

SEEN AND KNOWN

LIFE: STRUGGLE AND SUCCESS

Dr. Jayesh Sheth

'Oh Sushila! You belong to a rich home, how will you stay in this poor home?' Sushila arrived in the home after marriage where food was not available – even tea was not available. Here, on mending one necessity many other crops up as, as Gujarati notion (બાર સંઘે ત્યાં તેર તૂટે). But she had decided in her mind that 'come what may, home after marriage is my only home. I will work hard and will participate equally in the happiness or sorrow of all in my home'. Therefore, it all became very easy to cook on furnace (Chula), daubing, collecting dung etc. This way started the penance (tapasyaa) of life. Many such difficulties arrived in her life, but she overcame those gradually with hard work, fighting spirit, and faith in God; but when her husband's job was terminated for a useless reason, she felt as if the sky- broke. She was confused now what to do! On one hand, his mother-in-law was ill, had a little girl and nothing to eat at home. So she maintained through boiling wheat and maize. In the meanwhile, Sushila was pregnant. Now? She had also to take care of the child in womb. So she started tying sacred streaks (dora - dhaaga) and taking various vows (maantaa). But the problems

were not in a mood of reduce. In the meantime, a Brahmin told her to recite Ramanayaas much as she can. She was told that when the child will be born at maturity, your husband will get job. She recited Ramayana daily with these hopes; both the husband and wife prayed to God in the hope.

Sushila had to go to the nearby village to see the doctor. But see the cruelty of society – the nearly known persons would move their faces away or get down from the bus, thinking that lest poor may ask for bus fare from them.

But she did not give up and somehow, the days passed away. On one hand, the son was born and on the other hand, her husband received a telegram from government saying that that you are acquitted in the inquiry so join immediately. This is only the coincidence by God - it is said there is delay at HIM but there is no darkness.

The life was sailing very smoothly in very best way with the growth of the child. In the meanwhile, her mother-in-law started behaving like a mad and on the other hand, she started going to the college so that she can get job as a primary teacher. Extremely

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firm determination, family struggle- aim to bring the family out from poverty made Sushila more firm and after completion of studies, she started the job as a Primary Teacher. She was very diligent, philanthropic so there was no trace of poverty on the children. She educated them very well and all her children live a good life today. But due to extreme labor and insufficient food, Sushila was caught in illness. Today as she is bed ridden, her children and husband are treating her without any short comings.

Life struggle of Sushila and her firm determination shows that we get confused in simple difficulties, then there is a necessity of firm determination, hard work and faith in God- 'the Almighty'. It is truly said in the Gita that...

“ये तु सर्वाणी कर्माणी मयी संनस्य मत्परा “

Means, you should do your work after getting absorbed in me, it is my domain to give you the reward. Really there is no alternative to hard labor and firm determination.

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42, Ashwara jBunglows, Near
Praladnagar Garden, Corporate Road,
satellite, Ahemedabad= 380015