

Editorial

Nature wrecking havoc!

Sun shining brighter. The UV radiations becoming even more harmful, than ever. Climates changing. Unseasonal rains. Hailstorms in summer.

What is happening?

Is it not too obvious a sign? Or do we need more avalanches, cyclones and earthquake? What is that we need, that will make us stop putting that plastic on the road, or stop us from cutting trees to build huge houses.

How much does a man need?

A 500 sq ft is enough to survive for two people. Make it 1000, for four. Why do we need huge houses then? Imagine if we had trees in 1000 sq ft, and a house in another 500 sq ft. How rich you would be. Your very own supply of fresh air!



If we really want to install more Air Conditioners in our 5 BHKs, we should try flaunting our houses by holding our breath! That should make us realise, what is more important! The Air we breathe! Not the empty rooms in huge houses. What would it take get minimalism as a concept working for all of us, around the world.

The Earth-saving business is not someone else's. Its our business. Because we live here! Let's be a little more cautious. And do our bit, not for anyone else. But for ourselves, and our future generations!

Please!

We celebrated Earth Day this April. This month's edition reflects back on our thoughts on saving nature! We are already doing our bit. Are YOU?

Blissful Ignorance

I go to see a room for myself. They show me the place, it's beautiful and I love it instantly. They are sweet and warm, and I feel at home. I ask about the advance payment and all the other formalities. They describe everything meticulously. I am asked to sign the rent agreement papers, and as I write my name, they freeze!

With a trembling voice they ask, "You are a Mohammadin?" "A Muslim, oh yes!", I reply with the same excitement and smile.

Busy signing the agreement, I had missed the expressions of sheer horror on their faces. I suddenly realized it might be the food that they might be worried about!

I start laughing, "Oh no no! I won't have non- veg in your apartment. In fact, I am an eggetarian!" But to my dismay, they look extremely stupefied. I ask is there any problem? To which they say their apartment is unavailable. "Sorry!", they mumble.

They got up and all the warmth vanished in a flick of second. Only stern looks remained. I stood up, shocked, hurt, and scared! How could they think, I would do them harm? Before I told them my name, everything was so good.

This picture just broke my heart





Nadia AbuShaban @NadiaAbuShaban - Mar 25 photojournalist took this photo 4 Syrian child, thought he has a weapon not a camera so she Gave up ! #Surrended

4 1K 🛪 346 •••

Then what changed?

Was I living in a bubble, all this while? Is this what happens? I was choked; my faith was a threat to me, to my existence. My friends never made me feel left out because of my faith, then why them?

I moved on. I finally got a home, and they were okay with me being a Muslim. They liked me as a person and I felt happy again. It helped me retain my faith in humanity. Yes, things happen, sometimes, because of your religion, sometimes because of your gender, sometimes - your color, sometimes your economic status!

But few years later a Muslim friend of mine, told me that she couldn't find a house closer to her husband's office, because of her this same situation - her religion. They don't entertain you after knowing your name. There are areas which are for Muslims and Christians and there are areas for Hindus. They call you Pakistani, they call you 'Mussadde', but they don't understand you are human too!

Another incident which happened with me at the airport, made me question the underlying social conditioning. It wasn't just the problem with religion, here.

My family and I were standing in a queue for the security check. Suddenly a man just ahead of me started screaming frantically about a bag, kept in front of him.

It wasn't his, or anyone's in the queue. We all got panicky. The noise alerted the security guards and they came with their dogs and called for their chief officer too. I could see, even the guards were mighty scared to touch and investigate the bags. My mom was nearing hysteria, when suddenly the owner of the bag came running. A bearded man, without moustache, wearing Patiala kurta or Afghani kurta!

He was meek and tiny and nowhere scary! But my mom exclaimed, "Oh my god, ye toh terrorist type ka hi lagra hai". Yes my Muslim mom was scared of another person, because he was Muslim, had beard, and was wearing a kurta. I told my mom, "If someone else had said that you would have been hurt but look at you! You are scared, yourself".

So maybe it's not their fault, not the man's fault- who was sadly strangled and taken into custody by the officers. It's the matrix we are given, fed with and that now is totally into our systems!

The media, the internet, the movies, has drawn and fed us with a certain image of the terrorist. We fear that imagery, not necessarily the people or the faith, but that imagery!

It's a game much bigger than religion and faith, its money and power at work. I was ignorant of the underlying truth of renting a house; I was unaware that unknowingly a fabricated image has crept into our systems. And we judge by what we are fed. Such an intense maze, an indeed complicated matrix!

World was a happy place when I was ignorant!.

The other day I heard something about sterilizing a particular sect, to control THEIR population but I ignored it, because I have learnt 'Ignorance is Bliss!'

Open Letter to TRAI

Dear TRAI,

You have been very generous with us Indians and given us facilities which otherwise wouldn't have been available to us. I remember how, free sms packs charged a fat 1 re on holidays, festivals and whenever we needed sms services the most.

Back then I knew you as a body which makes free sms chargeable with a friendly intimation.

Now that you have gone far ahead in your endeavors of how else to make money by yet again creating a new money minting scheme of Net Non-Neutrality, I felt an urge to write to you.

I doubt you have any TRP agenda. So this is a serious matter then. You plan to sabotage India's future in a totally novel way. Weren't we already under so many restrictions that now you restrict our net usage? I mean seriously, you want to charge us for the sites we use? Is this the start of Virtual Fascism or what?

I have a smartphone and all I do on it is use the net. Yes our telecom companies are losing on first, the text messages, and now the phone call- income, because of the new creative and path breaking apps. When you've let it flourish, then why sulk now? Or you wanted us to get so addicted to the internet that it becomes our oxygen and then you blackmail us of cutting the supply?

First you make internet dirt cheap and then when we start using it, first you start increasing the rentals then you slow down the speed and give speed-boosting-pocket-emptying packs!!

And now... You just make it impossible to use the net by creating slots and charging freakingly crazy amount??

Every Indian today is connected via net, people are working, learning, studying, making money, shopping through this very internet. India has so many start-ups that thrive on the net connectivity. We voice our opinions stay updated, share our lives on the internet. Our lives are almost virtual, yes that's bad, but that's how it is and that is a totally different story!

Now you wish to be the internet hitler who will dictate our choices, our usage, our net speed and yes make us shell out all our money?

India needs #NetNeutrality for all. Because we need it for our country's development. I guess you guys missed the speech about free internet and wi-fi cities! Don't take us back to stone age!

PLEASE!

Yours faithfully, A 24x7 internet user.

World Earth Day - 22nd April

Do you know, how much we are harming the earth, knowingly or unknowingly? Even if we think we are not, there are many of our close folks who are doing this, hence increasing their carbon footprints.

Do you know what a major difference it could make, if you could plant only 1 tree a year? And if trees were given as birthday gifts, or planted as memorials, imagine the good we would be doing to our Earth.

When we are busy looking to build colonies on Moon and Mars, lets put in a liiiiiiitttlllllleee effort to Save the Earth. Today!

This Earth Day, let us plant one tree, either for ourselves, or for our loved one, and tag them on facebook. Share the certificate on Facebook, and show your bit what you have done for the Earth.



How much does it cost? Just 85 Rs.

Click here --> http://www.grow-trees.com/ May be today, we can skip that online shopping routine, and do this. For US! All of Us! :) Happy Earth Day!

Celebrate the Earth everyday!

What's with you, Nature?

April... Oh! Sweet April What did you bring?

Summer rains, Earthquakes And, what more, Is in store? A few rounds of devastations Vindictiveness at galore? Nature dear, What has made you lose the harmony with us? Is it the civilization But isn't that a must?

Man is nature too And he will cut trees and destroy you, We are mighty, all powerful We want to be the One Who will Destroy OURSELVES and YOU

So stop acting like you are Mother Nature - the Great! Because that's what you do



What do you want, Oh! Nature From tiny beings called men? Can they really feel the heat? Let alone comprehend!

What do you want from us? This April, May or June, Since years you've been asking "Is it really, too soon?"

Perhaps, it's not Then, is it too late? Have we lost our chance To clean our dirty slate? To Survive! Because that's how He will live in peace and make you Strive.

So, what's this wreck all about? Tell us, Do you want us to dissolve In your precious dust?

We will, One day! But let us be the One Who will lead us that way And not you, Who will tell us what to do We tell you again, We are already heading towards Doom So, spare us This April, May and June

We are too proud, To let anyone else Destroy us!

Dear Nature! You can take a Break!

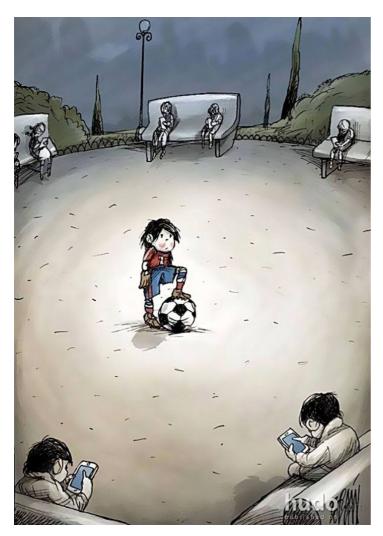
Forgetful US!

Why have we forgotten to be in the sun? Why have we confined ourselves today in air-conditioned enclosures? Was Sun ever a villian in our lives, like it is today? Sunblocks, anti-tans, SPFs are now are saviours from the cruel Sun. Is the Sun at fault? It was always the same.. Then what changed?

We forgot that, we had freedom to play hide and seek even after the sunset. We had groups of friends and we went for picnics with homemade food in our tiffins. We did not gang up in junk food joints and click selfies. Instead we were out in the Nature, rarely clicking picks because we were busy playing and having fun. Grasping all that was, around us.

There was no need to update or broadcast about our whereabouts to people who were not there, they did not matter. Why are our interactions becoming less personal and more virtual? What are we trying to prove.

You went to a movie! Well, fine enough! So did we, back then, But was there a need to exhibit it?



Why have we forgotten there were no cell phones still strong relations existed.

Our love, our hate, our education, our health, our fitness, our friendships, our relationships, our daily life, our every moment is reduced to just an update on facebook, instagram and the likes.

We forgot humanity, we forgot Nature.

We live like nothing else exists. But then we are reminded time and again, that if we continue with our selfish ways, Nature will fight back, and we will lose, again and again!

The unthought development, the cruel deforestation, the criminal wastage of resources, the use of toxic materials and all our Selfish activities need to stop, Right NOW!

"If we had understood the earth as the mother of all, even of great values, we would have treated the earth in a different way. We have destroyed it. We have almost poisoned it. We have broken its ecological unity. We have disturbed its environment. And now with nuclear weapons we are ready to destroy it. And it is the source of all that is beautiful, and all that is great. The earth is sacred."

The Way of Nature - OSHO Gyaan

"Life is an organic unity. If there is only giving and no receiving, to whom are you going to give? If there are only receivers, and no givers, from whom are they going to receive? Life is a balance between giving and receiving. Roots receive from the earth, and fruits and flowers go on giving back to the earth. It is a circle.

Man, in his ignorance, has broken that circle in many places. That's why there is a great ecological crisis. We go on taking from the earth, but we don't return anything. The earth slowly, slowly becomes barren, dead. And if the earth is dying, something of us is dying also, because we are part of it.

You think that the trees depend on the earth because they have roots, and they suck the juice of the earth. You also depend on the earth, because those fruits, those flowers, ultimately come to you. And you must share -- you are trees who can walk. If the water is more towards the north, the trees start moving towards the north; and when the water is finished, then the trees start dispersing to other directions. We are also trees, we are also connected with existence in many ways. Every second you are breathing in and out. Just try not breathing out -- because that is sharing -- and you will be dead. Sharing is life. These trees are also breathing. And life is such a beautiful unity that you breathe oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide and the trees breathe carbon dioxide and exhale oxygen: there is a kind of brotherhood. Without trees you cannot live; without you, trees cannot live.

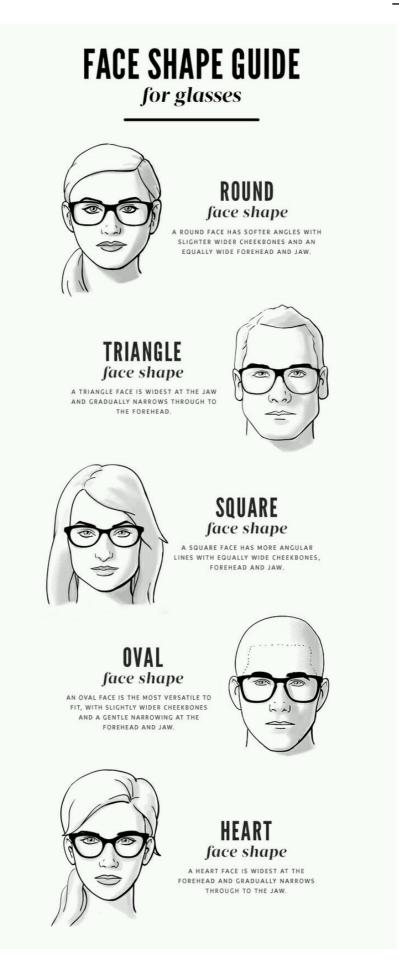
There is a constant giving, receiving -- the sun goes on giving you life, vitamins; the moon goes on giving you something that is very mysterious. George Gurdjieff had the great insight that it cannot be one-sided: just as with the trees we receive and give, we must be giving to the sun and receiving, giving to the moon and receiving. It has to be balanced. We have not yet been able to decipher exactly what we give to the sun, what we give to the moon -- but we must be giving, because what we receive we know; sooner or later it will be discovered that just as we cannot live without the sun.... If one day the sun does not arise, you will not wake up, not even for your morning tea in bed; you are finished. Your life is coming from that far-away star, the sun.

We are all a connected whole, interrelated, one organism. Hence it can be said, as a conclusion: Become richer in every dimension. Be creative, be loving, be meditative, and share. And the more you share, the more existence will shower on you flowers of blissfulness and ecstasy. The only good is to be in a position of oneness, so that you are not in a constant conflict within yourself -- because that conflict destroys you, leaves no energy to be shared. When you are one, the energy becomes so much that you become almost like a rain cloud, so full of rain that it wants to shower somewhere or other.

Sharing is the most precious religious experience. Sharing is good.

And Almustafa says,

"I will not speak about evil, because evil is only an absence." To be miserly is evil. You have, and you grab it -- whether you need it or not. You have missed the greatest joy of life -- that of giving. Receive with gratitude. Give with humbleness."



Until Next time:

Note: All the typos in the posts are intentional. If you haven't found any, Congratulations! Copyright: No content in this magazine is allowed to be published/reused without prior consent of Team Oh! Womania.

We welcome contributions/comments/feedbacks from readers and writers. For more details on the coming issue, please check the "sneak peak" section or write to us at <u>ohwomania@gmail.com</u>.

Follow us on our new FB page : <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oh-Womania/</u> 469025103199711

Visit our Blog to keep track of our activities – Oh! Womania I raw, unadulterated and ridiculously suave https://ohwomania.wordpress.com/

More light, more power to everyone!

Help spread the love with Diba and Yamini :)

PS: We have read the comments and taken up a few pointers too. How much we follow and stay in our senses, is all up to the rotation and revolution of the earth! We are unapologetic, but we sincerely respect feedbacks and we couldn't have been more thankful! :)

So keep 'em coming

Credits:

Design (cover & magazine):Diba Content: Diba, Yamini, Sabeeh Editing: Yamini Proofreading: Yamini Facts and Quotes: Wikipedia Grammar Teacher: MAC pages and MS word