



International Mother Earth Day

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The Israeli Model United Nations Association

Dedicated to the Next Generation of Diplomatic Leadership

International Mother Earth Day

Earth Day is a day that celebrates our planet and mother nature, a day that before anything else marks the anniversary and birth of the modern environmental movement. Established in 1970, this movement gave a voice to an emerging public consciousness about the state of our planet. Earth Day comes to provide a voice for people and communities seeking the protection of our planet and aspiring to make it as healthy, as clean, and as alive as possible.

Former U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin chose Earth Day to be celebrated on April 22nd. Gaylord, disturbed that an issue as important as our environment was not addressed by any means, stepped up and created a formal day to raise awareness about our environment; a day to celebrate the beauty of our planet and remind us not to take it for granted. On April 22nd, 1970, 20 million people from all across the United States attended festivals that were set to celebrate Earth Day. The only thing we humans have in common is this earth.



I have traveled, and seen how the climate change crisis, and the resulting actions of people to it, is gradually changing the natural balance of the planet. Cities such as Beijing are being choked with pollution, as incredible and unimaginable forests are being unsaturated and cut from the ground. In India, crops are being washed away by historic flooding, the ancient Arctic glaciers are rapidly disappearing as they melt at a pace unprecedented in modern times, and the seas are swallowing villages and flooding shore lines



There is no doubt that all the destruction to our planet is a direct result of human activity. If we do not make adjustments the effects will become astronomically worse in the future, and we will be forced to leave a world which is suffocating to our future generations. Our planet cannot be saved unless fossil fuels stay in the ground where they belong, unless we as human beings take action in organizing bins

for every piece of trash we throw away; unless we as human beings try to minimize the amount of plastic waste thrown away. It is in our hands to make our planet healthy again. A better future is still possible, never doubt it, but it is not guaranteed. If we do nothing, if we do not act to build a better, more sustainable future, it will not happen. There is no "invisible hand" — in the economy, in technology, in policy — that will save us from ourselves. The hands that are going to build a better future are right in front of us. They are your hands and mine, the hands of our neighbors and loved ones, and the hands of the people all around the world wanting to build a better future for our children.

You must also think about the younger generations. Do you want your children growing up knowing that you had the ability, and the means, to stop this devastation but chose not to? What kind of example do you want to set for the younger generation? Do you want them to grow up valuing this planet, or taking it for granted?

A massive change is required, one that will lead to a new collective consciousness and an evolution of the human race. We have a choice between a thriving sustainable world, or a world that is dangerous, degraded, and depleted for future generations. Ask yourself, Will you stand on the sideline? Or will you stand up, and work towards solutions for a better world? Remember that the future, and our children will judge us for our choices.

So instead of closing our ears to mother nature's screams and shutting our eyes to all of her "help wanted" signs, let us act as her loving children. As daughters and sons, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers it is on us to make a change.

Let us make history, and let us make our environment better, stronger and healthier. It is our duty to protect mother nature from those who refuse to see its beauty. We deserve to drink clean water, to marvel at the trees that breathe air free of toxins, and to live in a healthy and clean environment.



Yet, if we do not take action, the forests will turn into deserts, the clean water we drink will become toxic, the animals will become extinct, and the plants we once planted in our gardens will die.



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This is why we must take action, we must help in every little way possible, and we must raise awareness about the critical nature of this issue. This is what Earth Day is all about. It is about raising awareness of the importance of our planet, as we teach the young ones to value our Earth, and not take it for granted.



Remember that Earth does not belong to us, but we to it. So do not take it for granted and do not treat it like it's yours, rather value it, protect it and keep it healthy and clean because at the end of the day, it is where we live and the reason we breathe.

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Message from the Author

For International Mother Earth day

**"The sound of the wind brushing the leaves away
The air that we breath day by day
The sound of the birds on a sunny day
This common interest we all share today
All leads back to our planet earth that we shall
celebrate on this day and protect everyday"**

-Maiss Halabi-

Meet the Author

Maiss Halabi

Maiss Halabi, 20, a Druze girl from Dalijat el Carmel, has always been passionate about making the world a better place. This year, Maiss joined the Model United Nations society at the Hebrew University (HujiMUN) where she is currently pursuing her passion. A First year B.A. student, Maiss is currently majoring in pharmacy/pharmaceutical science in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, as she pursues a career in her other passion, helping others in the medical field. Maiss loves to write and read in her personal time, and loves to explore the outdoors. She is a strong believer in nature and in humanity, she lives not to be remembered by how she looks, or by what she wears, but what she does and says.

