

Decoding Nature's Message (COVID-19 and After)

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ABSTRACT

The epidemic brings a big change in our socio economic and cultural system along with the way of living, way of life and work behavior. As long as one is dealing with nature in such a way that whatever one gets from mother earth, one will return it back, than nature's biographical power, will never strike endurance. As long as one cares about nature one will be healthy, happy and prosperous. But as man began to transgress nature, nature started showing its destructive and disruptive form. We can never move forward by despising nature. Nature takes care of us.

The virus epidemic has clearly stated that development and prosperity need to be redefined which can be measured in terms of ecological imbalance and not as a growing materialistic lifestyle.

We have to re-understand the scientism and need of the food chain for prevention of diseases caused by viruses, because only a healthy and strong ecosystem can save us from diseases. The biggest question is that after facing this epidemic, will we be able to change our attitude towards natural lifestyle and development, will we keep in mind the suffering of nature along with talking about development. Will create such a boundary in which air, water, soil and sandalwood will also be taken care of. This paper analyzes study and evaluate that how the Human beings can understand the nature's message to protect the mother earth. Unless a man accepts this truth, his lifestyle will also not change. For this, man has to be more and more sensitive. And global society will have to work collectively and also, to accept nature as part of us.

KEYWORD:- COVID-19, Ecology, Virus, Pollution, Food Chain.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The epidemic brings a big change in our socioeconomic and cultural system along with the way of living, way of life and work behavior. All these changes we are seeing today, and how permanent this change can take, is ingrained in the trough of the future. But based on past experiences, a picture of the temporary impact can be read in every region which is affected by COVID-19, and can be presented. Now pandemics and unusual seasonal events are becoming commonplace.

Some people believe that the pandemic of COVID-19 is comparable to the rest of pandemics that happened on a hundred years gap in past. Perhaps if this pandemic goes away it will come again after 100 years, but the fact is that the world will face many pandemics which are not known to us and there severity will be unimaginable if we continued the unethical experiments. The modern world has always remained on threat of global thermonuclear war. The long term impact of climate change has ruined mother earth.¹ An infectious disease pandemic has the greatest potential to devastate health and economic stability across the globe. We know that there are various types of disasters and calamities but all are limited in geography and duration whether a hurricane, an earthquake. But a pandemic can occur everywhere at once and last for months or year.

The first and widespread cause of expansion of COVID-19 is the ecological crisis. There is a need to make a comprehensive and related plan at the global level to maintain the existence of all living animals on the earth. In this regard, the United Nations Biodiversity Report shows us the mirror that if steps are not taken soon, a human may have to pay a big price.² Even now if we do not care, human life can get trapped in a big crisis. Today, we need to understand the message of nature. If we do not understand this message, the earth will go towards destruction.

Actually, in the name of development, the result of tampering with the environment is that today environmental damage, climate change, carbon emissions, global warming, indiscriminate exploitation of natural resources, water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution, thermal pollution, etc. are causing terrible problems. The Corona virus crisis has put man at the crossroad of re-evaluating his development goals. Today, new standards of development will have to be adopted. After Corona virus, the world should develop with environmental protection. In which special attention can be given to the rehabilitation of wildlife. Animals under food security do not spread infection to birds. For this, new laws related to their maintenance will have to

be made and whatever law is there, it has to be strictly followed. We need to change all our styles. We have to decide what we can eat. What else can not eat?

The pandemic of COVID- 19 has again brought attention to the deteriorating relationship between man and nature. Human civilization has been repeatedly and easily hurt at physical, mental and spiritual sites. Advanced science and technology is unable to protect us from these injuries. It is important to do something to consider what humanity should do for a healthy and harmonious life. Only technology cannot improve our lives. We have to respect the laws of nature. For this, there is also a need to look at the knowledge tradition of India.

There should be a large nationwide movement for the protection of nature and environment in which people of every class should participate and follow their share of religion. Global average temperatures are already roughly 1°C warmer than they were in the 19th century, bringing more extreme and more tough weather patterns. Intense, unprecedented and sustained effort co-ordinated among all the world's large economies could see the total rise capped at less than twice what has been seen so far: the "well below 2°C" goal that features in the Paris agreement reached in 2015. But even such heroic efforts would still leave a lot of change to adapt to. And current trends suggest something more like 3°C.³

II. MOTHER EARTH IS THE SUMMATION OF EVERYTHING NICE AND BEAUTIFUL

We should respect nature. Man is the only species that has taken control of the entire earth by dominating all other species. His footsteps have reached the moon, but see the irony that powerful mankind is still helpless in front of a virus. We have to keep in mind the fact that after all we are all human beings and depend on other living beings for our lives. The tendency to control nature and exploit all natural resources for our benefit is what has given us the epidemic today and has put us in trouble.

We are the only country in the world where air, water and earth are considered to be godlike, but we have lost the basic mantra of life after being influenced by the new civilization. Our ancestors used to give nature the status of mother.⁴ They always taught us to respect nature. At some point in history, we withdrew from the path of our ancestors and we abandoned our traditional conscience.

Counter global challenges like climate crisis will prove very useful for us and will be able to build a better future. Nature is not only the mother of the earth, but the whole universe runs with its brilliance. For the past several decades, man has dominated the earth by making a lot of arbitrariness under the guise of all kinds of luxuries and amenities. About ten lakh trees from the World's wildlife species have been eradicated. The deterioration of this system means injury to the entire system. Every country and every person in the world has played a role in spoiling this ecosystem. The nature of nature rests on the balance. The consequences of manipulating this balance are in front of us.

It is easy to guess this effect from the havoc of corona. For the last two decades, many wild-born viruses have been invading with new names. Wildlife has been made a means to meet all the needs including food. Is a major reason for being born? As long as man is dealing with nature in such a way that whatever he gets from mother earth. He will return it. Nature's biographical power, will never strike endurance. Till then he was healthy, happy and prosperous. But as man began to transgress nature, nature started showing its destructive and disruptive form. Wildlife has been made the means to meet all the needs including food. There is a major reason for the emergence of such epidemics.

We can never move forward by despising nature. Nature takes care of us. The virus epidemic has clearly stated that development and prosperity need to be redefined which can be measured in terms of ecological imbalance and not as a growing materialistic lifestyle. We have to re-understand the scientism and need of the food chain for prevention of diseases caused by viruses, because only a healthy and strong ecosystem can save us from diseases.

In the short interval of lockdown, the condition of nature has improved a lot. In this period, once again, all the planets including the Pole star are easily seen in the sky. The campaign to clean the rivers for decades is seen to bring color without any effort. Pleasant changes have occurred on the earth due to the tragic circumstances. There is constant relief from pollution, because all kinds of industrial activities in the world are at a standstill. The environmentalists believe that nature is treating itself. Whenever she recovers herself, she will also be able to keep person healthy. But it is also feared that when the outbreak of Corona will be less, then we will exploit the natural resources and deliver it in the condition before December 2019.

Opening of the lockdown and economic impetuous to make any country self reliant should not turn into carbon emission exercise. Countries need to create conditions for a significant increase in renewable energy production. Green electrification and improved energy efficiency. Green business is good business, wind and solar power are now the cheapest option for two third of the world, and energy efficiency improves economic competitiveness while benefiting consumers.⁵

With the increase of industrialization, forests were wildly harvested. It made humans and living beings face to face. Due to new production techniques these days a large number of chickens, pigs, bats, and animals are kept in one place, which increases the risk of infection. In the animal-related industry, even though food security has been enhanced, but we have weak protective cover to prevent spread diseases like swine flu, SARS etc. The difference between food and inedible has been erased which has caused to eradicate biodiversity, The vampiric tendency of devouring creatures such as bats and pangolins has served as corona to flatten a fleet of human civilization on the earth.

Despite all efforts, the corona virus that started from the city of Wuhan in China is not stopping and creating havoc. The number of people suffering from this has crossed a very large figure. Commonly the diseases caused by animal birds are taking humans in their grip. Infection from animal birds to humans is not new. But climate change and changes in food habits, urbanization, infection is spreading rapidly due to the increasing trend of international travel. Some incidents of outbreak occur naturally. But apart from these incidents there is also a possibility of developing the ability to intentionally release dangerous microbes by terrorists or by rogue countries and to spread such deadly pandemic rapidly. Making biological weapons is easier and cheaper than ever. By bioengineering, such changes can be made in pathogens which were never present before. The virus can be made so that it spreads even faster. Or make it more resistance to any vaccine. The animal virus can be modified to infect humans. Even a simple virus can be created by spreading bioengineering to spread deadly cancer.⁶

Urban population is spreading rapidly all over the world. 50 years ago, where 35 percent of the population was living in cities, now this figure has increased to 55 percent. Most cities are developing and in an unplanned manner. These cities are full of slums which provide fertile land for diseases. The agricultural land, forest, around the city is getting destroyed. As a result, the encroachment of wildlife like monkey bears has increased in cities. Due to this, infection from animals to humans is increasing. Due to reasons like urbanization, expansion of middle class, increasing prosperity, modern media, food habits are changing rapidly.

In China, where the meat of specific animals was previously destined only to the elite, but today the poor man has started eating such things. Not only in China, the demand of non-vegetarian and foreign food items in the whole world is increasing because of their demand. The reason for the increasing trend of carnivores is machine-based animal husbandry. In which meat is produced on a large scale. It is cheap but this meat has charged a heavy price from nature and humans. In this, thousands of animals are reared together in a small space and animals are fed grain oilseed meat instead of traditional fodder, so as to get as much meat as possible at the earliest.

Soybeans are being cultivated all over the world for animal feed. Due to which biodiversity is decreasing. It is clear that urbanization and mental lifestyle are all promoting climate change together. The middle class continued to grow in China after the period of liberalization and the eating habits also started growing in a different way. In which snakes, rats, bats even became food items. There is huge profit in the business of wildlife. Hence the illegal trade of wildlife from China spread rapidly all over the world.

China ignored the restrictions on profitability and promoted illegal trade of wildlife. With this kind of action, the disease called SARS has spread rapidly in China even before. This disease also hit the world economy very badly. At that time, the World Health Organization had warned that if the purchase of wildlife does not stop the sale and changes in food habits, then new viruses can be born. The world should not ignore that business itself has emerged as corona virus. All bacterial viruses have always been influencing the course of human history. They have had common roles in the rise and fall of human civilization.

We are living in the age of technology today. But our core strength is in our inner consciousness and not in any external entity. We should reconcile our entire deeds with nature and fundamental power. Human health is also dependent on this harmony. Yoga and Ayurveda balance our internal energy. We have to rebuild the balance between our internal and external environment. Upanishads sages perceived the existence of God in trees and other plants.⁷ The biggest question is that after facing this epidemic, will we be able to change our attitude towards natural lifestyle and development, will we keep in mind the suffering of nature along with talking about development. Will create such a boundary in which air, water, soil and sandalwood will also be taken care of.

III. CONCLUSION

Human beings exist from nature and not nature vis a vis. Unless a man accepts this truth, his lifestyle will also not change. For this, man has to be more and more sensitive. And global society will have to work united. And also, to accept nature as part of one of us. Mahatma Gandhi had said that the earth can fulfill the needs of every human being, but the earth cannot fulfill the greed of man.⁸ The crisis of corona is sending us the message to adopt this thing today.

We have to adopt a Green Deal – which represents a new social contract. The aim is to ensure social justice and equal opportunities for all. The engine will be a new form of economic growth, built around providing goods and services that contribute positively to wellbeing and reducing those that harm society and the environment.⁹ The time has come for us to pause and consider where we have wandered and also how to return to the right path. The lesson of equality for the world community is as clear as that. We are not getting it but nature has been giving the message that we are all equal before her. She does not believe in any man-made discrimination in the caste sect. Nature wants to remind us to accept the basic values of equality and interdependence with humility. This lesson has been gained by paying a heavy price.

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