

# ESSAY COMPETITION 2018

## TOPIC | SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Disability can be a physical limitation,  
but nothing can limit a person's skills.

Physical disability of any kind presents a multitude of complications. In a society where basic necessities are scarcely available, the complications befalling the disabled multiply by many folds.

In addition to availability of viable health and rehabilitation facilities, avenues of social inclusion are pivotal in ensuring that persons with disabilities are able to fully participate in the society. After all, physical disability poses no hindrance to the amount of talent and skill people have. What limits them is the absence of an environment devoid of opportunity, encouragement and respect.

Countries around the world are investing in empowering persons with disability, ensuring that their vision, dreams, intelligence and goals are not compromised. As a result, there are innumerable examples of the courage and flair of persons with disabilities, many of whom are emerging as the heroes of the society.

Unfortunately, Pakistan is still struggling to provide quality healthcare and rehabilitation services for people with disabilities. Coupled with that is the lack of an enriching environment that supports the inclusion and growth of this segment of our population. The question is, who is responsible for this lack of facilities and opportunities? If this question is posed to someone who does not even have access to quality healthcare facilities for physical rehabilitation along with avenues to deploy his/her talent, s/he will definitely hold those entities responsible for their insensitivity in their approach, projects, mission and vision.

Each year, the International Committee of the Red Cross conducts an essay competition centered on the theme of human dignity and protection. Through this competition, the voices from a cross-section of society come to the fore, paving a way for increased sensitivity and awareness.

### PRIZES

|           |              |
|-----------|--------------|
| 1st prize | Rs. 80,000/- |
| 2nd prize | Rs. 60,000/- |
| 3rd prize | Rs. 40,000/- |

In addition, the winners will also be awarded certificates and souvenirs.

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Submissions that pursue a political agenda, or vilify, demean or discriminate against a particular group of people on any basis whatsoever will not be judged favourably.

- Each participant shall be permitted to submit only one individual entry; joint entries shall not be permitted.
- All submissions must be the original work of the participants; plagiarism will result in automatic disqualification.
- The submission should not have previously been submitted for any other publication or for any other competition.
- The word limit for each submission is 5,000 words (excluding footnotes).
- Each submission must be computer-typed. Handwritten submissions will not be accepted.

The deadline for submission is  
**30th September 2018**

- Submissions will however be accepted till three days after the deadline, with a penalty of 2 marks/day.

Computer-typed submissions in PDF format shall be emailed as an attachment to:  
[icrc.isl.pk@gmail.com](mailto:icrc.isl.pk@gmail.com)

- For queries, please contact 0302 8510154, 051 2824780.
- The subject of the email should be: '**Submission: Essay Competition 2018**'.
- Each submission shall include the writer's name, email-address, contact number and occupation.

### MARKING CRITERIA

Each submission shall be marked out of a total of 100 marks. The marking criteria for the entries is as follows:

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Ingenuity/Originality       | 30 marks |
| Quality of Research         | 25 marks |
| Structure and Clarity       | 25 marks |
| English/Grammar             | 10 marks |
| Presentation and Formatting | 10 marks |

### ELIGIBILITY

Open for all.

### JURY

The jury will consist of representatives of the ICRC. Their decision shall be final. Prize winners shall be notified through email in October.

Winning entries shall be the property of the ICRC. The ICRC reserves the right to publish these entries in any manner as it may deem appropriate, without providing any royalty or compensation.



ICRC

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