

COVID-19 and some scribbled thoughts

We are still in the dark about when the virus that has been wreaking havoc around the world, the terror of which we have been living with every moment, will be no more on our planet. We are yet to be gifted with a ray of hope about when the virus, which has been plaguing us with the fear of death all along since the onset of the catastrophe, is going to bid adieu. It makes our whole entity trembled to think how this little monster has completely changed the melody and rhythm of life of the most intelligent creature on earth. Concern for the struggle of human life to survive from the clutches of death in every corner of the globe seems to have become an integral part of our diary. For the past few months, it has seemed to me that the family of this tiny monster has taken part in a huge celebration by making the whole of mankind dance to their tune in the circus of life. Till our dark hours began, such celebration was strictly our domain; we have been deriving much pleasure from forcing various animals to dance and jump at our beck and call in the circus. Probably time has come for the role reversal to take place.

Day after day we have been shedding tears to see the death march all over the world. We have felt pain deep in our hearts, we have woken up in terror every night, and we have had nightmares of meeting our end. Many of us may have already seen or are about to see our loved ones becoming a part of the last journey. To this lamentation, an aspect has been added to everyone's life that no one in several generations could have imagined - locking the door of living life as one wishes to and bowing to a new routine, a routine that has snatched away our freedom, that freedom with which we ruthlessly have been torturing our mother earth for decades. And we are now talking about this dreadful virus which broke the normalcy of life in such a ruthless way.

In this horrible situation we have witnessed terrible natural disaster; Countless people have been deprived of basic necessities. How would one advise "stay home, stay safe" to the homeless! The virus-panic disappears on its own if one is forced to stay on water for hours with hunger. When so many people, our fellow human beings are facing such disastrous outcome of our ruthless torture to mother earth, how can one stay calm and carefree and pray for own safety and that of our family! Our desire to survive, urge to prove ourselves the mightiest, crave for every materialistic pleasure has made a terrible mockery with each of us.

Many questions come to mind all day long, brawling, trying to find answers from a shattered mind and a rusty brain unable to ponder anymore.

Just giving a thought- we are left shaken to see the countless dying and dead people around us; have we ever been so moved by the sight of human suffering before? One of the millions of affected individuals might have travelled with you in a crowded bus or train and someday might have lost his balance and fallen on you and your instant reaction was a screaming at that person in a rude and vulgar tone. Someone among the victims of this pandemic might have some other day come to the grocery store after you reached there for shopping and got served before you were and that made you throw abusive words to that fellow in public. There may be countless instances of this happening in our everyday journey, when we have blindly given priority to our own needs and our convenience only. We have never been moved by the problems, difficulties, or hardships of the people around us, rather we never tried to look at or even turned our backs on them. Surely we cannot claim or hope rewards for our intolerance, inhumanity and selfishness year-around. Of late, we are shocked to see the worldwide death toll from the virus outbreak; in fact we have got horrified to such an extent that we forgot our normal course of action. Because that suffering is knocking at our door, too and that's why, we are paying so much attention to the suffering around. Possibly the word fellow-feeling would have been deleted from our dictionary after a few years or so, had this tiny creature not been a part of our life (or death).

So maybe it's high time for us to introspect, criticize ourselves, tear down our own bad aspects. Without the involvement of each and all in such a hitherto hypothetical mechanism for correctional measures of an individual by himself or herself, we cannot fight against any form of evil in the future, if at all survived this pandemic. If we do not start planting and nurturing compassion within ourselves now, we will lose forever the right to call this earth our mother. Maybe this little monster has come to open our eyes, mind and soul. Come, awake and arise, arise from the debris of our wrong-doings and insensitivity.

Let us evolve for a better future for all.

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