Sherab is interested in writing because he feels that as an introvert, writing helps him express his thoughts to a wide range of audiences.



A Better Dream for a Better Me

A dream is a cherished aspiration, ambition, or ideal. Everyone has a dream to become someone in their future, a dream to become an engineer, doctor, officer, army, teacher and many more. But only few are able to fulfil their dreams as they know what their main responsibilities are at present and recognize their responsibilities. As said by Colin Powell, "A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work." To achieve their dreams, the common problems faced by many are that they do not recognize their responsibilities. They run away from their responsibilities, lack determination and support. If we want to make our future better, we need to take our own responsibilities now.

Everyone is trying to take their responsibilities - as a student and as an adult, but for some, it is difficult because they do not try to do what needs to be done. This leads to becoming extremely sad and most likely to be very angry with their life. If you are an adult, you may have a family that you love and responsibilities to carry, you want to make your children and parents happy and take good care of them. You want to see your children becoming a kind-hearted person. So to fulfil it, first you must take all the responsibilities that are there and teach your children good manners.

At present many students do not study well and do not take their life seriously. Youths are blinded by games and influenced by foreign lifestyles which result in multiple problems and issues. Some students will do well while others may not. This may change their future, they may have difficulties earning money and being a respected person in future. We have become fragile nowadays. Even taking care of ourselves seems to be difficult.

But if you are a student like me, your main responsibility right now is to study and gain new knowledge about how the world is changing. We should have strong excitement and strong feelings for our dreams, and only then can we fulfil our dreams in future with fewer struggles. Many of us seek a better future without taking responsibilities which is not possible. Some of the responsibilities that we need to take as a youth are: to study hard, to be helpful, be disciplined, uphold the values of honesty, be

punctual, comply with the school and country's laws and always be prepared for any situation. These responsibilities are the ultimate source of becoming successful in one's life, and we can enjoy the fruit that we have sown.

Lastly, we should have the mindset and determination to work on what we are lacking by gaining all the skills that are there. If we want our life to be good and successful, we need to take small steps from the very beginning as one small step can make a great difference. Everyone seeks happiness and peace, but only those who work hard enjoy it while others struggle. You may enjoy now with all that leisure, but if you suffer now then you are bound to have a good life in future. I am determined to achieve my own goals and dreams as I want my future to be bright and to live comfortably in the future.

- Sital Sharma, Class VIII A, Norbugang Central School. Sital loves reading novels and writing short stories and essays and aspires to become a writer in his future.



Kings as the Symbol of Sovereignty and Security

The tiny kingdom Drukyul (Land of the Thunder Dragon) situated in the Himalayan region, where Drukpas (people of Bhutan) thrive is surrounded by majestic mountains and perennial

rivers, flora and fauna, diverse culture and one people. All the symbols combined to represent Bhutan are not even remotely close to our King; the walking God, the symbol of Bhutan's sovereignty and security. The Wangchuck dynasty successively dedicated their lives for the good of Bhutan and her people in unimaginable ways.

Bhutan's education system has witnessed spectacular growth and transformation from the primarily more dominant monastic education to the western model of modern education; from a few countable schools to over thousand schools; with an appreciably higher rate of literacy rate compared to rest of the neighbours in the region. So much has been achieved in the field of education under the visionary Kings. No child is left behind; everyone is given equal rights and access to be a learned person. Knowing the importance of education, all Bhutanese are given free education despite the small and struggling economy.

Contrary to the services available in super rich countries in the world, Bhutan, despite its small size and pace of development, still provides free medical services to its citizens. Everyone, rich or poor, is given the same medical attention to the extent of referring patients to countries outside Bhutan for medical treatment. This kind of act comes from the compassionate leaders. If people are sick and weak, so will the country be and if the people are healthy, the country is bound to prosper and grow strong.

The way Bhutan fought COVID-19 pandemic has been amazingingly historic and magical. His Majesty the King toured and set foot on all highrisk areas during the entire COVID-19 pandemic period to motivate and encourage the people to be strong and not give up. His Majesty's love and affection for His subjects was exemplified by visiting the nook and corners of the country at the peak of COVID-19 pandemic, even missing the birth anniversary of His first son, Gyalsey Jigme Namgyal Wangchuck. Whereas the rest of the world leaders mostly worked in containing the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak through the comforts of their palaces or presidential residences, His Majesty just did otherwise. He walked on foot for days and weeks under torrential rains and harsh weather conditions, walking through leech infested jungles and forests to see the welfare and wellbeing of His subjects. His Majesty granted kidu to the people who lost their livelihoods and who could not afford to feed their family and themselves during the pandemic. His Majesty's love and compassionate leadership extended beyond humans. Desuups were commanded to feed dogs throughout the country for survival during the lockdowns.

His Majesty also continues to guide the government in further building and strengthening the country's diplomatic relationships with other countries in the region and abroad for development and security. His Majesty also encourages and motivates His people with His inspiring speeches. For example He stated: "Our greatest

objective is to ensure that the peace and security of our country remains intact for generations, and we are able to fulfil their dreams and aspirations, this national goals will be achieved when the people work harmoniously and in unity, putting aside all differences, with the timeless and inherent Bhutanese values of Driglam Choesum, Tha Damtsig, and Ley Judrey in mind. Our actions and the manner in which we work will determine the future of our country. As King, my dream for our country is that it will remain a beautiful, clean and organised paradise, where the people can live in safety and tranquillity".

Bhutan despite its smallness in size – geography, population, economy, etc. we are still a happy nation governed according to the philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH) and the selfless leadership and sacrifices our compassionate and benevolent King is always prepared to endure for the wellbeing and sovereignty of the country. Thus, all our Kings are truly the "Symbol of Sovereignty and Security" of the country. We wish our King an everlasting good health and long life.

 Kelden Tshering Dorji, Class VIII, Dorokha Lower Secondary School.



ESSAYS

Key Stage IV

My Vision of Bhutan and My Role in Achieving this Vision

Imagine Bhutan before the invention of any technologies and modern gadgets. What do you see? During the time of Zhabdrung, Bhutan was unified as a single nation. In the time of our First and Second Druk Gyalpo, the whole world was running around because of world war. Countries were struggling through economic depression and their citizens were struggling with poverty. But in our case, our responsible Kings, the only treasure of the Kingdom, saved us.

Slowly, the world changed and our hidden land saw the infiltration of technologies and modern gadgets. As our country is a Himalayan country, citizens were facing many obstacles in transportation and other developmental activities. The hard work and farsighted leadership of the visionary Kings of Bhutan slowly brought road facilities and many other developments in the country. Many technologies and modern gadgets were introduced in Bhutan. The lives of the Bhutanese became even more comfortable.

From a futuristic point of view, imagine Bhutan complete with all the possible technologies in the world. Our country would have automatic doors, cars, and flights as well. Doors would automatically open and close. Robots would automatically work for us. There might be flying cars and roads above the clump of the sky. Buildings

might also be built above the clump of clouds as well as under the gushing rivers of our mountains. Students will be busy studying on the internet using a large screen and a high-quality laptop, while parents will be simply sitting on the sofa and monitoring their work. After work or school, fast food would automatically float in our windows for office goers and school children. We would be walking on air where gravity would be under our control, and education facilities would touch the sky.

Does this seem like a future that is possible? Perhaps, not. So this is not my vision for my country. My vision for my country is simple: we should make our Bhutan abundant in resources, economics, great people, and well-developed thoughts. Being developed is very important, but being sensible, honest, and trustworthy as the development occurs is even more crucial for us. So, we must have a big mission to develop our small nation into a magnificent country where the Bhutanese people are considered full of virtue with excellent moral character. These are the changes I want to see in my future Bhutan.

This does not mean Bhutan should not improve in other areas. As of now, we do not have any scientists, but as it is rightly said by someone, "Action speaks louder than words", if the citizens of Bhutan take more action in the right direction rather than just giving speeches, Bhutanese citizens would also reach the pinnacle of the world. Their names would be included

in the list of the top most honourable scientists in the world. Bhutan would become strong to compete intentionally with other countries, and everywhere there would be the glory of His Majesty and our country. And these contributions should be achieved without losing sight of the citizens of Bhutan as sensible, honest, humble and trustworthy people.

Bhutan is already beautifully covered with the air of happiness. The only thing we can do is to make ourselves useful to the country. It is easy to imagine all the contributions you can make to the country, but bringing your imagination into reality is more difficult than climbing a cliff. We can achieve even more improvement if every citizen takes their responsibilities more seriously, efficiently and more consciously. As citizens of Bhutan, we should always take care of public properties. We as citizens should have a symbiotic relationship between man and nature to keep Bhutan green and a biodiversity hotspot in the world. We have to be sensible citizens to create crime-free surroundings and spread harmony all over Bhutan. We must preserve our culture, customs, traditions, and religion. As citizens, we should also stop dropping out of school at an early age, and give the highest priority to education.

To bring my vision of the country into reality, I need to take my responsibilities well. As citizens of Bhutan we must work hard, we must make our country stronger, more secure, and

prosperous year after year. Even though Bhutan has limited economic and military power, we have to make our Bhutan rich by giving our full support, love, and care to His Majesties and the country. We must always have a common goal - the goal of achieving the GNH of our people. We must always keep in mind that we are citizens of one small nation under kindhearted Kings.

This is my vision for Bhutan. My vision of Bhutan is beautiful and marvellous. So, I am giving my best to make my vision of Bhutan true, but we will only be able to achieve this vision if every citizen of Bhutan starts working towards this vision.

– Neeruta Rai, Class IX, Dorokha Higher Secondary School. Neeruta loves writing and reading. She has a great disposition for learning and is very humble in nature. She loves participating in literary activities in the school. She has been very consistent and persistent in every endeavour she undertakes in school.



Pride of being Bhutanese

Nothing could be more striking than the pristine, haunting beauty of the landscapes of Bhutan or the atmosphere of peace and sacredness, which pervades the land from end to end. Bhutan, a place blessed with magical power, simply makes us feel like we have landed on paradise on earth. It is the pleasing and tender nature of Bhutanese that makes the nation unique and different from the rest of the countries in the world. Bhutan lies between two Asian giants, China and India. Bhutan is adorned with great mountains, fast flowing rivers, and green and dense forest. The country's sparklingly beautiful spring can be seen in a sea of pink, blue, and vibrant colored flowers everywhere.

Bhutan has prospered and found its place under the wings of legendary and far-sighted Kings of the Wangchuck dynasty. In particular, the fifth Druk Gyalpo, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck has proven to be extraordinarily different. A leader with a lot of affection and concern for His subjects, He is always there to emphasise the welfare of the citizens and the development of the country. Even in most remote rural areas, there have been substantial impacts on the health and education facilities, supply of clean water and electricity, and more. It is no wonder everyone calls Him "The People's King".

Bhutanese place high value on religion in their daily lives. According to Buddhism, desires

cause suffering. Despite having inevitable desires, Bhutanese still have a strong conscious notion, a "give and take" attitude for their belief in Karma. The belief that "what goes around eventually comes around" is deeply rooted in each and every individual. Tha Dam Tshig and Lay Judrey values remind us to be kind, thoughtful, and considerate. It is humanity's common faith that holds the community together. Moreover, there are infinite sacred monasteries blessed with the spiritual aids of incredible saints on all peaks of the mountains. At the end, the sight of the heavenly valleys and temples at the mountain tops gives the sensation of accomplished bliss as if all our sins had been cleansed off.

Bhutan is now widely referred to as the "Land of Happiness" throughout the world as it pursues a developmental philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH), which is more important than the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Above all, living under the guidance of our benevolent King and being inspired every single moment His Majesty's compassionate and visionary leadership is the greatest pride of being a Bhutanese. Our King and leaders have continuously determined the wishes of the people and have done many things to make the people have a better life. Free education is given, good health services are provided, and a healthy environment, vibrant cultures, values and happiness are nurtured and nourished in all people at all times.

One may find temporary blissfulness in other

nations, but Bhutan provides happiness that is greater than life itself. Bhutanese have this tendency to always try to be a better person, and for me, this is the national identity of being a Bhutanese. Bhutanese always strive for mental peacefulness. And this was evident in how our country tried to stabilise the fear among the citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic. While most countries in the world experienced unprecedented chaos and an unbalanced mind, our people stayed calm and composed. Thus, this clearly states that Bhutanese are the most fortunate beings among all and all of these efforts are being led by our great leaders.

I would be wrong if I do not say I am proud to be a Bhutanese. Not all can experience these privileges elsewhere in the world. Since we have a unique culture, tradition and way of living, we have a place in the hearts of many outsiders. Perhaps, our philosophy is the driving force that an outsider finds fascinating and gives us space in this competitive world. But I personally feel it is the inherent nature of us Bhutanese, which we learnt from the Kings, that makes us take pride in being Bhutanese.

- Kinley Yangdon, Class X, Tendruk Central School.
Kinley mostly spends her leisure time reading journals,
magazines or novels. She also loves to write poetry,
essays and stories at times. However, her favourite is
essay writing. She has actively participated in school
literary activities and has received multiple certificates.



Our Future, Our Responsibility

Every one of us is responsible for our future. Today we can change more than what we were able to do before. Technology has helped us not only change our surroundings but also change human nature. We need to be responsible for our future as global warming is rapidly rising.

Global warming has become the most common and challenging problem in the world. Although there are many factors that lead to global warming, the production of methane gas contributes most to raising impurities in the atmosphere. Though the contribution of methane gas is minimal, it is important to reduce its amount in the air. As a concerned citizen, I would like to encourage my family and friends not to consume beef and lamb products, which produce methane gas. Instead of consuming the product from ruminant animals (hoofed mammals such as cattle, sheep, goats, etc.), they can eat fruits and vegetables. I suggest every household maintain a kitchen garden so that the waste from their kitchen will go back to the soil and get organic produce.

Further, "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" is a slogan seen everywhere, and we need to follow it. The things we use at home can be reused, and we can also reduce our waste. Due to the rise in population, the quantity of waste has also increased, and it is our responsibility to minimise waste and use things sustainably. I manage the

waste produced from my home, and if each individual takes the responsibility for one's own home, then the earth need not be burdened with our waste.

Being a citizen of a Gross National Happiness country, I would like to make sustainable use of natural resources. I will always plant trees on Social Forestry Day and also on the birthday of my family members. Moreover, I save energy when not in use and always make a habit of closing the water taps when not in use.

The recent flash flood in Lhuentse, where five people lost their lives and their property, made me think about this. They live in a higher altitude which receives less rainfall, but they still have to face the consequences of natural disasters. Later I came to know that it was the result of Global Warming. I feel that the highlanders contribute very little to global warming, but they are the first ones to be affected by this kind of disaster. Therefore, I would strongly say that if we want to live happily as an individual, then we must act globally. I cannot change the mindset of all people, but I can at least change the mindset of a few people, including my family and friends. If they change, then the community will change, and as a result, the whole country will change.

– Swayam Giri, Class X, Peljorling Higher Secondary School.



My Revered Person

"The person you admire the most is the person who inspires you the most". Everyone has someone in their lives who they admire. For example, some people admire a celebrity, while others a fictional character in literature or any kind who has left a deep impression in their lives. They act as a supporting pillar for one's determination and motivation. Having someone to admire as a role model to look up to is also one of the important aspects of life. We need that one example to push ourselves further in hard times. His Majesty is a selfless leader and a figure of inspiration for many youths in this generation because of His excellent leadership. So, it is no wonder that my most admired and respected person is none other than our beloved Monarch, The Fifth Druk Gyalpo Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the People's King.

Firstly, His Majesty is a selfless leader as His Majesty is someone who gives utmost care and cherishes his lovely people more than His own wellbeing. Keeping the vision of Gross National Happiness in mind, His Majesty is always concerned about happiness of His subjects and considers the citizens as His own family. During the critical time of COVID-19 outbreak, despite the risks involved, His Majesty personally visited the the COVID-19 high risk zones risking his own health and safety. Apart from that, His Majesty also gave advice and was the one to supervise all the pandemic responses in the country mitigating the consequences of the pandemic.

This effort from the King was extended even before the pandemic as His Majesty has always held extra concerns for the people and their well-being. He visited every remote place in the country, overseeing the lives of people. And this sums up His Majesty's true selfless leadership as a leader who loves and cares for His people's wellbeing more than Himself.

Secondly, His Majesty's excellent leadership quality truly acts as a source of inspiration for many youths in this generation. With the motto of "One people, One nation", His Majesty is able to guide people into one nation. The nation is dependent on His Majesty's leadership at all times; thus, without it, the nation would not have been successful. During the pandemic, people around the nation were panicking due to the sudden COVID outbreak, but one speech from His Majesty provided a timely guidance to the people. When disasters such as major earthquakes struck, His Majesty organised teams to mitigate and oversee all the rescue responses putting people at ease. Besides internal affairs, His Majesty also looks after the external affairs of the country, which strengthens the relationship between Bhutan and other neighbouring or outside countries. Further, His Majesty also interacts with great leaders of different nations around the world. Such actions by His Majesty and the overall statesmanship to guide the people and country for a better future inspire many youths to be motivated and learn from His Majesty.

Thirdly, His Majesty's humble and kind-hearted nature honours him the title, The People's King. He mingles freely with the people and provides help to those in need. In fact, His Majesty also declared in His first address to the nation assuring that He would continue to rule with His father's policy in mind. Furthermore, His Majesty has initiated numerous programmes benefiting the people and the country. His Majesty launched the Kidu scheme in 2011, which is still helping numerous people financially. The De-suung training also started in the same year to encourage a spirit of volunteerism is making phenomenal differences in engaging the youths in nationally useful projects. In every natural calamities or other incidents that need rescue efforts, Desuups are always there to provide help and support. And all the thanks goes to the wisdom mind of His Majesty and for all the noble initiatives.

In conclusion, His Majesty is indeed a great and humble leader whose magnetizing personality attracts an unconditional love and respect from his people. His Majesty's kind and compassionate personality, talents and skills, and visiona and foresight are rare among today's world leaders. In addition, His Majesty's leadership has guided people into working as one nation. His Majesty acts as the core and sole person for our nation's overall happiness. He is truly The People's King.

Therefore, my most revered person is His Majesty The Fifth Druk Gyalpo who is truly an in-

spiring role model and an admirable person to look up to in our lives.

– Arun Rai, Class X, Samtse Higher Secondary School. Arun has keen interest in reading news and is also an enthusiastic web-novel reader. He shares his knowledge of facts and figures with everyone who talks to him. He has also written articles based on his views for the school literary events for the past few years and hopes to write a novel in future.



I am a Proud Bhutanese

Have you heard of a paradise on earth? There is one; it is called Drukyul (Land of Thunder Dragon). There is a completely different level of pride, perhaps the best kind that I feel when I call myself 'a Bhutanese'. It is a beautiful feeling one gets when one thinks about the best thing in life. It makes us feel more fortunate. Growing up in a place where I could go outside every morning, spread my arms, and breathe the fresh air is a gift. Such is the joy of being a Bhutanese, one is merely thankful to the triple gem for every little thing in life, from being able to wake up in the morning to a brand new day to having a plate of rice with ema datshi. Life is simple and happy in Bhutan.

To the world at large today, Bhutan is widely

called the 'Land of Happiness' as our country pursues the development philosophy of Gross National Happiness. Though small, our country is considered as a peaceful nation, and we enjoy the glorious reigns of our far-sighted kings. From the enthronement of the first king, Gongsar Ugyen Wangchuck in 1907 till the reign of our present King, Bhutan has advanced immensely in terms of technology, education, health and other developments. The past two years indeed were remarkable in the history of Bhutan, and we should be grateful to our King for those endless inspections, guidance, motivation, kidu and other advice, which is why we could successfully combat the pandemic. People really understood the selfless, loving and caring qualities of our beloved His Majesty.

Our words are limited, yet the King's service to the people is unlimited. During the course of the pandemic, many lost their jobs and had difficulty in sustaining their lives. His Majesty was the light in the darkness. We, the Bhutanese were extremely fortunate and blessed to have faced this pandemic under an extraordinary leader like His Majesty. 'Despite being a small country with a small population, we can overcome any challenges we are faced with, when people and the government work together,' said His Majesty in his Royal Address to the nation on 22nd March, 2020. We cannot repay His Majesty's efforts in our lifetime, but we can pledge to serve the country with sincerity and dedication as well as by being a good human being.

As we look back, our Monarchs are the saviours of our light, for even a century and five Kings later, we wake up to better circumstances each day. Every day, as the morning star leads to the dawn, we wake up assured that we will not have any problems in this country like others. We neither have to beg, nor would see beggars; we do not hear the bombs and guns rather the music of peace prevails all over. Words are not enough to express the gratitude and love we have towards our Kings. How can I control the pride of being a Bhutanese when all I want is to boast about it. I happily and confidently can say that "I am so proud of my Kings and my country."

– Sonam Choki, Class IX, Gomtu Higher Secondary School. Sonam is passionate about reading and writing. She has good leadership skills and is currently serving as the class captain. She usually spends her leisure time at school reading books and writing articles on different topics. She aspires to write a book of her own in the future.



SHORT STORIES

Key Stage I

Our King

Long, long ago, there was a beautiful country called Bhutan. The country has one great King named King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck. He was born on 21st February 1980 to King Jigme Singye Wangchuck and Queen Mother Tshering Yangden Wangchuck. The people of the country celebrate His Majesty's birth anniversary on the 21st of February every year.

He has many brothers and sisters. They are all good and great helping the people of the country. They consider all people as their family members. He learned everything from His Father at a young age. He was well prepared to become a great King. He was crowned on 1st November 2008. He was only 28 years old then.

He married Queen Jitsen Pema Wangchuck. The King and Queen kissed on that day. We were happy. He is very handsome and smart. The Queen is very beautiful. They have two brilliant sons. The older Prince is named Jigme Namgyal Wangchuck and the little Prince is named Jigme Ugyen Wangchuck. They are a small and happy family. He lives in Thimphu at Lingkana Palace near Wangchu River.

He gives jobs to the army, police, Desuups, doctors, engineers, teachers and pilots. He gives

the students free education, hostel, books, geometry box, reading book, and eraser. He also gives vegetable seeds, fruit seeds and many more. He helps old people in the country. He leaves no poor behind.

Our King is our hero because He cares about our country and people. He is a living God. Our King is very helpful. He is liked and loved by all.

– Neeron Kr. Rai, Class III, Jaringay Primary School.



Our King

In the heart of the eastern Himalayas, there lives a great King named Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck. He rules a country called Bhutan, which has many forests, rivers, animals and stones. He loves his people very much.

His mother's name is Queen mother Tshering Yangdon Wangchuk and his father is the fourth King Jigme Singye Wangchuck. He is married to Queen Jitsuen Pema Wangchuck. She is very beautiful, and I love her very much. Our King has two sons. They are very young and handsome. They were both born at Lingkana Palace in Thimphu.

My King gives free books, pencils, geometry boxes, laptops, masks, shoes, suits, food, medicine and salary to my teachers. We also got a free CodeMonkey from the King. He also makes BHU, roads, dzongs and schools for the people of Bhutan. He gave food to dogs in Thimphu during the lockdown. My King is my hero. He fought against CoronaVirus.

My King is thin and tall. He wears white glasses. He keeps his hair short. He wears a new beautiful gho. He wears big shoes. He wears a yellow Kabney when he comes to my village and school. He uses the Raven Crown given by his father.

Thank you, my dear King.

- Upashna Rai, Class II, Jaringay Primary School.



SHORT STORIES

Key Stage II

Covid-19 Warriors

In 2022, it had been days since the last time we saw the summer sun. The Covid-19 Pandemic had already locked us in our houses, and the weather worsened it. It had rained so much that the small drainage system around our neighbourhood had turned into muddy streams. Like others, our family was running out of food; despite calling all the toll numbers, there was a delay in the delivery of food items we ordered. My father was the only one who headed out when necessary. My younger sister, my mother, and I were so terrified of the covid-19 that we hardly looked out of our windows.

That summer night, it rained like the end of the world. None of us could sleep well as the thunder rattled the grounds and boulders rumbled in a nearby stream formed by the recent rain. In the morning, it was still raining. I was collecting the dishes when we heard a loud burst outside our house.

"Flood! There's a flood!" exclaimed our neighbours. We looked through our small window and saw that the walls separating the houses had collapsed. The muddy water held by the wall was flooding the house near ours. I remember seeing our neighbour's household items being carried away by the giant water. 'Stay in. I'll go and help our neighbour!' my father shouted through the rain.

No sooner did my father leave, I felt my feet wet. By the time I looked down, our rooms were covered with water that was levelling up every second. 'It's coming from the toilet!' my mother panicked. She handed us a bucket each and asked us to scoop the water while she tried to block the source. Even after scooping for a while, the water had only risen. 'It's no use, head outside instead!' she shouted as she picked up my younger sister.

There was a huge stream right outside our doorway, and I couldn't cross it. My mother jumped the stream with my younger sister, but I was left behind. I was scared and began to cry. 'It's alright! Don't cry little one. We will help you!' a loud voice came through the rain. In no time, I saw 5 guys in orange uniforms, soaked from head to toe, escorting my mother and other people.

A tall guy with a face like a Laughing Buddha smiled at me from the other side, extending his hands while he said, "Do not look down at the water or else you may feel dizzy. Hold my hands. There is no need to be terrified." Right after he said that I looked down at the water because I was so scared I started feeling dizzy and skipped my left foot into the water. Suddenly I felt a hand grip my stomach. When I opened my eyes, I was in his arms. He carried me to my mother and said "It is all okay now. You are safe. We Desuups are here for you." While we waited

for the rain to stop, the Desuups moved quickly to save our world.

Phurba Tamang, Class IV, Namgaycholing Primary School, Tashicholing. Phurba actively participates in numerous literary activities and competitions conducted in the school. He is also one of the hardworking students who exhibits enthusiasm in different activities besides academic performance.



We Built it for Our King

"Let us share this idea with our class teacher", our school captain said after discussing it with everyone in the class. We are class VI students of Namgaycholing Primary School. It is our last year in school. We wanted to do something to leave a meaningful memory behind. Our class teacher discussed it with the principal and approved our idea.

We selected a place. It was perfect for what we had planned. Our school is on a gentle slope, where the girl's hostel and the principal's house are on top of the hill. We have a big Guru Rinpoche statue in between. We selected a spot a few metres away from the Guru Rinpoche statue.

The next day, we requested cement and sandbags from a construction site near our school and carried them up to our location. We also collected big stones and broke them into small sizes. It was hot and tiring.

On the Samtse tshechu holiday, we asked our cooks in the school for help. Two of them happily helped us, and we worked for three days continuously. Finally, on Monday, we invited our principal and teachers to see our creation. Our Principal asked us what it was and why it was built. One of my friends said loudly that it was called Sang Bum where we could make smoke offerings early in the morning or on special days. She said that we built this for our King, for His good health and long life.

Our principal said that he was happy and proud of us. They bought refreshments for us and snacks to eat later.

 Prabitra Ghalley, Class IV, Namgaychholing Primary School.



Patriotism and Loyalty

The wind was gusting through the branches of the trees, the mountains looked serene and echoes were heard from afar. With increased steps, it became heavier to live. To breathe was tough when the route became steeper but to stop was not an answer.

"Your Majesty!" An attendant shouted from a distance running through the crowd of soldiers and towards His Majesty who sat under the willow tree taking a break from the long hike. "Take it easy, Sonam. What's the matter?" His Majesty asked while rummaging through His bag.

"Your Majesty, I think we can't take this hike any further as the weather forecast showed that there is going to be a storm around the evening. So it might be better to stop for today and tent here." Replied Sonam.

"Well, precautions must be taken! Tell all the soldiers to make necessary preparations after the break." His Majesty commanded. When the soldiers began preparing, His Majesty took a walk into the woods.

The attendants followed His Majesty in the woods but were commanded to be left alone. It became quiet, and he could hear birds chirping and feel the soft breeze touching His face. While walking alone, every thought rushed through His mind. "I felt a gust yesterday and everything seemed normal, but now everyone is struggling with an unseen enemy called Covid 19. As a King I have to do something" He thought. He also realised that the country being small had many disadvantages from the pandemic; borders were closed, people were under lockdown, and so for the welfare of His people He decided to travel across the country to reach out to every individual. But He felt that too was also not enough.

He did not want to overthink about the situation but the silence made it difficult. "What should I do?" He whispered, "How can I show the love for my country and people? How can I protect myself? How...?"

"Your Majesty!" again His attendant came running towards His Majesty with a worried look. "We searched for you everywhere. The tents have been set up" He continued, "Everyone was worried about your absence, Your Majesty."

When they returned to their camp, the King saw everyone was panicking, but with a single sight of Him, they all were relieved. The King realised that He was not alone in this fight, everyone here has love and support for their country and people. "I am not alone," the King whispered to himself.

– Tshewang Dorji Ghalley, Class VI, Depheling Primary School. Tshewang is 12 years old from Sang-ngag Chhoeling and enjoys reading in this leisure time.



Covid-19 and My Experience

Covid-19 is one of the most dangerous viruses in the world. The virus was first spread in China in December 2019. It has killed millions of people in the world. The first case in Bhutan – my country started in 2020, when the entire international border had been sealed, and lockdowns were implemented in our country to prevent viruses from spreading like wildfire.

In Bhutan, 21 people sucuumed to the virus because of the virus. The government had started Covid-19 vaccination and until now, we had received four doses so far. All the inter-dzongkhag and gewog travel had been restricted across Bhutan. We used health safety protocols like frequently washing hands using soap, wearing facemasks, using hand sanitizers and keeping social distance.

Schools had been closed, and we had to go for online teaching and learning. Studying in a remote school, I faced many difficulties to study on time with only two teachers. They came to our home to teach us. We do not own mobile phones to study online and our parents could not afford internet facilities. I felt very sad when I had to stay back at home without going to school. I could not study on time.

During lockdowns, we were not allowed to get outside the house. I had to stay inside all the time. I looked after my younger brother and taught him what I learned from school. I did not get time to go out to play with my friends. I did not meet them at all. I missed my friend badly. I was not able to do anything. I like junk food a lot, but I was not allowed to go to the shop by my parents. I could not go to my relatives' house, and missed them.

One morning I was frightened when I caught fever and headache. Luckily my father is the Tshogpa of the village, and he took me for checkup, thinking that I had Covid-19. I could not utter a word thinking that I would die from the virus. My mother cried when my father took me for the checkup. My father consoled my mother not to worry. My father told us we had a loyal King to support us at any time.

Our government arranged everything and sent us all the things we wanted at our doorsteps. His Majesty the King helped all the needy people of the country with money every month. Those who have lost jobs, our country provided food and kidu. To poor and old people, health checkups were given in their houses. Our people help each other during difficult times with food, clothes and money.

Covid-19 is not only hampering our daily life, but it also helps our people to change their bad habits. Some of them quit smoking and drinking. Our environment remained clean and green throughout the year. Slowly everything becomes normal and things have resumed as usual.

I joined my school and studied regularly. I met with my friends, and they all are doing fine. We celebrated our meeting together happily ever after. Still then we are following health protocol strictly and listen to any order that our government gives us.

I would like to thank His Majesty the King, Prime Minister, Health Minister, my parents, teachers and all the people of Bhutan for keeping our country safe.

– Nabin Ghalley, Class IV, Dipujra Primary School. Nabin is from Dipujora and is an enthusiastic student and loves writing different genres. He was awarded the Best Reader of the academic year 2022 and aims to become a young writer in the country.



Pride of Being a Bhutanese

Once in the Kingdom of Bhutan, there lived a young girl named Chezom. She lived in the heart of Thimphu city. She was a proud citizen who would always wear the national dress at a time when many showed preference for wearing western attires. The country was on the verge of losing her national dress and identity as not many people preferred wearing national dress. However, Chezom was different. She always felt proud of adorning herself with colourful Kira, tego, and wonju. She respects the culture of wearing national attire so much that she hates wearing pants and shirts. She never

wore casual dresses in her entire life. All her friends, teachers, and neighbours knew about this. Even most of the people living in Thimphu heard about her loyalty.

One day, Dasho Dzongdag of Thimphu heard about her, and she was called to his office. She was at first scared and nervous about the call. She thought Dasho might have called her to punish her for something wrong she might have done. But once she went to see the Dasho, she was shocked to hear words of praise for being a proud Bhutanese and always promoting the culture of wearing national dress. She was praised for upholding the importance of traditional dress despite being a city girl. She was told how proud Dasho was for not getting influenced to wear western dresses unlike many others.

Dasho also told her the real reason why she was called. The reason was to request her to create awareness on the importance of wearing the national dress to her schoolmates and the community. To promote the importance of national dress. To instil the value of wearing the national dress at all times. More so, to be the Bhutanese by action, not only by blood. She was shocked as well as nervous. She wondered not knowing how to do this. This is a huge responsibility for a little girl like her. But to her relief, Dasho promised that he will assist her in carrying out the program. So, Dasho and she sat for hours thinking and planning. In the end, they agreed on giving a speech on the importance of wear-

ing national dress through BBS programs. So, in the following weeks, they sat together and prepared the best possible speech to advocate on the importance of wearing our own Bhutanese national dress.

Finally, she recorded the speech and it was aired on the BBS radio and TV channels. Everyone who listened and watched her program got inspired to wear the national dress. A young little girl, pleading on national TV and radio to wear a national dress got everyone encouraged. More so, people were inspired by her actions. Her action of never keeping off her national attire. To her, her pride is her national dress, which is so unique and the identity of the nation. Gradually, everyone started wearing Gho and Kira. Everyone started respecting their national dress. And everyone was proud of being Bhutanese and of their unique national dress.

One day, to her surprise, she received a call from His Majesty's Secretariat. She was asked to report there. She nervously went there wondering why she was called. But, upon reaching there, she was surprised to learn that her work and effort has been noticed by His Majesty the King and that she was called to reward for her efforts in changing the Bhutanese mindset towards wearing national dress. The King was so proud of Chezom. She was blessed to be able to meet His Majesty the King. It was her dream come true.

Chezom was a proud Bhutanese and a bless-

ing to the country. She was a role model to the nation and her people. Every one of us must be like Chezom. Every one of us must be proud Bhutanese.

- Tshuelthrim Yangchen Dolma, Class V, Samtse Lower Secondary School. Tshuelthrim has been a keen storyteller and a writer from a tender age. She loves creating stories and sharing them with her friends and parents.



The Two Boys

"Tashi! Tashi", Sonam called out. "What happened?" said Tashi. "Is something wrong? Let's go and play" he said. "Sorry I can't play," Tashi replied. "I have an important test tomorrow, so I have to study."

"Ah! You can just cheat!"

"Nope!" he said, "cheating is a bad habit, I will study."

Tashi was a poor boy who loved to study. He would help his parents and always listen to their advice. Sonam was a rich boy who hardly studied. He would never listen to his parents and depend on them.

Soon it was time for the exam. Sonam did not mind; He was playing all day long. Even his parents scolded, shouted, and cried for him to study. But he didn't listen.

Tashi was revising all the pages of his books. He didn't even leave a page unturned. His parents were happy to see their son work hard. As they entered the exam hall, Tashi saw Sonam holding a crumpled paper.

"What is he going to do with that paper?" Tashi thought "Hey! Sonam, what are you going to do with that paper?" 'Oh! Tashi, it's you, with this paper ummmm.... Uh .I-I am going to uh...... play'. 'Oh! I see, " said Tashi. The Principal arrived into the examination hall and examined the students. He saw Sonam cheating and called out "Sonam, how could you do that!"

When Sonam heard those words, he was stunned, and said "I-I am so sorry sir."

"I am going to call your parents!"

"But,"

"No but!" said the principal. As time went on, Tashi became a successful man whereas Sonam became a pauper.

This story tells us about how our future is hidden among the depths of our own ocean. We create our own future by running through the vast forest and swimming through the ocean. Our hard work will pay off and you will find your own inner talents and potential.

– Jamyang Pema Selden, Class IV, Samtse Lower Secondary School.



SHORT STORIES

Key Stage III

My Future, My Responsibility

Aum Namgay sighed heavily, and said to her husband, "My god, why are kids like this these days, why don't they understand that these kinds of activities will risk their future." Her husband Ap Jamstho said, "Don't worry aum khoray let them live their life to the fullest, let them experience what life is all about."

Aum Namgay gave a prompt reply saying, "Yes, I know that but there is a certain age for everything. But don't you think they are too young for this." When Ap Jamtsho was about to respond to her, his phone suddenly started buzzing and Aum Namgay was left alone. She opened her locker and took out one album which looked like the most precious thing she had. She slowly started opening the photo album and her whole facial expressions changed when she went through the pictures in it. Her sad face abruptly glowed; it was the picture of her beloved sons and daughter.

A family frame where everybody looked so thrilled and happy. She said underneath her breath with teary eyes, "Those days were always so good, I wish everything was like in the past. Only if we had enough time for our kids and only if the kids cooperated with us, but what can I do?"

She found a perfect picture of her sons, Chogyel and Sangay. The ones who were born with a

birthmark of stars behind their ears and both were born in the year of the dragon of the Bhutanese calendar. Chogyel was 1 year older than Sangay. Both of them were in Class X. Chogyel had failed Class X and that's why he landed up in the same class as his younger brother.

While Aum Namgay was going through the photo album, Chogyel entered the room and asked for money from his mother. She refused but he started crying and said to his mother right on her face "Ama, you are such a control freak." Aum Namgay was so upset that she slapped her son and it was the first time that kind of incident had occurred in the house. At that moment Ap Jamtsho and Sangay entered the room. Hearing what his son had said to his wife, he was furious and he grounded Chogyel for two whole weeks.

Aum Namgay was devastated, but Sangay spoke up "Ama, I think that acho is actually right. You are being too controlling, I mean like look at my best friend Dawa, his parents are so cool. Why can't you let us live a life like that?" Aum Namgay calmly replied, "Oh, so you guys want a life like Dawa's. I just wanted to brighten your future and let you two live a luxurious life later and to accomplish that you must be studying and working hard right now. You are living on our money right now, you don't have your own income, we won't be there for you always."

Before she could complete her sentence Sangay said, "Ama, save your lecture for someone else, I think it would be best for ashim, Pelmo." Pelmo was the eldest child of the family, she was four

years older than Chogyel. Pelmo was always neglected in the family because in their family they always expected the first child to be a son and everyone thought that Pelmo was a disgrace to the family. Pelmo had completed Class XII from a Higher Secondary School in Bhutan.

After saying those awful words to his mother, Sangay left the room. While Ap Jamtsho and Aum Namgay were discussing the earlier matters there was a loud knock on the door, Pelmo opened the door, and it was a postman with a parcel for Ms. Pelmo. She excitedly opened the envelope. It was an acceptance letter from Harvard university, USA. She called her parents and both of them were so proud of her, especially her father who supported her in every field of her life. Her mother was also so proud of her and she said with teary eyes, "Pelmo, darling I am so proud of you although I never treated you the way you deserved still then you are my daughter and I am your mother, I had expected one of my sons to go to that kind of prestigious university but what to do because of the way I brought them up, they are like this now, but darling how did you manage to do all of these?"

Pelmo answered, "Yes Ama, you weren't always there for me, but Apa loved and cared for me but he didn't have enough time for me because of his work but at school my physics teacher Mrs. Passang Wangmo always encouraged, advised and helped me in every state. She told me that it is my future and my responsibility. Even if no one is there to stand up for me, I have to build a bright future for myself by myself."

Ap Jamtsho said, "I knew you could do it my child," and hugged her tight. Aum Namgay said, "I would really love to meet this wonderful woman. I hope we can meet one day." Pelmo gracefully smiled saying, "Of course Ama." While having their family moment, Chogyel and Sangay walked from the main door all drunk and unstable. They were badmouthing their family especially their mother who had loved and cared for them her whole life.

A few years passed. Pelmo graduated from University with flying colours, while both the brothers, Chogyel and Sangay were sent to rehabilitation. Ap Jamtsho and Aum Namgay had taken special care of Chogyel and Sangay, but they chose to take the wrong path, and it ruined their future. They were responsible for what happened to them. While Pelmo was not given the required love and care, she was independent and most importantly she realised an essential thing "My future, my responsibility".

Devya Subedi, Class VIII G,
 Peljorling Higher Secondary School.



The Arrogant Son

Once upon a time there lived a Lord who had a son. The country that the Lord was ruling over was prosperous and the Lord was a great ruler who was highly respected by his subjects. The Lord wanted his son to become a great ruler too and tried to teach his son about ruling, but the son never listened to what his father said. One day the Lord got a terminal illness and was on the brink of death. The Lord on his deathbed left a message for both his son and his people, 'Our Future, Our Responsibility'. The new Lord, lazy, egotistical and arrogant did not understand his father's message and instead chose to ignore his father's message and wanted to do things his way. He lazily did his work and ignored the country's customs, culture, and tradition and did not enforce the law. Whenever someone spoke out against him, he punished them.

Under the new Lord's rule the country was in shambles. There was complete chaos and the kingdom was under threat from other countries. So, the people rioted and exiled the new Lord. The other countries saw the opportunity of the new Lord's exile and came to invade the country. The invaders who came to the kingdom were pitiful at the pathetic condition of the kingdom that they left. The young Lord who was now living in a forest in exile had no idea what was going on in his country. The country

which was once a heaven slowly turned into a living hell. One day he heard from a nearby town about the state of his kingdom and at night during his sleep his father visited him in his dream, he told his father the state of the kingdom and about his exile and asked his father for advice. His father carefully listened and said, "Our Future, Our Responsibility".

The young Lord for the next few days wondered what his father meant. He never took anything seriously in his life. Whatever he wanted was right there in front of him all the time and he did what he wanted to. He never felt the need to learn what was good and what was bad being born with a silver spoon. Finally, after a few days of cracking his head, he understood what his father meant and took it to heart and made his journey back to the country. When the young prince arrived back, he tried to persuade the people, but the people rejected his persuasion and almost kicked him out of the country again. But the prince did not give up and stayed around his kingdom finding ways to overcome all the challenges.

After a few days the people saw that he had truly changed. They saw his hard work and effort. They saw that his intention was to truly help his people and although sceptical, with some even stating that he does not deserve to be forgiven, the people accepted the young Lord as they saw the new changes. With new instruction,

he took the independence and responsibility seriously and worked hard to preserve their culture, economy and environment. Although the process was slow, the new Lord through his hard work and resilience managed to change the country for better. The Country became prosperous yet again. The Lord, now the King and the kingdom lived happily ever after.

– Sherab Dorji, Class VIII, Norbugang Central School. Sherab takes keen interest in writing because he feels that as an introverted person, writing helps him express his thoughts. "The Arrogant Son" is one of his fictional stories.



It is not a question of whether we have the capabilities to achieve success. The question is, will we make the choice to stand up and take responsibility? Will we choose to make a difference?

- Druk Gyalpo Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck





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