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Why Are Human Rights Important?

I was still a child, when my mother constantly reminded me: “Not only are your rights important, think and remember about your duties.”

Through a balance of knowledge of rights and fulfillment of obligations, my mother wanted to educate me as honest and responsible, disciplined and punctual. Then I grew up and got a much better idea of the importance of my rights from my deceased father's unspoken messages and warnings, lessons and advice.

Just imagine, I don't remember my father, because I was only one and a half years old when he passed away ...

And now he has become my memory, my second “self”, the law and judge of my conscience, the standard for my beliefs and ideas.

He fought for the defense and importance of my rights, the rights of my mother and of my homeland. He carried out all his fighting shifts through the language of rights, and the one, that became fatal for him; he opposed the enemy through the true language of rights, it is

through the true language of right that he squashed the enemy's head and forcibly threw him back...

It was not revenge for my slain grandfather that drove my father to avenge, not at all ... My grandfather, who was also killed during the Artsakh War, also struggled for Artsakh's freedom, independence and the right for self-determination. This further inflamed my father's inner drive for the defense of his own rights. With this enviable ideology, my grandfather, my father and thousands of brave people wrote one of the glorious pages of our history – the victory of the Artsakh War that makes me and my peers responsible before our country and the nation, before the sanctified martyrs, whose commands reach my ears every day.

Every day I fix and create my hopeful future with my father's image. Growing up, as time passes by, the past becomes more meaningful and emphasizes the defense of my rights and the rights of my peers, as well as the preservation of the right to self-determination.

I want to live in a country, where rights are defended, since my father and his ideological friends earned it. I want to speak and think in the language of rights, because in this way I feel protected, strong and invulnerable. Without awareness of one's own rights, there is no, and cannot be any, high and noble idea. All thoughts and actions that bypass rights are doomed to failure.

We have no way to endure other than the recognition and preservation of our own rights. Otherwise, we will suffer in the darkness of lawlessness.

We have inherited the importance of our rights ever since the reign of King Vachagan the Pious, during whose reign 1,500 years ago, a unique legal document was adopted – the Canonical Constitution by King Vachagan from Aghvan. For 1,500 years, the Constitution directly or indirectly served as the formation of the legal conscience on our land and for the main goal – the protection of ancient Armenian lands. We know the value of the defense of rights. We have no right to weaken and must present ourselves to the world with our law-abiding and right-preserving traditions. This is our nature.

I believe in the power of right. It is in direct relation to the strength of my father's fist, because he earned my right to proper living. I have no intention to rob and steal, my neighbor's property does not attract me, I want to live honestly on the land, sanctified by the blood of heroes, and to live with the awareness of my and everyone's rights, together with the duties, invoked by my mother.