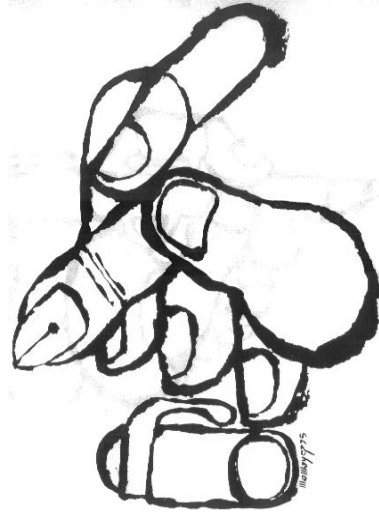




## TREES OF LIFE



From the desk of English Editor

**T**REES. They are the best friend and partner of every human being on this earth, and contribute to aspects of our everyday lives in ways we rarely even stop and think about. Trees provide oxygen on earth and help to create a calming environment. For as far back as history reaches, they have provided food and nutrients for our ancestors and as recently as today they have equally provided a range of benefits to cities and communities here in the United States and abroad.

People plant trees in their houses and communities to provide shade, better their environment, and beautify their surroundings.

Trees are the longest living organism on earth and they help to purify the air we breathe. In fact, one could easily argue that there would be no life on earth without trees and that they are crucial to the

survival of the human race.

As we breathe, our bodies inhale oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) and exhale carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).

Trees, however, do the opposite; they take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen, a process called photosynthesis. This process cleans the air by reducing and removing poisonous CO<sub>2</sub> gases, allowing people and animals to breathe and survive on planet earth.

One of the biggest concentrations of trees are clearly forests. A forest is a highly complex, constantly changing environment made up of a variety of living shrubs, wild flowers, and microscopic soil organisms as well as non-living objects such as water & rocks. In a forest, trees are the dominant component of this complex community. Forests are the "lungs" of earth. They produce large

amounts of oxygen and absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide, helping to regulate gases in the earth's atmosphere. It is believed that forests and rain forests generate about 40% of the world's oxygen.

As mentioned above, forests, trees and plants are necessary for the survival of the human race and most of the animals on planet earth. Additionally, trees are important ecologically and economically for each and every society and community. We as a global society have a responsibility to ourselves, our planet, and future generations to protect and preserve these vital life organisms on our planet. Whether it's planting a tree, saving a tree, or simply even spreading awareness about the importance of trees: LET'S ALL DO OUR PART.

**Nima Fazeli**