

## Disaster Created by Covid- 19 vis-à-vis Natural Disaster

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### Abstract

A natural disaster is a major adverse event that occurs as a result of natural process of Earth such as flood, famine, drought, pestilence, storms, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and many other geological phenomena. The calamities caused by nature itself over which man has no control is known as natural calamities or natural disaster. The catastrophic act of nature is an annihilating force by which the nature tries to maintain the balance between the divergent groups of animals to protect the biological diversity of species spread throughout the globe. As a consequence of human activities that has been carried out over ages, are far too convincing to believe that nature is the final deciding factor in case of creation and death of living organisms on the planet earth.

**Keywords:** Nature, Natural Disaster, Earth, Catastrophic Act, Human Activities

In the later part of December 2019, a novel Corona virus, designated by SARS-CoV-2 originated in Wuhan city in Hubei province of China caused an international global pandemic out for case of respiratory illness termed as COVID-19. Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is the strain of coronavirus that causes a respiratory illness which is better known as the disease of COVID-19. The full spectrum of COVID-19 ranges from mild self-limiting respiratory tract illness to severe progressive pneumonia, multi-organs failure and eventually death.

Having declared pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 11<sup>th</sup> march 2020, the healthcare system and healthcare professionals were stressed and already managing an influx of pretensions patients. COVID-19 presents a severe acute care crisis of unknown duration in which potentially hundreds of thousands of people becomes sick, many become critically ill and thousand may die. During these challenging times, it is important for the health care community to look after those affected patients and unite together to support each other and provide a focused approach to patient care. Due to this global pandemic, the whole world was under the shadow of fear of death until the first vaccine was discovered. At the

early stage of COVID-19, due to lack of proper medicines large number of COVID-19 patients lost their lives globally per day. COVID-19 pandemic created an unprecedented scenario worldwide. Never were the entire human populations so scared. Never before human activities came to such a grounding halt. It pushed everyone to stay inside the four walls of their house.

The clouds which darken the global sky were threatening to grow darker every passing day and the COVID-19 scenario, in the absence of weapons which can arm mankind to fight the coronavirus was becoming firmer. The only ray of light was provided by China, the country where the pandemic began, which has been able to semblance of normally giving hope that other nations might succeed in doing the same. Ironically the country to be worst affected has been the most powerful nation on Earth, the United States of America, which at that scenario seem to be the most powerless nation on the planet. The primary reason why America suffered so grievously is the belated nature of response to the pandemic which higher authorities had initially dismissed as nothing more than the common flu.

Man is an animal like any other born out of biological process. For all living beings to exist certain ambient conditions are most essential and striving to live began when the life for the first time was born here on earth. The sun from the distance gave it the comfortable light and temperature. The mass of the earth gave it a gravitational force for creating the envelop on atmospheric gases in which the living being could breathe. The earth got the required time to cool down for soil and water to be formed. Thus, life was born and the process of evolution began and under the climatic celestial factors, different species developed. All animals fell into different kinds of food chain to balance the environment such as a deer eating grass and a tiger eating the deer. Energy is transferred to the predator while balancing out the population of the deer. Likewise, the smaller fish feeds on the coral reefs while the bigger one feeds the smaller fishes. Whenever we observe we see this transfer of energy and a balancing of species. During this whole exercise of eating and living, each species also indulges in the most primitive and fundamental act of perpetuating the race through a consummate passion for procreation. The earth was sufficiently large and all these creatures could afford the luxury of a free life till the human race entered the scene with its unmatched brain power. Merely, in a ten thousand years of time, man mastered enough skill to subjugate the animal kingdom and lordship over everything. His ways of imagination took him beyond borders, oceans, skies and into space. Those who started to move out earlier won. They coined a word called 'development' which meant treading beyond the immediate and existing. This word which initially meant harnessing the nature and exploring the unknown, gradually started to mean acquiring the resources as wealth which converted them into a different species. Thus, man began to identify themselves a wealthy and forceful. This process of development which man linked to satisfy his needs led to 'politics'. This meant concentrating the free energy of all into the hands of someone to manage the lesser mortals. Sometimes they were called kings and in contemporary times called as political leaders. Such people also created another force 'religion' to manage their shows according to their advantage.

By this time, different geographical factors led to the creation of countries or states or kingdoms and all such entities started marching towards a hypothetical goal called development as shown to them by the rich and the powerful ones. A mad race began all over the globe to acquire more resources to create extraordinary products, services, challenged and defeated hundreds of natural adversities like disease and other calamities through precautions and safety measure. Brain power was used to create transportation solution, communication solutions, entertainment solutions, war machineries and other creative items. These rich people started affecting the better brains from all over to create a 'Super Earth' full of weird characteristics which would propel them into a league. In the meantime, without being really noticed' the human population was growing enormously. It has reached a figure of almost eight hundred crores of man roughly. To feed this gigantic population, food is being produced through artificial means with genetically modified crops taking the front seat. To address various health issues, innumerable medicines are being administered, millions of vehicles are manufactured to meet the transportation needs of the billions which are releasing toxic gases to the atmosphere and similarly factories producing billions of items for the civilized man are consuming enormous amount of energy thereby polluting land, water and air. Land on one hand is decreasing rapidly for human habitats which are now trespassing into the areas of wildlife; physical pollutions are now changing the cell of living organisms while mental pollution from exploitation, greed is ruining the beauty of the life on earth.

All these factors raise a question to the humanity – Is our mother earth able to bear these increasing destructions? The answer to me is not. The earth is not clearly in the position to sustain life in a natural way and therefore to check the growth of human population at a Malthusian progressive, the nature itself resort to broke out pestilence in the form of COVID-19 globally creating a situation of crisis and havoc worldwide. Those powers that were hell bent upon subjugating others for their own interest were totally unmindful of this catastrophic development. They were busy in developing newer weapons of mass annihilation. They also devised biological weapons such as bacteria or virus to be used in warfare to spread epidemics in enemy territory. What it implies is that the human mind, particularly of those who want to control the world economically is severely impaired. The world is totally unsafe in these perverted hands.

The COVID-19 for me has shown that the earth's resources are extremely stressed and this or any other disaster may lead to the extraction of species. Man has forgotten that he is the most vulnerable of species and it cannot survive without others. A lockdown may help in preventing the spread of virus for a while but more lockdown will result in severe food shortages and starvation and ultimately deaths. Man is now helpless even with thousands of supersonic fighter jets or nuclear ballistic missiles. Man's ego has taken a beating in the current time as there is no force in earth that can defeat the wrath of the nature. The situation is the direct fallout of too many people living on this planet. Their need for food, healthcare, education, mobility, communication, residence, jobs and above all freedom cannot be reach without compensing the very existence of our mother earth. COVID-19 has shown that each

human being is more of a potential threat than an asset. Probably half of the population is not needed. They were born perhaps on an assumption that god was responsible for each birth and death and that man has no responsibility on this account. This mindset must go and the COVID-19 has indirectly referred this to us in a quite unambiguous term.

*Live the air and water, it is a great leveler. It knows no nationality, religion, class and caste.*

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