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Laws of Life Essay Topic: "Progress Depends on Diligence and Perseverance"

The fortitude and determination of mankind is undeniable. Throughout human existence, there has been a consistent move toward development, improvement, and advancement. Some believe this evolution was predetermined by a benevolent deity, or mere extraordinary happenstance. Whatever it may be, as humans we continue to propel despite the multitude of cataclysmic calamities of the past. As a nation, The Bahamas is on the cusp of fifty years of independence. That is fifty years of freedom to self-govern, thanks to the resilience, determination, and consistency of those who paved the path we now walk. The foundation of our progress as a society, is built on the tenacity of those who constructed our world, the potential we possess, and the possibilities that await our grasp.

First, the assiduity necessary for major change is sizeable. As Steve Job asserts, "...most overnight successes, took a long time." Think about the more than 3000 attempts of Thomas Edison and his associates to create the lightbulb. Consider even over a century after the abolition of slavery in The Bahamas, deserving Bahamians were still being treated as if they were unworthy of respect and equality. Men and women of various backgrounds took it upon themselves to foster change. The Burma Road Riots. The General Strike. Black Tuesday. Majority Rule. These pivotal events in our advancement as a people are a testament to the will, strength, and resolve of individuals who were diligent and had progress at the fore of their minds.

Additionally, we must continue to feed the potential that lies within us. I, like others, live a life that is dependent on diligence and steadfastness. I, like others, recognize the importance of these characteristics in achieving personal goals. Through years of upholding these values, I have achieved more than I imagined. For example, I have never attained a Grade Point Average lower than 3.65. Then, I had the honor of representing the country in the 2019 Scripps International Spelling Bee, and in the spring of 2019, I met former Governor-General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite. After she viewed my academic performance, she was astounded, especially as I am a product of our public educational system. Where you are today, does not determine how far you can travel! My proudest achievements were goals I reached as a result of diligence.

Humans have reached feats that seemed unimaginable and insurmountable. Do you think Sir Lynden and other leaders thought independence would be reached easily? I doubt so. However, they saw value in its completion and persisted! Last year I entered a video-essay competition. My first. It took long nights to perfect the writing and even longer days to perform the video recording and editing. Through doubts, I persisted! In the end, I was selected as a finalist and won a handsome cheque. Humans have created machines that perform Herculean tasks with simplicity and viewed objects originally thought impossible. Keep putting one foot in front of the other; anything is within your reach!

Tenacity, realized potential, and embraced possibilities drive progress. The unrelenting resolve to do and be better is what we can thank for the telephone, our independence, and the successes that await us. Diligence plus perseverance are the values we must exhibit if we do not wish to miss the trip toward personal and national growth.