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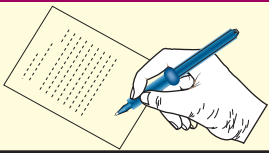
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Make Struggle Your Religion

A man has been gifted with free personality and will power. It is his personal qualities that differentiate him from others of his species. It is these specific differences in the thought process and mindset of a man that make him struggle at every juncture of life. Therefore, the prevention of the struggle and its cause become the Karma of his life.

We all want to live a life of comfort. Those who think that they can achieve such a life without struggling do not gain anything and end up blaming God's will and destiny. The society declares such people as jobless and worthless. Such pessimistic people either do not begin with any errand for fear of problems or leave it in midway when they encounter any. They avoid a life full of struggle. Such people are satisfied with whatever comes their way and lead a life of anonymity. Such people are not ambitious and do not have any aim to accomplish. This leads to the nihilistic way of life, where one has no reason to live. Our young readers will do well to comprehend the hazards of such a life. The wise men have defined life as a field of action, we are all born to act and achieve. Problems, sorrows and sufferings are our enemies whom we need to face and defeat in order to emerge as a winner. Shakespeare has aptly remarked, "Cowards die many times before their deaths, the valiant never taste of death but once."

The biographies of almost all the great men of the world, be it the American President Abraham Lincoln or the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi, all teach us that the secret of greatness lies in the will to struggle. These great men had to face many difficulties in their way, but they did not lose courage and struggled till they achieved victory. One has to trace one's way through struggles all by oneself. No external source of energy comes to one's aid.

Hard work, determination and persistence and other human qualities help a man to struggle and achieve success. The life of the famous scientist Michael Faraday is an apt example of achieving success by struggling. His father put him into book binding because of their poverty stricken state. But his determination made him study the books he used to bind when all his comrades had left for home after the day's work. In this way, a life of struggle and persistence turned him into a great scientist.

Life and struggle go together where there is life there are struggles too. One has to grapple with those struggles and come out successful. Every problem is tractable provided you confront it in a sensible and prudent way. There is no colour in life if there are no problems to face. Problems draw out the best in you, thereby uplifting you to a higher plane. The only way to grapple with problems is to be ever ready to face and solve them. Undergoing stress at the sight of problems will enervate you and will sap your energy, enfeebling you to face the struggles of life. So be up and doing and take cudgels against the problems of life.

Many youngsters get hassled by the problems they face in their work field. They forget that they are being paid for solving those very problems. The measure of an administrative officer's success is the number of problems and hindrances he faces and deals with smoothly. Problems are actually synonymous with life. If it were not for the problems one faces, a man would become inactive. These problems lead one to the path of

victory in life. While dealing with problems and sorting them out a man can discover his best.

The Puranas encourage man to be able to endure every situation and phase of life and seek solutions to problems without losing hope. It is understood that the problems one faces will be in proportion to the responsibility one has and it is these problems that decide one's strength and success. During the abduction of his wife Sita, Lord Rama did not lose his hope or calm even once. He accomplished something so impossible as building a bridge on the sea and achieved success.

It is very important for an efficient administrator that he maintains the balance of his mind and decides his style of working and behaviour after pondering calmly over every situation. One who follows this way of working is able to satisfy one's superiors and also gains the confidence of the public. Two important facts are worth remembering : (1) every problem brings with it its solution also (2) every struggle has success hidden in its womb.

A teacher, while bidding farewell to his students said, "you shall have to make struggle your companion in life. Success shall never shun you if you aim to reach the top in whatever you do. The conclusion of the experiences of all the great men in the world is—the fear of struggle is harmful in every way, be it worldly or be it spiritual. Unless one struggles, one does not value what one has. His religion then has to be doing away with despair and fear and the determination to take every hurdle as an opportunity to improve his skills and grow. "Life has meaning only in the struggle. Triumph or defeat is in the hands of God. So let us celebrate the struggle."