

Benjamin Franklin was a man of great qualities and of many different talents and occupations. Among Franklin's various occupations were physician, publisher, a scientist, inventor, statesman, diplomat, philosopher, and wise man. As a wise man, he once said "*God grant that not only the love of liberty but a thorough knowledge of the rights of man may pervade all the nations of the earth, so that a philosopher may set his foot anywhere on it's surface and say: 'this is my country'*". In a time of war, racial discrimination, and controversy, this quote has substantial meaning in today's society.

Benjamin Franklin envisioned a world of globalization with out any tension, but that was not possible in his time. Globalization is the development of extensive worldwide patterns of economic relationships between nations. Countries had distant relationships and imperialism was the mission of the countries. It took days to communicate with other countries to send vital diplomatic information. Each country was a separate sovereign state and there was very little interaction between these places. Many countries were not discovered, but natives were still living there. This caused tension between the imperialistic countries and the natives. Man was not able to travel to another country and say "this is my country."

Communication has been improved, but there is still a strain on international relations. Many countries are side by side and are in constant conflict like India and Pakistan, or Israel and Palestine. The rivalry between India and Pakistan has been going on for at least five decades. The two countries have fought three wars, two of them over the disputed region of Kashmir. The conflict between India and Pakistan is relevant to the rest of the world because both countries have attained Nuclear weapons. India and Pakistan exchange artillery fire almost daily across the cease-fire line that divides Kashmir. In 1999, another war almost started, but temporary peace was found. A man from India can not go into Pakistan with out being killed. This scenario is occurring all over the world. Benjamin Franklin believed this was wrong and believed a man should be able to travel anywhere peacefully. He had traveled to many countries including France as a U.S diplomat to make peace in times of tension. Many Americans in France were not able to travel without discrimination. Ben Franklin was one of the founding fathers of America. Even though he spent a lot of time in Britain, he fought for America's independence. He did not believe in King George's rule and believed in democracy.

The United States is a unique country as compared to the rest of the world. This is because the U.S is founded on principles of equality and freedom. Even though in practice this theory is difficult initially, the United States is working towards gaining freedom for each class. First, slaves were given freedom, then women. Next, the freedom to marry whom ever you choose could come. America is a giant melting pot where people come from many different back grounds and countries live. Many languages are spoken in certain states such as French in Louisiana and Hawaiian in Hawaii. Other languages spoken are Spanish spoken by 29.7 million people, Chinese by 2.2 million, French by 1.4 million, Tagalog by 1.3 million, and German by 1.1 million. In keeping with Franklin's principles and philosophical views, we should strive to create a nation-state that is bound by a common principle. One idea that is up and coming is having a global parliament. It is similar to the government of a country, but there is a representative from each country and they are in charge of governing global affairs.

When I came to America, nobody could say I did not belong. I can call this country my own because it was founded on the idea of freedom. If the principle that America was founded on can be somehow be extended to the rest of the world, it may be possible that a man can go from one country to another and still call that land his own simply because he is part of the human race.