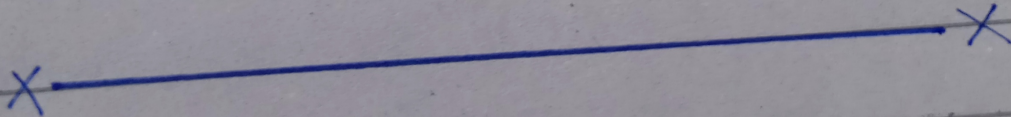


# HOPE: THE GREATEST DRIVING FORCE

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Permeates individual spirit to resolute for unachievable goals
- 3 Hope for social justice; ignites mass movements
- 4 In the form of ideology; provides platform for struggle.
- 5 Progress of human civilization through different political forms; hope for a better world.
- 6 Hope, in the form of faith; to bid even one's life. and die
- 7 Conclusion.



"He who has a why to live for  
can bear almost any how" (Nietzsche).  
Human being, despite the intrinsic  
hardships concomitant with human  
life, aspires for a life of virtues,  
achievements and happiness. The  
optimism in human nature attracts  
one to follow at stretch even a  
thin streak of light at the end  
of a dark tunnel. That streak  
of light is "hope" which, however  
frail, has the power to make one  
move heaven and earth. 'Hope' of  
a better future has the power to  
instill in an individual the spark  
to fight against the odds of life.  
Even a ghost of a chance may  
drive him burn the candle at both  
ends to achieve the impossible.

Further, in social matters, the hope  
of prevalence of virtues, like equality  
and justice, drives a disenfranchised  
community to raise unshakeable

voice even in face of utter adversity.  
Even greater incarnation of hope  
as powerful force is seen in form  
of ideologies at the bottom of  
mass movement by nations carving  
out states on the globe. The  
progress of human civilization in  
the vital domains like technology,  
political forms and moral  
values is the ultimate manifestation  
of hope for a better future.

Although, at the same time, one  
needs to keep the touch with  
realistic grounds. Nevertheless  
instead of flogging a dead horse.  
Nevertheless, a Muslim is always  
encouraged to keep hope and faith  
in any kind of circumstances.

Hope is the greatest driving  
force in the life of an individual in  
his effort to achieve the apparently  
unachievable. It makes one close  
one's ears from all the discouraging  
yet logical arguments against his  
one's

endeavor to chase a wild goose. An aspirant of competitive exam, for instance, bids his time for the frail 1.8% success ratio against the utterly discouraging 98.2%. This extremely minute yet powerful ratio of hope drives him burn midnight oil to acquit himself with the feather in his cap. A movie named "12<sup>th</sup> Fail" depicts a fine picture of this mysterious phenomena, where an aspirant with a lower social background and with an even fragile academic background starts following the bird of hope. Despite the most appalling events in the journey, he does not leave hope which ultimately leads him makes him a dark horse. Thus hope is the greatest driving force in the life of an individual aimed at achieving the apparently impossible.

Hope, of a society with equitable rights, is yet another force which

drives an disenfranchised community to challenge those in power. It provides them with the unshakeable resolution to leave no stone unturned, only on the grounds of hope for a just society for their community. The civil rights movement, of the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, is a significant example, where a spark of hope was ignited by a common black woman Rosa Park, culminating into a mass movement led by Martin Luther, acquiring for them the unprecedented socio-political rights. The fame, achieved by his line "I have a dream...", in the backdrop of the socio-politico-legal turmoil and struggle perfectly depicts how an untouchable yet resilient force of hope, in a community, can drive them to shake the foundations of a long maintained status quo.

Hope also manifest itself in the form of ideology, providing a nation a cemented platform which they utilize to carve out a state for themselves on the globe. A nation, under an oppressive majority, carry the hope for a state where they could draw a system according to the ideals that suit them, their culture and their needs. This ideology drives them such a resolute movement that it compels not only the opposing majority but also the world to accept their right for a separate nation state. The ideology of Pakistan is an incarnate example in this regard. Allama Iqbal's idea of a separate state provided the suppressed Muslims of sub-continent, with the hope of a state where they could freely practice freely their life according to Islam. This led millions of Muslim to shed their blood for this cause. Thus hope in the form of ideology

culminates in a forceful struggle that the whole world witnesses.

On an even broader level, it is the hope that underlies the growth of human civilization through different forms of political systems for an improved way of collective life. Human being is characterized by an "awakened reflection" which causes him to keep analysing his conditions and search for betterment. Hegel, a political philosopher, developing a broader interpretation of this notion, says that people keep searching for a better system and, when they find one, start challenging the prevailing standards. An example here, is the Bolshhevik Revolution in early 20<sup>th</sup> century where the hope for a classless society swept away more than half of the globe's politics, shaking

the prevailing world order. In this way a single hope has the power to impact even the whole earth in such a graceful way. Thus hope impacts the dynamics of human life in such a diverse way that not only in <sup>an</sup> individual's personal life, but also the social, political and international arena is not devoid of the powerful imprints of hope. This is why Islam encourages one to never lose hope even in the rainiest days. The rope of faith in Allah is the source of hope for every Pakistani to endure the current challenges with resilience as every cloud has a silver lining.

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