

It's not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better but the man who is in the arena with his face smeared in dust, marred by sweat and blood. The critic is more a man of thoughts and words limited only to the mind; his action is passive because it is not fuelled by an experience of joy witnessed in growth and progress.

Now, the man in the arena is the one who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short repeatedly because there is no effort without error and shortcoming. The point is who does actually strive to do the deeds? The one who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause and who at the best knows the triumph of high achievement and who at worst if he fails at least falls while daring greatly.

Ladies and Gentlemen, when you keep working, your worries and fears give way to hope, hope that keeps expanding to superimpose the shrinking worries. It is then that small, still voice of your finest self whispers that a very special adventure is going to begin; an adventure that will take you to progress and continued progress and the ensuing joy when you become a truer version of yourself.

Role-play has always been a powerful medium of education. From now on until Sunday evening, you will be addressed as delegates. As delegates, make the best use of your faculties because this is a matter of your growth, your progress and self-discovery.

You are here to perceive problems, analyze, debate and collaborate in the hour of crisis to find solutions and create a perfectly workable plan. If your solution is accepted, it should be a matter of joy and not a matter of winning over the others. Shift your thoughts from success to joy that accompanies when you are able to bring accord in discord and create harmony.

And if you do this with utmost concentration, patience and perfection the way you create, produce and show up in; the world shall never be the same. You will be leaders with a progressive self and thus a progressive world because the collective character of the human beings who build it determines the character of the world.

Which year would be a better testimonial of what I have said than the year of the pandemic? Had the world taken Vasudhaiva Kutumbakum in spirit and in truth, we would not have had to bear the brunt of the present pandemic. Each time you come across a crisis in your respective committees as delegates, delve into yourself to ask, 'Should business, Economic progress and diplomacy happen regardless of humanity and human joy?'

May the experience at JMUN shape your perceptions, your inspirations and your implementations to create a 'YOU' that is a friendlier, empathetic global citizen. Create a world of not only changed mindsets but also truer and purer soul-sets.