

**Examining Origins of Dignity and Resilience
Through the Rhythms of Third Culture Community**

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When we speak of trauma, its infliction, the degree of severity and the tools for healing emerging from the latest in neurobiological research and psychotherapeutic techniques, there's frequently a piece of the picture missing. Trauma rips at the very fabric of social bonds and we seek refuge in the fragments of our developmental resources. And when intergenerational wounds transfer anger and helplessness across timelines, we who work to restore normalcy whether it be to individuals or whole communities are often faced with effecting a new generation of thinking. Often, the community is looked upon as a primary resource for resilience, a framework upon which to rebuild socio-economic viability and pride in overcoming adversity. But when displacement occurs, as it so often does with a state of global warfare, whole generations of children are caught in an interval between cultures. The question of how one finds dignity trapped in the crossing between old and new, the conflict between familial loyalty, overcoming the sense of loss and the need to fit into the surroundings of one's "new home", the possible limitations of linguistic expression, etc. are all components of a third culture, a new creation built from necessity, forged from adversity and inadvertently sowing the seeds of change. This notion of Intercultural Community has the potential to be the blueprint of resilient comeback through a sense of contribution and innovation as opposed to reinforcing an imprint of exclusion and isolation.