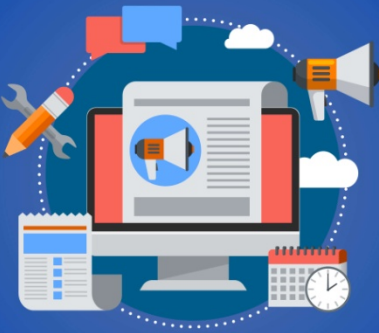


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Corona

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It is 2 o'clock in the night, there are voices of dogs crying all around. My heart is fearing to hear the sound of dogs. The sound of dogs are scaring everyone. The fear of this corona spread all around. Earlier, news of one or two deaths were heard. Today, 500 people in India are affected by Corona and 7 people have died. After an hour, the sound of dogs are coming again. It seems that something wrong will be happened. I am very scared and don't know how many bad thoughts start coming to mind. My father is worried that the entire Lucknow city is locked down. How expenses of eating and drinking will go forward? Father comes to my mother and says,

“If we lived in the village, it would have been good. At least, we would not have worried for two times of bread. It seems to me that no one will have to get the bread in upcoming days. Because conditions are becoming bad because of corona.”

My mother reply,

“Don't worry. Nothing will be happened wrong in future. Believe in God. God is everywhere. So He will protecting us from all bad powers. You have to believe that no one can harm us, if we have to believe in God.”

My father says,

“Then, why every temple, Maszid, Gurudwara, and church have been locked? There are no one to worship the Supreme God. Even all God have been covered by mask. God can't do anything in this situation. He can only sit in the Temple, Maszid, Gurudwara and Church. He can't do anything.”

My mother reply,

“God will do certainly for us. Don't worry. He is everywhere. He can listen the voice of his children. He can't bear the pain of his children. He will do miracle soon. We have to wait.”

My father says,

“Are you mad? You are thinking that God will do something good for us. So why He send this corona in the form of Death?”

My mother reply,

“Because we have done wrong for our earth, nature and God. That’s why Nature is returning same.”

My father says,

“So, why you are expecting that God will do something good. You have to know that our Doctors are God who are saving the lives of human beings. They are doing their duty to save us without thinking their lives. So, we have to know that God is himself man. There is need only to understand the reality. We are spending money at the Temple, Masjid, Gurudwara and Church to please the God. And see God is resting in his house. If we spend our money to help something for poor person and do research for the health of human beings. So, we can do something good for our God. We need to understand that God is everywhere, but not in Temple, Masjid, Gurudwara and Church. There is no need to spend money to purchase ghee, flowers, dhupbatti, Kapoor, sweet for the God. If we can give this money to poor persons. So we can worship the God.”

Today is the second day at 12 o’clock at night. It was only a few naps that I woke up again with the sound of Dogs crying. My father is not able to sleep. Sometimes, he goes to the room and sometimes he comes out again. My mother repeatedly asks,

“What happened? Why are you not sleeping? It is going to be 1 o’clock. There is silence like death everywhere. What type of this night? It seems that it has snatched away everyone’s sleeping.”

My father reply,

“This night is taking many lives. Many persons has died.”

Today, the figure has been increased to more than 500 people. Many are dying from the corona. Death is being seen all around. Thousand people are dead in Italy and the Prime Minister

is crying there. Despite being such a good facilities, he could not do anything. There are not much left places to bury the dead bodies. There has been such a bad effect. There has been a shortage of Doctors. There are shortage of medicines. The prime minister has to say,

“Save the young man, leave the old people.”

Corona is spreading all over the world. People are being told to stay at home. They are being suggested to wear masks. The numbers are increasing. People are saying that only God can save them, because there is no cure for corona. It is being spread in the form of epidemic. It seems that all the world will be destroyed. All persons are staying at home. My mother suddenly says to my father,

“Our house is half finished. When will we go to our house? How long we will live on rent? Soon the life will be finished.”

My father reply,

“Firstly, corona will be finished. Then I will also fulfill your dream. Our house will be comfortable. I will build such type of house for you.”

Because of lockdown, poor people have no money. They are hungry. Because they have no work and no food. Corona has broken my grandmother’s dream too. My younger sister is also scared. I try to give smile to my family members. But I couldn’t. I pray to God,

“Oh! God, help all poor people. There is neither food to eat nor anything to earn money.”

There is no problem for those people who get salary in the month, but poor people are facing problems. They have nothing to eat, but problem is for those who go to work daily and then cook the food. There is nothing left to eat. I never dreamed that such a day would come. Today’s scene is very bad. There is panic all around. There is a fear of corona. There is a problem for those poor people who works daily and then collect food. There is a problem for those women whose life is running with pension. They have got a lot of trouble. Long lines have been seen outside the banks. Many old woman are standing in the sun to withdraw money. They are crying,

“What will they eat in the upcoming month?”

The government has imposed curfew on four sides. Neither can anyone get out of the house nor can anyone come in. People are afraid that doctors and police may come home anytime. After checking, if anyone has fever, cough and breathing problems, then they can take them forcefully. If anyone got suffered from corona. Then that member has been taken to the hospital and keep him in isolation. Neither any family member can meet that person nor see. If the news of death has come, even the last time does not get a chance to see him. Members are told that he is no longer in the world. He is dead. There is such a pathetic situation. This fear is spread around the world. Starvation is widespread. People are dying more due to starvation than the epidemic. Some people are helping poor persons. Suddenly a phone call is ringing. My uncle told to my father that one person has died due to corona near his house. My father has been shocked. Now what will be happened?

My mother says to my father,

“Don’t worry. Believe in God. God is everywhere. Some miracle will be happened. I believe that one day corona will be finished and we will be free from this. Doctors are doing miracle in the form of God. They are god for us.”

Introduction to the Author:

Pooja Kushwaha is an aspiring poet who is just at the threshold of her writing career. She is a research scholar from the Department of English and Modern European Languages, Lucknow University. She is currently pursuing Ph.D. on Poetry. She is a firm believer to make her identity. Her many poems and fictions have been published in the **Criterion International Journal, Tare Jamme Par Magazine** and in many anthologies like **What If, The Lost Soul, Pain Dwelling in Beauty, Aael, Isq-E-Jahar, Mizaz, The Unspoken Tale** etc. Her first anthology **True Love** has been published in **2019**. Her second anthology **Mysteries of Love** has been published in **2020**. Her first single author book **Glimpses of love (2020)** has been also published. She often composes poems about contemporary problems, identity, nature, God, love and also motivational poems for the society.