

Neither misery nor folly seems to me any part of inevitable lot of man. And I am convinced that intelligence, patience, and eloquence can, sooner or later, lead the human race out of its self-imposed tortures provided it does not exterminate itself meanwhile. On the basis of this belief, I have had always a certain degree of optimism, although, as I have grown older, the optimism have grown more sober and the happy issue more distant. But I remain completely incapable of agreeing with those who accept fatalistically the view that man is born to trouble. The causes of unhappiness in the past and in the present are not difficult to ascertain. There have been poverty, pestilence and famine, which were due to man's inadequate mastery of nature. There have been wars, oppressions and tortures which have been due to man's hostility to their fellow men. And there have been morbid miseries fostered by gloomy creeds, which have led men into profound inner discords that made all outward prosperity of no avail. All these are unnecessary in regard to all of them, means are known by which they can be overcome. In the modern world, if the communities are unhappy, it is because they choose to be so. Or to speak more precisely, because they have ignorance,

habits, beliefs and passions which are dearer to them than happiness or even life. I find many men in our dangerous age who seem to be in love with misery, and death, and who grow angry when hopes are suggested to them. They think that hope is irrational and that, in sitting down to lazy despair, they are merely facing facts. I cannot agree with those men. To preserve hope in our world makes calls upon our intelligence and our energy. In those who despair it is very frequently ~~that~~ the energy is lacking.



The author said that joy and sorrow are ascertain in human life. Despite that, human acuity and thoughtfulness can take the men out of hardships. Furthermore, he doesnot agree with the perspective that hardships and challenges are inherited for men. He contradicts by saying that one can learn ways to deal with hardships. In contrast, ~~and~~ to modern times, unhappiness is considered is a choice for those who give up the hope. Such people believe in facts and evidences. Yet preserving hope through human intelligence will navigate challenges and maintain a positive outlook.

## Preserving Hope in Hardships