

Linda Khachadurian

Maslow Reconfigured

2022

Isomalt and potato starch paper

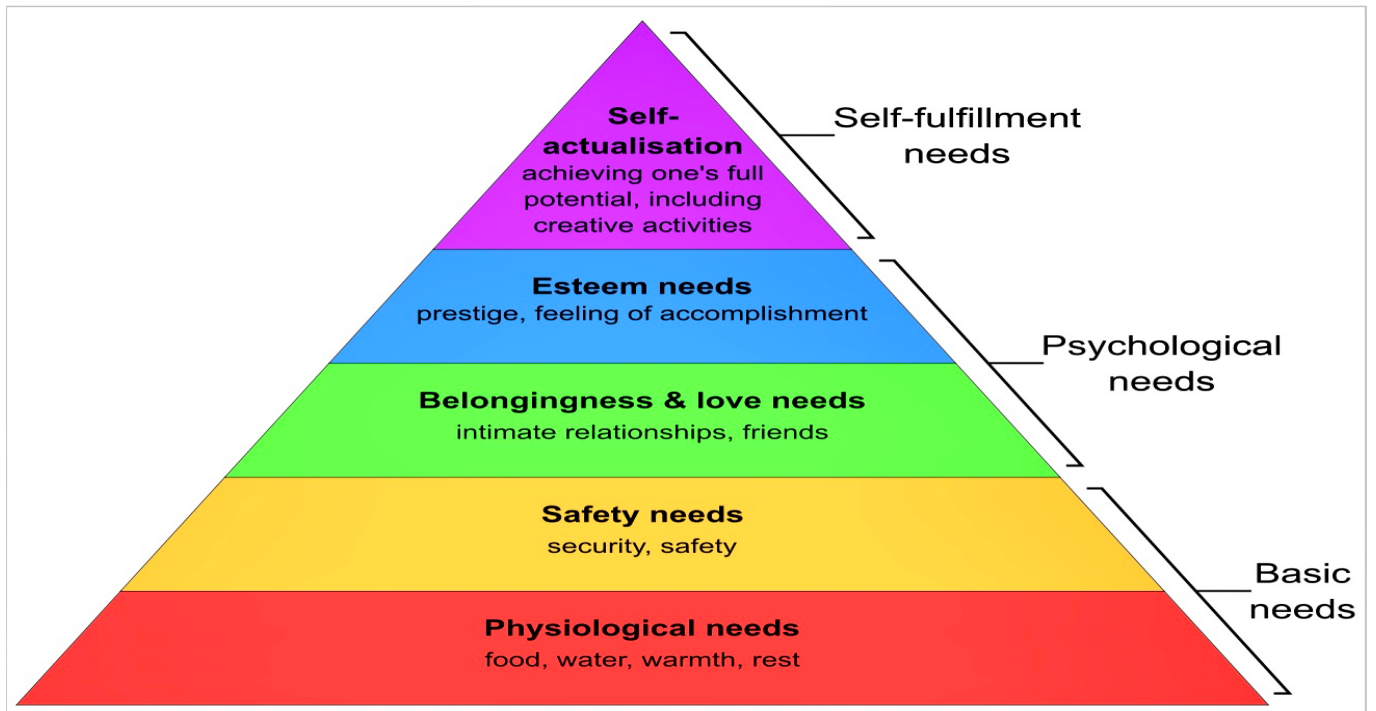
This piece is available for purchase, and 100% of proceeds will go to Armenian Missionary Association of America. For information, please contact info@charitableconfections.org.

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Cause/topic of show: The importance of education in developing nations: Armenia edition.

In 1943, influential American psychologist, Abraham Maslow, first conceptualized a hierarchy of human needs that is often presented as a five-level pyramid arranged in a hierarchy of prepotency. The base of the pyramid is comprised of the most basic physical requirements such as food, water, sleep, and shelter/personal safety.

The literacy rate in Armenia is 99.7%, and in the capital of Yerevan, there are a selection of top-notch primary and secondary schools such as The Avedisian School, which was built by the Armenian Missionary Association of America – a faith-based nonprofit founded in 1918. Unfortunately, in developing nations such as Armenia, basic needs are not always met, making it difficult for some of the nation’s youth to achieve their full potential. Sometimes, when faced with a dearth of tangible necessities, one must turn to faith and spiritual transcendence to get by.

For this piece, I re-imagined Maslow’s concept of hierarchy by placing the pyramids that represent water, nourishment, and safety floating on top of a long, pristine pillar that symbolizes the intangible elements of spirituality and faith. The butterflies perched inside the triangle-shaped window are emblems of hope.



Maslow's hierarchy