

INDIA AS I SEE CONTEST

HOW CAN WE GROW

Oishi Chatterjee,

Class- VIII,

Carmel Convent High School, MAMC, Durgapur

West Bengal

Dear Nation

This letter comes to you from the pen of a thirteen-year-old student of Class VIII. As an adolescent who just stepped into the teens, I share deep reverence for the country in my heart which cannot be expressed in simple words.

Patriotism to me earlier sounded like a big word implying sacrifices of our freedom fighters. But as I am growing up every day, I have started to realise that patriotism is not about fighting a war or giving big speeches. It lies in our small everyday actions that can together make our country grow and become a better place to live in. Our growth as individuals is linked to the growth of our nation. The first thing we can do for the country is to take our role as student seriously by focussing on our education; a country's foundation lies in its education. Our teachers, parents work hard to give us this opportunity and we can make the most of it by our sincere efforts. By performing our civic duties, obeying rules, preserving public property, protecting our national heritage and values, we can show our love and respect for the nation. By helping the poor and the needy and treating everyone with dignity, respecting and accepting each and every difference we can build a strong, harmonious and united nation.

I would like to grow up as a responsible citizen, a dutiful, kind and compassionate human being. We are the future of the nation and a lot of responsibility rests upon us. By striving to become the best versions of ourselves, we can truly honour our nation's spirit.

----- Yours always

Oishi, a young Indian mind.