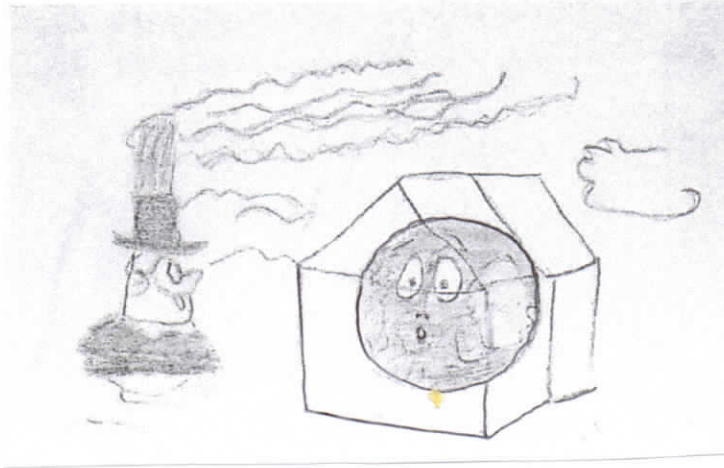


## Tribunal of Environment by Samiyha (11)



One beautiful spring day, smoke from factories was ascending, disturbing the cleanness and beauty of the air in the forest. It dressed the forest with a dark black cover.

The cut trunks of the trees were whining and crying after a Man's hand had decided to chop and burn them. The fish in the river died. The water was mixed with the waste water from the factories. The soil was no better, it felt ageing and diseases all around, because of what Man had done to it, causing pollution.

Suddenly a loud voice was heard, "We will no longer stand silent. Let's all go and protest about our condition because of what this unjust Man has done. He must stop exhausting and destroying us."

"Who are you?" asked Air.

"I am Planet Earth. You all live on me, as much as Man does. He must stop these deeds."

"Whom should we talk to about our condition?" said Water.

"We will go to the Tribunal of Environment" said Earth.

Trees, Soil, Water, Air and all the Animals were happy about this suggestion.

They agreed to go to the judge in the Tribunal of Environment hoping he would help in improving their conditions.

"Go on Natural Resources. What do you want to complain about?" said the judge.

"Allow me to speak, Judge" said Air. "Do you smell the smoke ascending from factories, cars and cigarettes? These awful smells have polluted me and caused great harm to our beautiful planet."

"Man has thrown his waste and the water from the factories into seas, rivers and oceans. This has cost me my purity and killed the poor fish living inside me." added Water.

"Man has caused great pollution by throwing waste and using pesticide around me." said Soil.

Tree approached, and with a voice full of pain she said, "And me Judge, Man has cut off my legs and burned me without mercy."

"Our home has no trees left in it as it used to." said Lion on behalf of all animals. "Man has had no mercy for poor gazelles which he continuously hunted."

"Have mercy on us, Man. Preserve us so we can last for you and for those who are coming after you on planet Earth." they all said.

"What do you say Man? Do you feel guilty?" said the judge.

"Yes" said Man "Everything the Natural Resources have said is true; I accept the sentence of the Tribunal of Environment."

"Our sentence is the following: Man is to plant trees permanently, prohibit hunting animals and is not to throw waste or polluted water in the soil, seas or oceans. In addition, Man is to stop polluting the air and start using green energy. The law which says 'Whoever cuts down one tree is to plant ten instead.' is to be applied."

The Natural Resources were pleased with this just sentence. Planet Earth was happy with this wise resolution, which would provide a healthy life for the planet.