

***ASPECT: ESSAY WRITING***

***‘PEACE’***



Peace can be defined as the presence of tranquility or the absence of conflicts, social tension, and wars. It can also be termed as the period after a war has ended. The first prerequisite for peace to reign is love. Mahatma Gandhi said, The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace. For many years now, the peace of our country, Cameroon, has been obstructed. Notably, the ongoing socio-political crisis in the Northwest and Southwest regions, the Boko Haram insurgency in the Far North region, the rebels from the Central African Republic in the East region. These have caused violations of the basic rights of mankind. So many lives have been wasted, schools have been shut down in many areas, a lot of infrastructural damage, kidnapping with demands for huge sums of money, rapes, early marriages, and so many others.

There is a saying that "Without peace, development cannot follow." Hence, we all have to take initiatives that will restore and maintain peace within our community.

We should be empathetic, that is trying to put ourselves in the shoes of others.

We should avoid hate speech or other forms of abuse.

We should avoid propagating fake news.

We should denounce tribalism, bribery, and corruption.

All funds allocated for community projects should be utilized accordingly.

We should sensitize and mobilize others on the importance of peace.

Youths should also participate in decision-making.

We should practice effective communication and be inclusive when resolving disputes.

Summarily, it is a blessing to have such great cultural diversity and therefore we should cherish it. Some of the above-mentioned tips are core values of the African philosophy called 'UBUNTU' derived from Zulu in South Africa with founder Nelson Mandela meaning "I am because we all are."

***By Tandangwe Nordine***