

TET Scholarship

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Freedom: A Personal Triumph

When first considering the definition of freedom, it is surprising how ambiguous the meaning truly is. Every individual knows that freedom guarantees fundamental rights, but those rights, which appear to be simply words written by our forefathers, are something relatively intangible to this generation. The absence of freedom is not something that plagues our nation; it is not something for which every individual feels the need to fight—we are free. Though, when posed with this specific question—what is freedom—the answer cannot be something generalized and non-specific. Because it is so multi-faceted, one is obligated to answer this inquiry in the utmost personal sense.

Upon first inspection, the question one must answer is for what he is willing to forfeit his life; a conviction is so strongly instilled that denying it would be worse than death. From a personal perspective, freedom is the ability for one to be liberated from any form of restraint on individuality and unique thought, as well as the capacity for an individual to act on these beliefs without barrier, persecution, or personal degradation. By allowing this kind of freedom in the United States, I am able to live and work to my greatest capability and conviction. What is more, my ability to reason, choose and imagine can be celebrated in the personal triumphs accomplished throughout my life. This liberty is needed to encourage the intellect and endless abilities of which every individual is capable—the intelligence which our country economically and metaphysically rests. For any group or individual to openly and shamelessly stifle beliefs

and actions based on these convictions, is something which I would readily fight against, even if this meant sacrificing my life.

As is obvious, the definition of freedom is not something which can be boxed or formed to fit people as a whole, but rather an ideal based on personal influences. To me, freedom is the acclamation of individuality, while another person's interpretation could be completely different. Though, despite these dissimilarities, the intrinsic desire for freedom is also the unifying thread between each of us. Through this passion, our country is guaranteed the continuation of liberated and enlightened thoughts to which I hold so dear.