

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE 2001-2010 AND NON-VIOLENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD

**International Essay Contest for Young People**  
My Role in Creating a Peaceful World

The Foundation  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
Goi Peace Foundation

### 2010 International Essay Contest for Young People

Organized by The Goi Peace Foundation and UNESCO

Endorsed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan  
Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, Japan Broadcasting Corporation  
Nikkei Inc., Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education

The United Nations has designated 2001-2010 as the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World" and 2005-2014 as the "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development." Additionally, 2010 celebrates the International Year of Youth as well as the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures. Young people are encouraged to participate in these global initiatives and play a leading role in promoting peace and understanding among all cultures.

■ **THEME**

#### "My Role in Creating a Peaceful World"

What is your vision of a peaceful and harmonious world? What can you and the young people of the world do to realize that vision?

■ **GUIDELINES**

- Essays may be submitted by anyone up to 25 years old (as of June 30, 2010) in one of the following age categories:  
a) Children (ages up to 14) b) Youth (ages 15 - 25)
- Essays must be 800 words or less in English, French, Spanish or German; or 1600 characters or less in Japanese, typed or printed.
- Essays must have a cover page indicating (1) category (Children or Youth) (2) essay title (3) your name (4) mailing address (5) phone number (6) e-mail address (7) nationality (8) age as of June 30, 2010 (9) sex (10) school name (if applicable) (11) word count. Teachers and youth directors may submit a collection of essays from their class or group. Please enclose a list of participants' names and the name and contact information of the submitting teacher or director. (Entries missing any of the above information will not be considered.)
- Entries may be submitted by postal mail or e-mail. (Email entries must be in text or MS Word format, with the cover page and essay sent together as one document.)
- Essays must be original and unpublished.
- Essays must be written by one person. Co-authored essays are not accepted.
- Copyright of the essays entered will be assigned to the organizers.

■ **DEADLINE**

Entries must be received by **June 30, 2010.**

■ **AWARD**

- The following awards will be given in the Children's category and Youth category respectively:
- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1st Prize: Certificate and prize of 100,000 Yen (approx. US\$1,000) | 1 entrant   |
| 2nd Prize: Certificate and prize of 50,000 Yen (approx. US\$500)    | 2 entrants  |
| 3rd Prize: Certificate and gift                                     | 5 entrants  |
| Honorable Mention: Certificate and gift                             | 25 entrants |
- 1st prize winners will be invited to the award ceremony in Tokyo, Japan scheduled for November 2010. (Travel expenses will be covered by the organizers.)
  - All prize winners will be announced in November 2010 on the Goi Peace Foundation web site ([www.goipeace.or.jp](http://www.goipeace.or.jp)) and UNESCO web site ([www.unesco.org/youth](http://www.unesco.org/youth)).

**PLEASE SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO:**

International Essay Contest c/o The Goi Peace Foundation  
1-4-5 Hirakawacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0093 Japan  
E-mail : [essay@goipeace.or.jp](mailto:essay@goipeace.or.jp)

We are unable to confirm receipt of individual essays.

Artwork courtesy of 2009 International Peace Fair Art Exhibition and Awards

## Sign Language



# Feeling letters

## Through the Sand Book Project

**T**HE idea of Sand Book was inspired from the trip organised to the sea. The teacher gave to her students some words and letters to write on the sand. She was surprised that all her students were integrated in this activity even the weak one!

One more noticeable thing was that the way the students enjoyed writing on the sand. From there came the idea in mind and instantly the teacher described the project to the students and they started gathering the material from the sea shore.

When they came back to school the students started



original thing to stimulate students' proficiency levels.

They realised another project using the spices to write letters and numbers. This project was adapted on various configurations. Writing letters, numbers, recognising colours and shapes ... all these skills demonstrate the versatility and adaptability of the project work.

As we had demonstrated beforehand about the versatility and adaptability of the projects with their various configurations, the project had a very positive effect on the students' motivation and readability to learn.

The teacher wanted to spread the sphere of the project to extend at home to be the suitable and natural atmosphere to practice such activities.

For these reasons she presented an elaborated workshop to the mothers explaining how to adopt this project at home and its various configurations and use not only in English but also in Arabic and Mathematics.

All the mothers were happy and thanked the teacher for these ideas that help them to teach their children at home and attract their attention by learning through playing.

— Sameh Abdul Majeed Marzougui, Teacher



see a word, go at the back and draw it on their friend back and the later writes the word on the back of the one in front of him or her, and so on the one at the front writes it on the sand book if it is correct they score one point, and go at the back to give to another student the opportunity of writing on the sand book.

making their project.

They produce an attractive Sand Book and they started using it in classroom activities.

The teacher gave the students various games and activities to use with the sand book with the integration of all language skills.

The Sand Book became one of the most precious materials in the classroom. The students enjoyed writing and feeling letters.

They found it funny. They used it in the Chinese whisper in other version: students line up into two lines the two at the back come to the teacher and

They used the Sand book not only in writing letters and words but also in writing numbers and drawing shapes. It was suitable for all grades. It was integrated as a warm up and also as a main activity.

The success of this Project inspired the teacher's creativity and she looked for more

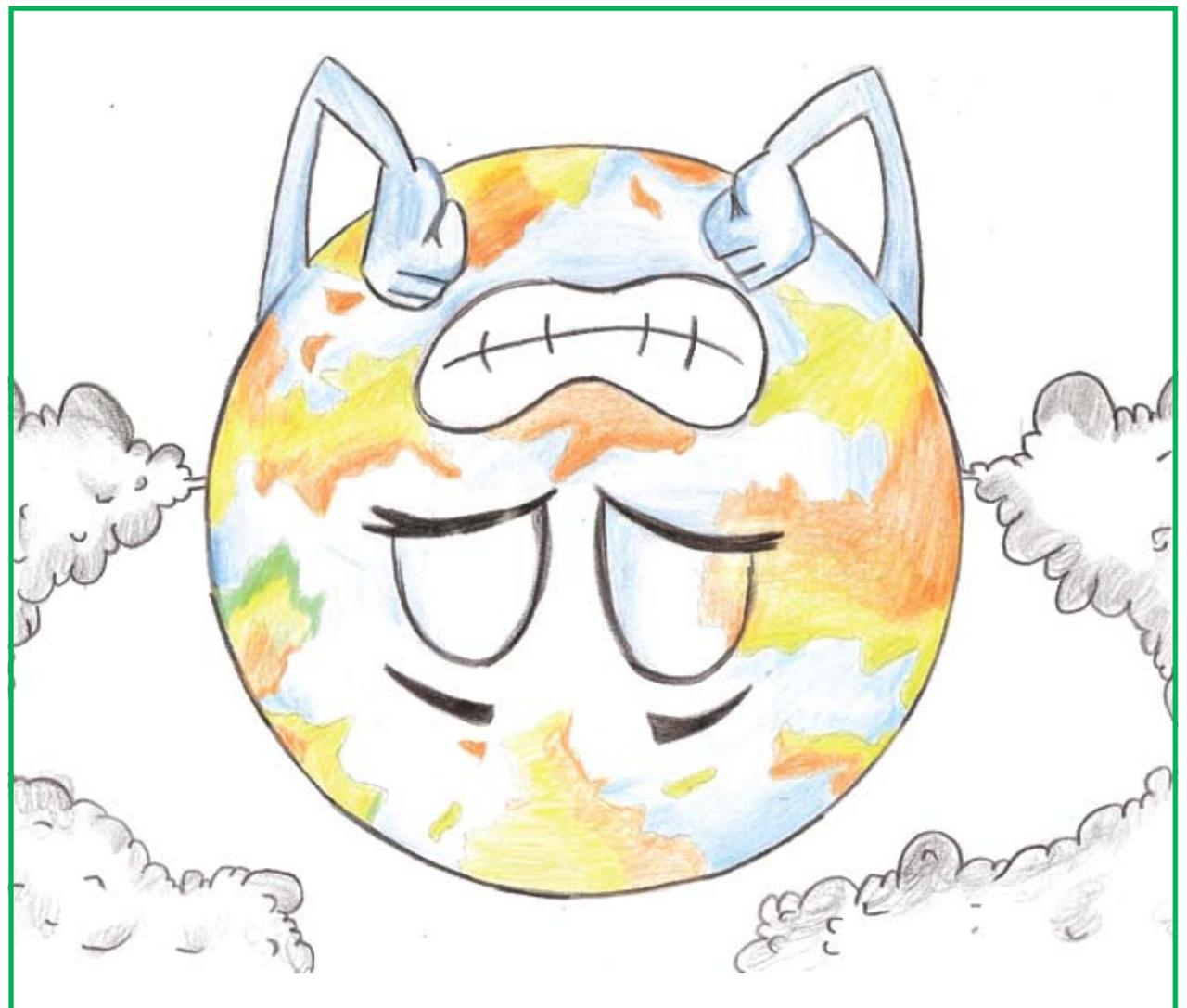
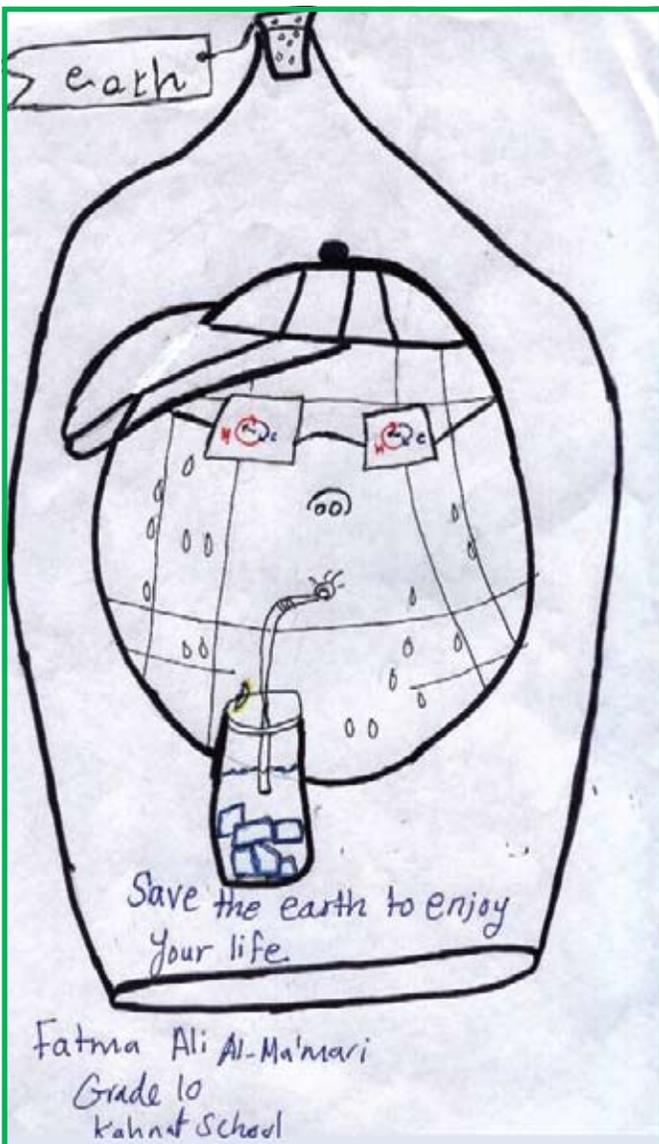




— By Ahmed Suleiman Al Sheabli, 11/5, Sohar Post Basic School



— By Ibrahim Abdullah Al Muqbali, 11/6, Sohar Post Basic School;



— By Omeran Darwish Al Jahwari, 11/5, Sohar post basic school

# Youth Observer con



ON the 10th of April 2010, a ceremony was held to thank all the students who won in the *Youth Observer's* competitions. The ceremony was held in the Oman Establishment for Press, Publication and Advertising. The event was presided over by His Excellency Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Under-Secretary for Financial Affairs, Ministry of Finance, in the presence of Her Excellency Dr Muna bint Salim Al Jardaniya, Under-Secretary for Education and Curricula, Ministry of Education, and His Excellency Abdullah bin Nasser Al Rahbi, Editor in Chief — *Oman Arabic daily* and CEO, Oman Establishment for Press, Publication and Advertising.

Director-Generals, directors, school principals, senior supervisors, English teachers and students also attended the ceremony to receive their prizes and certificates of appreciation.

The ceremony began with some verses from the Holy Quran, recited by Yasser Al Sanadi, Jaber bin Zaid Boys' School. The programme was compered by Shaima Al Hosni, Aseela bint Qais School, Muscat, and Al Mutasim Al Mamari, Jaber bin Zaid Boys' School, Muscat.

Mrs Thuraya Saif Al Hosni, Educational Advisor and Head of the *Youth Observer* team delivered a speech on behalf of the Ministry of Education. She stated that, "the idea of allocating an English newspaper written by students came about because the Ministry of Education strongly believed in providing opportunities for all students to improve their writing skills in English."

She continued that "The *Youth Observer* is an educational newspaper, published monthly by the Ministry of Education in co-operation with the Oman Establishment for Press, Publication and Advertising since 2002, and is financed by a number of private sector companies, Oman Shipping LLC, Oman Mobile and PDO. She thanked the three companies for their sponsorship and expressed the hope that they will continue to support the Ministry of Education. ..."

Her speech was followed by an exciting PowerPoint presentation about the *Youth Observer*. This was prepared by Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al Hosni, Asim bin Omar School, Muscat.

Al Hajar School students, Ibri, Dhahirah acted out a very powerful play



that they had written and produced themselves. The play was about the how the *Youth Observer* was conceived and how it has helped students display their talents in writing through the medium of English Language.

The chief guest then presented the prizes and certificates of appreciation to the winning students, teachers, schools and regions.

First and second place winners re-



ceived laptops, and third prize winners received DVD players. The winners were as follows:

#### A. Poetry writing: "The Day Oman Won":

First Prize: Hamed Ahmed Al-Badri, Grade 6, Al-Khamael School, Batinah North

Second Prize: Shurooq Salem Al-Zawawi, Grade 7, Al-Sahwa Schools,

Muscat

Third Prize: Nujood Waleed Al-Hashar, Grade 7, Al-Sahwa Schools, Muscat.

#### B. Powerpoint Presentation: 'Oman Remembered'

First Prize: Qais Saif Al-Hamami, Grade 8, Al-Suwaik Basic Education School, Batinah North.

Second Prize: Mohammed Juma



Al-Hashmi, Grade 8, Al-Suwaik Basic Education School, Batinah North.

Third Prize: Mahmoud Dawod Al-Shidi, Grade 8, Al-Suwaik Basic Education School, Batinah North.

#### C. Traditional Folk Tales:

First Prize: 'The Scary Camel', Majid Tariq Saud Al-Busaidi, Grade 8, Ahmed bin Al-Nadher School, Dakliyah Region.

Second Prize: 'After the Sinistral

comes the Affluence', Qasabi, Grade 9, Jaliyah Region.

Third Prize: 'A Good Day', rah Ali Abdullah Al-Maria Al Qubtiya School.

#### D. Best Reporter:

Shaima Ahmed Aseelah bint Qais S



#### E. Winning design: 'Khalas Asia':

Asia Rashid Al-Hajar School, Ibri, Dhahirah

#### F. Winning Best Reporter for YO:

Noora Abdullah Al-Hajar School, Ibri, Dhahirah

#### G. 'Creative use of

