

If winter comes can
spring be far behind



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Day is followed by night and night by day. Similarly, in life every period of sorrow and despair has at last to come to end. It is followed by a period of peace, comfort and joy. We must have a firm belief in the goodness of things and have a strong self-confidence. There is no occasion for feeling dismayed. “ If hopes are dupes, fears may be liars. ” Life is full of tears and smiles, tears predominate. Sufferings and misfortunes may loom large on the horizon. They may make life worthless. Despair and disappointment may look endless. It does not mean one should cease to live.

Deep and dark clouds of failures may eclipse the sun of success, but for how long! Failures and frustrations must give way to hope and happiness. The words of the poet convey a note of optimism when darkness surrounds us. They goad us to keep up high spirits and never be pessimistic in life. They assume that smiles and joys will come to our life In spite of the failures, sorrows and sufferings that dampen our spirit. Many situations come when man wants to quit the stage of life. If desires are not fulfilled life, becomes worthless. If man gets no response in love he wants to commit suicide.

If his friend leaves him in the lurch he frets and fumes and does not want to survive. He gets many heart-breaks when his dreams vanish like particles of smoke Into the air. Lying on the bed when he takes stock of his life and broods over his misfortunes, he feels like taking an overdose of drugs and embraces the eternal sleep. Still he continues to be alive. Optimistic message which he gets from the writings and experiences of the great minds urge him to carry on. If one is able to show fortitude in the face of odds, they soon evaporate in the thin air, they are soon overcome. So one should not lose one’s heart, come what may.

As winter is sure to be followed by spring, in the same way, dark and unhappy days of life are bound to be followed by a period of happiness and joy. Winter is the symbol of desolation and barrenness whereas spring stands for joyousness and fruitfulness. The man today is passing through a period of miserable existence. The days of darkness and frustration constitute the life of man. The world today is collapsing into a helpless state of boredom. The weariness, fret and fever of life have made man to deduce, “ where but to think is to be full of sorrow”. We are crumbling under the mounting pressure of defeatism and self-frustration.

Today various factors of life have made man morbidly tired of himself. In the midst of intellectual, moral and spiritual bankruptcy, the forces of optimism though bleak, appear to be the only sustaining force. We in our frustration are made to think that life is not entirely devoid of joy and happiness. It is wrong on our part to lose faith in the ultimate goodness of things. We must realize that in the course of life good and evil days follow in succession. Each follows the other as night follows the day. Indeed, it is human nature to welcome joys and condemn sorrows.

But we must bear sufferings with patience and fortitude in the hope that as spring follows winter, joy will follow sorrow. To be able to see the streak of silver lining that edges the threatening clouds of despair is the prerogative of only a few. Most of us only concern ourselves with the present and blink at future. Our vision is circumscribed by the difficulties and problems which confront us. The limits of the immediate cripple us. We wish but dare not hope. We work but dare not expect. We are apologists in anticipation and

defeatist in our performance. The buoyant spirit of hope and happiness is lacking in us.

It is essential that we cultivate the spirit of hopefulness. Optimism is the attitude of life which must be formed. An optimistic attitude is the healthy sign of life and struggle. It makes us self-reliant and grant fixity of purpose. It infuses a new spirit in our timid hearts and injects a vitalizing energy in our veins. Instead of being mere puppets in the hands of chance, faded notions and sordid illusions, it makes us persons of indomitable will and, lofty aspirations. It takes away passivity and grants pertinacity of efforts. It teaches fortitude, patience and perservance.

It is rightly said, “ Practice begets facility” therefore, it is better to wear out than to rust out in inactivity. Victor Hugo rightly said, “ People do not lack strength, they lack will”. If winter comes can spring be far behind” is a line that caters to a symbolic interpretation of a vicious-circle. The coming of the winter can be understood with the coming of a tragic situation or the period of the season, in itself, can be compared to the period of waiting, agony and pain while the apprearence of the summer or spring can symbolize the return of the state of happiness or the start of the long awaited state of fulfillment.

If winter comes, can spring be far behind? Birds get frozen, flowers get withered, from a pebble of earth to the star of sky all get silenced. It is the time when winter jumps in. Torments, tensions, tragedies, tortures come up when west wind of winter blows. Winter is the time of sweet sorrowfulness and dangerous difficulties. However, when spring comes it brings gala days;

birds fly up, and flowers get bloomed. Oh! Spring, you are a hope in calamities of life. Winter is the symbol of destruction and bareness whereas spring is the symbol of hope and fruitfulness

The winter of crises, problems, destruction has charged our country Pakistan. It has brought many critical and havoc circumstances which have taken lives of thousands. But hopeful spring is far behind and clouds of happiness are forecast which will bring pleasures and prosperity in Pakistan. Moulana Jalal Din Rumi says, “ Don’t grieve, whatever you lose comes in another form. ” So, one should push the winter out, and make outlets for spring to come in. And, coming spring will be joyous and peaceful. If winter has come, yes, spring is not far behind. ‘ Where there is ruin, there is hope for a treasure.