

# Essay on The Child is the father of Man

This line which has since taken the shape of a proverb really occurs in the famous poem 'my heart leaps when I Behold' of Wordsworth, the great poet. It implies that the qualities and characteristics are shown by a child often indicate, what the child is going to be as a grown-up man. Childhood is the reflection of future personality. The habits, traits, qualities of a man are usually the development of the habits, traits, qualities he had as a child. A careful study of the characteristics and qualities in a child can help us to foretell his future prospectus.

*The childhood shows the man.  
As morning shows the day.*

The child is the father of the man is proved true in many cases. See the example of Shivaji I who during his childhood, loved so much to hear the stories of famous heroes of Ramayana and Mahabharat, became later a great warrior himself. Michael, the famous sculptor, and painter, during his childhood, used to make drawings on the pots, easels, stools, and other things belonging to an old painter. The old painter said, " One day this boy will beat me." A Young Italian lad, Titian, was very fond of painting pictures but had no paints to color with. He was so generous, he made his own paints. Nelson, the daring Naval Commander of the British Navy, showed his traits of courage and fearlessness during his childhood.

See the example of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, a great freedom fighter, was a brilliant student during his childhood and as a grown-up man, he became a great organizer. It was Subhash Chandra Bose who organized an army of 40,000 soldiers and given it the name of the Indian National Army.

Dr. C.V. Raman the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize was one of the most brilliant students in childhood. He turned out to be the great scientist who evolved many theories, the theory of radiation, the theory of molecular diffraction of light, etc. Ram Prasad Bismil, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh showed their zeal to fight against any injustice in their childhood. They had revolutionary ideals and when grown-ups sacrificed their lives fighting the British despots.

Many more examples like that of Florence Nightingale, Macaulay, can be quoted to prove the veracity of the proverb that "The Child is the father of man", but we can find hundreds and thousands of other examples, where the childhood of a man did not reflect anything about the grown-up personality of a man. Sonia Gandhi never thought to entangle in the political arena. In her childhood, none could imagine that one day she would be in a position to become the Prime Minister of India, the world's largest democracy. Though she did not accept the position of Prime Minister. Lal Bahadur Shastri never showed any such trait in his childhood. He was an average student from a poor and simple family. George Bernard Shaw was known as a hopeless dullard. Mahatma Gandhi was inclined to become a rich Barrister. Shelley, the great poet, and the writer never showed such traits during his childhood. Amitabh Bachhan, the great Super Star of today, didn't show such traits and qualities in his childhood.

In spite of apparent exceptions, it is generally observed that the Characteristics and qualities during childhood are developed in the grown-up personality of a man. Circumstances can change the life of a person. Fate and coincidence play a great role in developing the qualities of a person. Childhood ordinarily reflects the caliber of a person, but in changed circumstances, with several coincidences and the destiny, which is called predetermined can change everything. An average child can reach the highest position and a brilliant may have to survive in rectitude.

An old proverb, "As the twig is bent, so the tree will grow."  
Endorses the saying "The child is the father of the man."