



*Children Of Abraham
Peace Essay Contest*

2008 Award Ceremony

Welcome!!

It is the cause of those of us who profess to believe in one of the great faiths to champion the causes that our religious founders held dear. I believe it is our responsibility to prop up those who feel as if society is constantly pushing them down.

--Tamara Abdelsamad



Injustice is an enemy so powerful that talk of fighting against it seems futile.... At the heart of all fights against injustice is the fundamental recognition that all humans are equal in moral worth and should treat each other as such.

--Anirudha Balasubramanian



Through their actions and teachings, the Prophets showed that corruption... ultimately results in negative consequences for everyone, and that living peacefully and respectfully is the only way to obtain true satisfaction.

--Mandeep Bedi



People today can use the methods of the prophets to create change for the good; they can change the lives of a few, change the lives of the community, or even change the world.

--Ali Buhisi



The rise of hatred and corruption in their societies brought forth the revelations of Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad.... Each used a different method to improve the lives of all people.

--Omar Buhisi



Everyone has witnessed corruption in some form, but few actually fight against it. This is why the people who attempt to transform corruption into harmony shine all the more. Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad were three such men.

--Gemma d'Eustachio



Corruption is truly a cycle.
After being demoralized, one naturally repeats the same mistreatment toward another human being, who in turn makes the same mistake....
But we are fortunate in that there is another cycle that is even more powerful and encompassing – the cycle begun by Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad.

--Krzysztof Franaszek



Corruption occurs when a powerful person or a group of powerful people take advantage of that power to engage in harmful and dishonest conduct.... However, there are individuals who, despite their personal fears, speak up, tell the truth to others, and confront the powerful.

--Larissa Franklin



Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad were filled with compassion and love for their people, and they stood up in support of the weakest and most downtrodden folk in their communities. The approaches taken by these leaders are examples for people who want to transform corruption and injustice in the world today.

--Devika Jaipruiaar



Coexistence and tolerance may not be values that come naturally to society, but they are values that can be taught, learned, accepted, and embraced over time. Although the past evils of inequality cannot be changed, future evils can be prevented.

--Diana Jeang



God provided a most undeserving and holy gift of religion to his children – the people of the world. However, the receivers of the ultimate gift corrupted this beautiful endowment. The result is human conflict through war, killing, injustice, and persecution.

--Jonathan Kesten



Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad rejected the idolatry and hypocrisy practiced by the religious and political authorities of their time. They each established a renewed sense of moral responsibility and accountability for future generations in order to save souls, not pocketbooks.

--Melissa Mergner



As conflict occurs across the world, it is time to look back in order to move forward. We must take to heart the lessons taught by Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad, practicing love instead of hate, peace in place of violence, and patience in the face of aggravation.

--Rachel Mulbry



Even though people may hurt us for what we believe in, we should never give up and always have faith. Even when corruption is blatant, it is our duty to stand up for what we believe in.

--Noha Sherif



Many people favor product over process, disregarding the importance of the process necessary to attain the product.

--Sarah Sprague



Corruption manifests in society in many different forms, but it is essentially the consequence of choosing a selfish, evil course of action over good. It stems from the duality of human nature, wherein each individual has inherent capacity for good or evil, peace or violence – and as a function of this duality, they also have the ability to reason and choose one over the other.

--Lauren Sumida



One's position on truth determines whether one will lead or simply subsist in life. Having confidence, strength, faith, and power, the determination to thrive will triumph over all impediments.

--Amanda Tedstone



Selflessness is necessary in a leader of peace, as it displays the willingness to sacrifice one's self not for self-gain but to establish a just environment and to stand up for what is right.

--Wensheng Wei

