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The article is written by Mohammad Imtiaz, enrolled in BA LLB 1st Year of the Government Law College, Thiruvananthapuram. The author reflects on their life from childhood to old age and shares their thoughts on the meaning of life. As they grow older, they come to realize that life is not always easy. They face challenges and setbacks, but they also experience joy and love. They learn the importance of responsibility and hard work, and they come to appreciate the simple things in life.

Musings on Life

When I was little, my mind was flooded with thousands of possibilities of what I could do. I had strong ambitions, and creative hobbies and was always in a state of joy. There was no need to worry about anything. You ask or cry for it, you get it. I thought that I was born free in every possible manner as long as I do not cause too much nuisance to my parents. At this stage, I believed Life was so simple.

Then I grew up to be an adolescent. At this phase, I realized that there is more to the meaning of the term living. There was a time to struggle, a time to work hard. There was indeed some responsibility as a son, a sibling, and as a student. Still, I had found joy in this stage. It is at this stage that I came to understand the family of friends where you can share all your thoughts and emotions freely. I always tried to look my best when I went out so that I could impress anyone. It is the time when you are the most active, with adrenaline pumping most of the time. You come across all kinds of feelings –guilty, anger, sadness, depression, love, lust, joy, etc.

Then I reached the turning point of my life, as a full-fledged youth. You are now a responsible person. You have to serve and care for your family and build one for yourself. At this point, I realized that my childhood was an illusion. Life comprises both good and bad times. The ambitions have changed. Hobbies are long gone along with the innocence of a child. As a child, you imagine how it is to be an adult. When an adult, you fantasize about becoming a child again.

Then as an adult, I had to become a responsible husband to my wife, a responsible son-in-law to her family, and a responsible father to my children. When I picked up my child, I felt there is nothing more important than him in my life, even now. I became ready to sacrifice my pleasure and time for the well-being of my family. I became your typical middle-aged man.

Then I really sensed my health gradually decreasing. No more desire nor strength to work hard or play with family as usual. But by this time, I'd successfully secured my family's financial security. All this time I saw my children becoming adults and tried to advise them so that they won't repeat the same mistakes I did. Alas, they rejected most of them. It is then I saw the importance of the advice my old man gave until his death.

Now my children had become able to live independently, and got their own kids to take care of (I became a grandpa). In order not to make me sad, my children tried to give me the best services and support for my old age. It is like you have become a kid again. No responsibility, you ask, you get (I fulfilled my earlier fantasy).

I then realized a few important things, after my 65 years of existence. I realized that if you aren't grateful for what you have, you'll never be satisfied in life. It is okay to strive to achieve more if you are also thankful for the blessings you have. Also, it is not useless that you bunked some of your classes or hung out with your friends. Because the feeling that you get from it will not be received after a few years. And making your parents and yourself proud is always the best thing you can do.

So, I think that the present life is to enjoy life and to develop and improve your individual value for becoming an asset to the world. Enjoy the little things. Show your children and others the meaning of happiness and success. This is what I want all of you to do.

Now that I was able to share my thoughts, I feel satisfied. The only thing that I would like to do next is to rest peacefully.

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.