



G.D. GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL, SRINAGAR

Subject: English

Aspect: MCB

Topic: If (poem)

Date: 31-08-2021

Name:

Grade/Sec.: VII

Summary

STANZA I:

The poem begins with the narrator, being a father, addressing his son saying that he should keep calm in the situation of crisis when all the others around him are panicking and blaming him. He should trust himself when all the people around him discourage him. Though he has confidence in himself and his decision, he should also listen to the opinions people give him.

He should learn to be patient and not feel irritated by waiting. If someone does any bad to him or speaks lies about him, he should not do bad in return. If he is hated by people, he should not be hateful in return but rather stay positive. He then advises his son neither to show off to people nor act arrogant but to stay modest.

STANZA II:

The narrator continues advising his son that it is good to dream high, have ambitions and goals but he must not allow his dreams to rule him. He should not lose connection with reality.

If he thinks about his future and plans for it, he should not just sit and keep thinking. He needs to act upon the plans. If he achieves success or face failure, he should treat them equally.

He neither should dwell in success if he achieves it and nor should he let himself collapse if he faces failure. He must not allow them to distract him because both of them are not long-lasting.

He must have the courage and patience to listen to the things said by him but are modified by some dishonest men. He needs to be strong enough to see the most important things in his life to be broken, he must gather the courage to fix them and start trying again.

STANZA III:

The narrator keeps advising his son that if he can take a chance in life and risk everything even if he loses. He should start trying again after losing and must not quit or give up. He must not complain about his loss to other people. He needs to be self-sufficient and must not look up to people when things go wrong. He should keep trying even though he is too exhausted to continue. He should stay strong and firm even if he has no strength left in him except for the inner voice in him that keeps him moving.

STANZA IV:

The advice continues as the father says to his son to be social and keep in touch with his social group but not to lose his individual goodness and integrity so that people may not be able to misguide him. He says that when he becomes successful in life and his status rises. He should not lose connection with his roots and the people where he has come from because that is his reality.

He advises him not to allow anyone to hurt him, be they friends or enemies. He advises him to let people depend on him but not to take too much advantage of him. He also asks him to make good use of his time and if he acts upon the given advice, the world, and everything herein, will belong to him. It will make him a Man.