
A VIRUS THAT TURNED EVERYTHING UPSIDE DOWN

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Globally, 2020 came carrying with it the most dreadful corona virus. It brought unknown fears and uncertainty of future. The Covid-19 pandemic was an unfortunate event that affected people at different scale and magnitude. It adversely affected our health, work life balance and simultaneously induced social isolation for months. The work from home lifestyle which started off as a temporary arrangement, is now a permanent or semi- permanent reality for all working professionals across the world. It is fair to state that the pandemic has not been easy for anyone and not just adults, children equally suffered due to Covid-19 pandemic. For them, a total shift to digital schooling as well as a complete cut off from their friends at school and residential complex is gravely underestimated. Covid-19 has proved that irrespective of advancements we have made, it all can be negated. It is controversial whether this is a man- made virus or it had occurred due to eating habits of our dear neighbours.

Covid-19 simply shows vulnerability of human beings. We all boast that we are living in the 21st century, the era of science and technology, nothing can eradicate human race. We have got the power of turning impossible into possible. We have conquered moon and in a decade we are going to conquer Mars and so on. But the truth is we are vulnerable. When Corona virus hit the world, people got totally confused; perhaps it was something outside you, perhaps inside you too, you don't know! Perhaps you are infected and can infect too, just not sure yet. You step out to buy bread and the neighbourhood is suddenly still. Every face is now a mask; scared. Your local shopkeeper doesn't smile at you today, perhaps he doesn't recognise you. There is a queue where masked men stand in chalked circles before the Medical Store. And people went through this situation for months.

But as we know, every coin has two sides, let's just not forget about the positive aspects of Covid-19!

It is reminding us of how materialistic our society has become and how when in the times of difficulty, we remember that it's the essentials that we need (food, water and medicine).

It is reminding us to keep our egos in check. It is reminding us that no matter how great we think we are or how great others think we are, a virus can bring our world to standstill. Indeed, it is difficulties that bring out our true colours.

We must always remember that after every difficulty, there is always ease. Life is cyclical and it is just a phase in this great cycle. We don't need to panic and this too shall pass soon.

People have begun to value family and time. People have begun to value the basic necessities in life more than material and luxury. Humans, for the first time in years, have come down to live with the basics, sharing house chores, learning to cook and learning to do things themselves because they cannot depend on others all the time.

We should always keep in mind that we all are equal, regardless of our culture, religion, occupation, financial situation or how famous we are. This disease treats us all equally, and perhaps we should too!

It is reminding us that we all are connected to each other and something that affects one person, has an effect on another.

It's high time to realize that the false borders that we have put up, have little value as this virus does not need a passport.

It is reminding us, (by oppressing us for a short time) of those in this world whose whole life is spent in oppression.

It is reminding us of the shortness of life and what is most important for us to do, which is to help each other, especially those who are old and sick.

With countries and cities getting into lockdown and lives pulled into a standstill, Covid-19 has made communities stay away from each other for survival. But we, are a race of survivors and we are going to win this too. No doubt this battle is long and hard, but let's look forward and focus on the brighter side. For every low there is a high and it's true that even this current scenario has a silver lining to it.

Just remember, if you take care of yourself, you take care of everyone else at the same time. Meanwhile mask up!