

# IMANOFUTU

*A 21 cy portrait*

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A lot of new thoughts and innovative ideas have to be encouraged to save OUR lovely PLANET EARTH, perhaps the loveliest planet in the vicinity of science so far. Hence, I release this volume with an open license.

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# DEDICATION

To the dearest PLANET EARTH



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## To my readers

*This volume contains a collage of events  
from the 21st century life of Imanofutu – the imaginary nation of future.  
This is, in fact, a prelude to the series 'Imanofutu', the main plot of which  
is getting ready to tell the story of Imanofutu from 2101 onwards.  
Friends, let us prevent this world from becoming another Imanofutu.*



## 1 IMANOFUTU TILL 21 CENTURY

***“Imanofutu, the island nation, was situated at a latitude and longitude, which disappeared when the cosmic energy reshaped the earth consequent on a gravitational explosion in the solar system” – this story is being told from a virtual point at the infinity of time.***

Imanofutu had a total land area of 955,439 square kilometers. The terrain of Imanofutu was an almost equal mixture of long stretches of hilly, rugged and level lands. Its population in the beginning of twenty first century was a little over seventy million.

In the sixteenth century more than sixty percent of the island nation was covered by dense forests, around thirty percent by lakes and the human domicile was limited to less than ten percent of the terrain.

Till the end of the twentieth century the climate of Imanofutu was subtropical with relatively low humidity. Now nobody knew the climate category of Imanofutu as it kept on changing. Once upon a time the rainy season of

Imanofutu was from May to November. But by the mid 21<sup>st</sup> century, Imanofuteans began to hope desperately for a few hours of rain in a year.

The area was also very famous for its numerous freshwater lakes. The valleys and plane lands of Imanofutu were rich with tangerines, litchi, pomegranate, avocado and banana groves. Grain crops such as rice, wheat and millet and oil-yielding crops like soybean were the predominant cash crops of Imanofutu.

Apart from agricultural prosperity, coastal regions of Imanofutu were rich with fossil fuel. From the middle of the eighteenth century onwards fossil fuel industry became the most leading industry in Imanofutu. Thus, through oil trade, Imanofutu became one of the richest countries in the world.

Early inhabitants of Imanofutu were mostly forest nomads. During the seventeenth century A.D a lot of people from the surrounding countries migrated to Imanofutu. Therefore the chief peculiarity of Imanofutu's population was the diversity of its pagan origins. Still they were known for their very friendly, respectful and hardworking nature. Rather than safeguarding their cultural identities, as occurred in some parts of the world, Imanofuteans mingled without reservations. As a reward for their centuries long coexistence, nature gave them a genome that created strong, intelligent people with very attractive physical and behavioral characteristics.

Modern Imanofutu had eighteen Sates governed by state governments and a federal government at the central with Imacifutu as capital. Imana was the official language of Imanofutu. It was written using Latin alphabets. English was also used with equal importance.

## 2 IMANOFUTEAN ECONOMY

***“Before taking his last breath in 2140, Prof. Econy, a well known economist of both 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> centuries, transferred the following information on the Imanofutean economy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century from his brain to a self sustaining Neuro-chip (s2nc) and deposited it in the National S2nc Laboratory of Imanofutu located in the tranquility of space.”***

From the sixteenth century onwards Imanofutu had a fast growing economy. The country followed a very liberal regulatory system for setting up and running industrial and commercial establishments including financial institutions. These institutions functioned without much hassles till the end of the nineteenth century. By the end of twentieth century Imanofutu had placed itself at the peak of prosperity in almost all crucial sectors like industry, scientific innovations, education and health. Consequently it had become one of the wealthiest nations in the world. Ever increasing trade and connected financial activities made the country think about speedy

methods of transaction and thus they established world's earlier core banking and online trading systems.

Imanofutu had its initial versions of online financial systems from nineteen nineties onwards. By the beginning of twenty first century the country developed a prudent core banking system. No later it also established online trading systems.

The open market policy in two thousand marked the second wave of migration into Imanofutu. In some sectors of the economy, migration was found to be meritorious whereas in some other areas it produced drastic results. However the pace of economic activities, in general, increased substantially. But unfortunately that boom was short living. The economic meltdown of two thousand and seven disrupted all vital systems of the country.

Severe resource crunch triggered undue competition and unfair means of accumulating profit, which in turn overshadowed the entire social life. As a result, all kinds of financial frauds like tax evasion, fake currency and black money occurred the first time in the history of Imanofutu. Thus the country, once famous for minimal law and better living, had witnessed frantic law making by the senators. The senate approved more than three hundred statutes for the financial sector alone.

But legislation alone could not salvage the country from the serious troubles it was facing. Thus the country had to think about other ways of a sustainable solution. Ultimately, the Imanofutu House of Senate observed that sustainable solutions could be found only through intelligent use of technology. Thus the Senate engaged the New Generation Technology School and the School of Financial Management at Imacifutu State University jointly to conduct stakeholder consultations, consolidate

expert opinions and propose reforms measures.

The Imacifutu State University took up the challenge with much enthusiasm and came out with a proposal for complete networking of transactions and withdrawal of paper currency in a phased manner. Before arriving at such a conclusion, the library hall of Imacifutu University, which was the permanent venue for academic debates, witnessed sparring exchange of words between the School of Financial Management and the School of Economics of the ISU. The school of Financial Management maintained that economic principles should always be simple and easy to digest by those who carry it out. Public officials should not be made mad by forecasting and never ending loop of hypothesis.

The Senate accepted the proposal and directed the federal government to implement it in a time bound manner. In the first phase, the federal government of Imanofutu made it mandatory for all its adult citizens to have a bank account with any one of the banks approved by the Imacifutu Central Banking Authority (ICBA). In the second phase they made it mandatory that any transaction beyond 1000 Imacifutu dollars should be conducted online only using designated bank accounts.

In the next phase they had restructured the tax reporting system wherein nobody needed to report income or tax. Instead the Imanofutu Revenue Authority (IRA) should follow every transaction, assess the tax by itself and either demand or deduct the tax from the tax payer's bank account with the support of prudent IT network.

In the final phase, Imanofutu House of Senators had passed a historic bill for stopping the use of paper money. Thus, Imanofutu became the first country in the world that depends fully on virtual currency for transactions.

### 3 TRANSPORT CRISIS

*“A day in two thousand and seventy two. While sitting alone in the chamber of his underground home, ninety six years old Putrant’s memories walked him back to many decades. He recollected the incidents for his Dream Capturing Machine (DCM) to create a short video of the past.”*

It was the second decade of twenty first century. The leading motor vehicle manufacturers had engaged in ruthless competition. As a result the streets of Imanofutu were overcrowded with motor vehicles and it resulted in bumper to bumper traffic jams throughout the day.

The underground metro rail systems they developed in nineteenth century across Imanofutu and the well connected airways were the only relief for them. But the number of people who used those means were just ten percent of the total passengers.

**A day in two thousand and twenty three.** Imacifutu Mayor’s office. The mayor was in a serious discourse with



the Chief of Public Transport Mr. Putrant, Chief Engineer of Public Works Mr. Puworker and the Director of law and order Mr. Polman.

“Mr. Puworker, at last we reached the much feared deadlock. All possibilities for expansion of roads have come to a close. The corporation council has also decided against the encroachment of housing sectors by our road networks. You might know all these”

“Yes Mr. Mayor “

“... And a workable solution to this must come from Mr. Putrant’s department. We can admit no more increase in the vehicle density.”

“We know sir, we will succeed only if we will be able to curb the private vehicle density on roads”

At this Polman intervened and said: “One of the options would be to increase the vehicle registration fees and impose heavy fines for traffic infractions”

“Well, what does it mean? ... We are adding to the woes of the people. I think the ideal solution would be to provide more efficient and passenger friendly public transport system that people would like to use every day.” – Mayor said.

“Exactly!” - all others agreed to this unanimously.

“Majority of vehicles on the road are driven for the use of single persons. It is a criminal wastage of resources and over exploitation of infrastructure, particularly when the world faces deadly resource constraints and environment related issues” – the mayor added.

“I guess, it would be helpful if we could set up a brainstorming with all stakeholders in this issue” – Polman suggested.

“Definitely” the mayor agreed and asked his secretary to plan it.

The Mayor was a real statesman with futuristic vision.

Therefore the consultations found results in the form a well planned fourth generation mass transit plan for Imacifutu. Water transport, underground metro rail network and subsidized public transport on roads were the earlier generation plans.

In the fourth generation plan, contradictory to earlier plans, the top most priority was given to pedestrians. Comfortable and hurdle-free foot paths, pedestrian crossing and sub-ways were given top most priority in the program with a slogan 'walk your life healthy; make your environment serene'. Private vehicles were banned in all arterial roadways after further strengthening the public transport systems. Working hours of major establishments like educational institutions, government offices, large corporate establishments, etc. were rearranged systematically to avoid overcrowding in the streets. It was also decided to promote e-commerce. The corporation had reduced the taxes on online purchases substantially, which in turn kept a huge number of people away from the streets.

Later on, within a period of five years, the model of Imacifutu had been followed by entire Imanofutu.

The Dream Capturing Machine finished creating the video with a scene in which Putriant looked satisfactorily at the quiet street below through the window of his office on the fifty sixth floor of the Imacifutu Public Office Tower.

## 4 THE RAGE OF SUN

***“A day in 2035. Imanofutu General hospital. Specially insulated ambulances frequently rushed into the casualty area with patients exposed to sunstroke. More than seventy percent of the inpatient capacity of the hospitals in Imanofutu was used for treating sunburn and sun stroke cases.”***

In the beginning of twenty first century fear of climate change spread all over the globe. Facts and fiction about climate change began to dominate all sorts of literature and media. Scientists, policy makers, technocrats, social workers and all other stakeholders came out with all sorts of confusing thoughts. However, finally towards the end of the second decade world had to admit that climate change was a reality.

The turn of events in Imanofutu was also not different. From the middle of the first decade of twenty first century, Imanofutu began to face visible changes in its climate cycle. The first change noted by all was the reduced rainfall, which was in turn accompanied by

increased average temperature. A section of the Imanofutu scientific community argued that those were temporary phenomena and such thing had taken place many times in the history of the universe. But the other fraction of the scientific community warned government and other stakeholders that it was just a tip of the iceberg and more dreaded things were in store. They accused reckless industrialization and resultant environmental pollution as the basic reasons for the drastic changes in the climate.

The politicians and industrialists opposed the idea of climate change, because they feared that the popularity of such ideas would adversely affect industrial prospects of the country.

Amidst these verbal fights within and between different classes of the Imanofutean society, the changes in the environment kept on accumulating silently. The quantity and the occurrence of rainfall recorded a steep decline every year. It enhanced daytime temperature as well as scarcity of water. The ground water levels dipped drastically.

Being captivated in the grandeur of amazing industrialization during the twentieth century, maintaining wells had become out-of-fashion for the people and water supply lines and taps became the symbol of aristocracy. However a lot of people living in semi-urban and village areas were intelligent enough to upkeep their wells. But when the spring water levels went down dangerously, most of those wells were too dried out. Only then the Imanofuteans realized the gravity of what was going on around them and thoughts on alleviating climate change issues got popularity. Finally the government of Imanofutu had to officially adopt the UNFCCC definition of climate change.

In two thousand and fifteen average daytime temperature crossed forty degree Celsius and by two thousand and thirty the average midday temperature touched fifty five degree Celsius. The midnight temperature was also rose to thirty five degree Celsius. No more they called daylight as daylight; it was day fire for them. It was not only the high temperature that frightened the Imanofuteans, but also the increased density of dangerous rays in the sunlight that penetrated their bodies. From two thousand and thirty onwards Imanofuteans worked for their livelihood only during the night. Even the emergency services of government had seldom worked during the daytime. People remained inside their houses with windows covered using a specially made thick and dark semitransparent material to prevent penetration of UVA rays. Similarly rooftops were covered with a kind of white paint that reduced heat absorption. However sun stroke cases occurred when the children opened the doors by accident or when adults went out under the compulsion of some exigencies during the day time.

## 5 A PROTEST FOR WATER IN 2037

*“During pre-historic days Imanofuteans worshiped water. In the modern times when they wanted to expand the housing and commercial areas as part of industrialization they looked at their splendid lakes and wetlands as a curse. Once the maddened urbanization syndrome was over at the face of global warming, they despised themselves for letting their wonderful lakes and rivers succumb to premature death and they reinvented the presence of divinity in water.”*

That night the people of Imacifutu did not come out. Streets continued to be in dead silence as during the daytime.

Imacifutu, the capital of Imanofutu, was placed under curfew that night consequent on the breakout of a revolt when the government declared a reduction in the quantity of public supply of bottled drinking water.

Earlier Imanofutu Drinking Water Corporation (IDWC) was supplying one liter of water per day to each

soul who held a water permit issued by the Government Supplies Department. Since most of their rivers and lakes had already been dried out, IDWC was producing drinking water by purifying sea water. Initially IDWC planned to supply purified water to the households through regular water supply lines, but soon it proved to be unworkable. Therefore IDWC began to supply bottled drinking water. Yet they maintained emergency supply through selected lines.

Consequent on the skyrocketing costs for the purification of seawater that caused fund constraints, the government of Imanofutu decided to cut short the supply to five hundred milliliter per day. This decision came out at a very awkward time in which the atmospheric temperature had been showing a tendency to further sharp rise. Even the existing one liter supply was not enough to wet the throat for a quarter of the day - there was no question of drinking at all!

Most of the crimes committed in Imacifutu during those days were for water. Plundering of government water storage houses, snatching away of water bottles while people move around for works, breaking of supply lines from purification plants to bottling units and looting of water - all these were there in the list of regular incidents of crime recorded by the Imacifutu City Guards.

In two thousand and thirty five, the government adopted open market policy for purification and supply of drinking water. But the policy was withdrawn after three years as it created widespread injustice by way of denying drinking water to poor families. Thereafter only purification and bottling were outsourced to private firms on fixed rates. Purified water was owned and supplied by the Imanofutu Drinking Water Corporation (IDWC), an agency created under public private partnership.

By two thousand and thirty, for Imanofuteans, bathing in water had become something heard in old tales alone. They used a kind of oil called bath oil and small towels to clean their body. Five ml of the oil was sufficient enough to spread all over the body of a grown up and then they swept it using small towels. The bath oil and its application procedure were an invention of the Imanofutu Cosmetic Company, which specialized in producing cosmetic items suitable for living in high temperatures.



## 6 A CRUCIAL DAY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

***“Roman was a victim of the economic meltdown and global warming. He grew up like a stray dog; unattended and unloved. His struggles for existence were purely his own adventures. He became a school dropout at the age of ten and thereafter studied by his own. He would have given up all aspirations for higher education if there had not been a system called open distance learning. He entered a University for the first time in his life only when he became a research scholar”***

Monday night, January 15, 2035; Imacifutu State Skills University. The Senate of the university met on that day to take a crucial decision.

The higher education system of Imanofutu was a role model to the entire world right from the beginning of twenty first century onwards.

In two thousand and fifteen Imanofutu government

had taken a bold and futuristic decision to convert all its universities to Skills Universities, which ensured employable skills training and education to students with the active involvement of industry. Based on the above decision, all advanced research on applied sciences and technologies were strictly attached to industrial firms, laboratories and other agencies that make use of such sciences and technologies under the guidance of well organized quality control and assessment agencies. Other kinds of higher studies that were intended for just knowledge acquisition had to be carried out through the online university system alone.

For skills training and education, quite naturally faculties were also drawn from the industry. By two thousand and twenty five there was no one in the higher professional education system whose job was just teaching. It had become a corporate responsibility for all industrial firms to facilitate the learning and research activities as well as to provide effective tutors. Now Imanofutu was getting ready for another wave of revolutionary changes in its higher and professional education system.

**10.05PM.** Senate members started to enter into the Senate Hall of the Imanofutu State Skill University (ISU), one of the oldest Universities in Imanofutu, which was established in the seventeenth century. Its earlier name was Imanofutu State University and was changed as 'Imanofutu State Skills University' in two thousand and fifteen. In the twentieth century ISU became one of the most favorite educational destinations of people from all over the world. But in twenty first century, when Imanofutu began to be engulfed by all kinds of social-economic-political-environmental issues, the fame of ISU

was also rejected.

When the Vice Chancellor entered the room at 10.20PM, all the Senate members were in position. Full quorum meetings of the Senate were very rare from the beginning of twenty first century. But that day it happened. Moreover, a solemn silence filled the room that used to be a pandemonium otherwise.

The senate of the Imacifutu State University was unusually big with membership from almost all walks of life – academics from various disciplines of study, students, politicians, lawyers, scientists, writers etc.

“Good morning friends” – the Chancellor started to speak.

“All of you know why we are here today. Similarly all of us recognize the gravity of the issue that the senate has to consider today and the need for settling them urgently. Therefore without much introduction I invite the Chairman of the Senate standing committee for academic policies Mr. Reoman to present the agenda”.

“Good morning Mr. Chancellor and my dear friends, with the permission of all of you I’m presenting the single agenda item.” – Reoman, a very energetic professor of IT at his mid forties, started with his usual pleasant tone- “Due to the compulsions of adverse social economic and climate conditions and government policies, further continuance of classroom mode conventional education has become nearly impossible.

As you know these are all not sudden developments. We have a very long history of bringing radical changes. In two thousand and fifteen itself we have discontinued with classroom education in the case of arts and science streams. Thereafter we have been receiving representations and advisories for many years from now to think about alternative methods. Compulsion of the

situation to discontinue classroom mode of education in the case of professional courses is also very high. The copies of the proposal of the Senate standing committee for policies have already been circulated to you. Now the senate may kindly discuss the issue and suggest solutions. Thank you”

Reoman’s brief speech was followed by a heated debate between conventionalists and reformists in the senate. The discussions on the first day was not fruitful. However, the Senate decided to discuss the issue in the subsequent days as well and it lasted for many days. In the end the proposal was passed by majority votes. Thus Imanofutu Sate University discontinued the conventional classroom type education for all its courses. Open Distance Learning had become the primary delivery method. Similarly, a major component of the practical sessions was also carried out in distant mode with the support of Simulation Engine.

The transition was not a nightmare for ISU, because it had already produced much progress in developing and testing virtual learning environments. The ‘Simulation Engine’ developed by the Research and Development Unit of Information Technology Department of the University in 2025 remained as a technological wonder for many decades. By feeding basic data and sample images to the Simulation Engine through a very simple procedure, any one was able to produce three dimensional simulations for any kind of scientific or technological experiments with the kind of precision that the related real-time activity demanded for a successful completion. It worked perfectly in online and offline modes. It revolutionized the delivery of Open Distance Learning. The most important part of the story was the decision taken by the ISU to make that technology

available as free and open source software to the public, at a time when Imanofutu was struggling with resource crunch. If ISU had released the technology as proprietary thing, the University could have earned billions of dollars. But ISU had taken the right decision to donate it to the world to combat environmental issues. Immediately the research and academic institutions all over the world had volunteered to enrich the application libraries with verified information and developed wonderful add-ons.

Educational reformists in the University had given top priority to Open Distance Learning from mid nineteenth century onwards as a solution for the ever increasing demand for higher education and the state's inability to meet that requirement consequent on population explosion and fund constraints. By 2010 further expansion of facilities for classroom education had become nearly impossible. Then the federal government of Imanofutu had directed Universities to find funds for running the courses by themselves. Thus Universities introduced self-financing courses. In that mode, students had to bear full expenses of their studies. It resulted in skyrocketing of education costs because of the foul play of fortune hunters who looked at education institutions as just some other commercial establishment and created a situation in which access to higher education was limited to higher income group people. Quite naturally it had become a big social issue.

Educational reformists, social workers and politicians were all tried for a sustainable solution and the open distance learning had come out as an ideal solution. The Imanofutu House of Senators had accelerated the trend by declaring the credentials being obtained by students through open distance mode as equivalent to regular conventional courses run by the universities in the

country. Subsequently, the federal and state departments of education in Imanofutu had issued statutes to that effect. Families found it a big boon since the cost of education in open distance learning mode was below ten percent of the monetary value of a similar study in a conventional setup. Moreover young people got a chance to engage in part-time or full time works while pursuing their education. Thus they were able to meet the education expenses from their wages.

## 7 THE LAST CAMPUS NIGHT

*“When the morning sun arrived with harder realities, they went home with much concern and some hope.”*

The decision of the Imacifutu State University’s senate to implement Open Distance Learning as the principal delivery method for professional courses did not produce much reflection in the campus, because the majority of the students had already vacated hostel rooms and went home. The reasons for students deserting the campus were the ever increasing environmental issues, scarcity of water and the financial problems of their families.

Imanofutu had never been recovered from the economic slowdown of two thousand and eight. After frequent retreats, the country’s economic problems had been producing only very weak periodic returns throughout the twenty first century. This coupled with the ever worsening climate conditions, had brought in drastic destructions in the Imanofutean economy. Students and their families found it very difficult to satisfy

the education costs, especially when the universities had begun to work in a self financing mode wherein students had to bear the full cost for education in the absence of state grants to universities. Subsequently many problems were added to the list. However, scarcity of water was the most venomous of the issues that dramatically increased the percentage of desertion.

**11PM; a usual hot night in Imacifutu.** But people called it as cool as thirty five degree Celsius when compared to the fifty degree temperature of the day time.

A group of eight students, perhaps the last group remained in the university hostel, were trying to prepare their supper using whatever stuff that had been left by the caterer who stopped services two weeks ago.

“Ah, at last the day arrived for us to prepare our last supper” – a tall lean boy of around twenty said while grilling potatoes. Hearing his comment all others grinned at each other.

When they were about to commence eating, Reoman entered the kitchen. Reoman was the most influential Professor in the senate as well as among students. His calm and friendly manners together with always-ready-to-help-others attitude made him very intimate with teachers and pupils alike.

“Hello, boys, what’s up there?”

“Cooking our last supper sir” one among them told. With a smile Reoman joined the group. “Nice potatoes, it tastes far better than the stuff of our old caterer” he said while tasting the grilled potato.

Silence filled among them for some moments.

“Well boys” Reoman broke the silence “I can understand your temperaments. Educational institutions are always another home for students and far more than a



workplace for teachers. Therefore its closures become really painful.”

“You are right sir. But our problem is that we are not able to feel even that pain in a natural way. Our minds are deadly frozen”

“Yes, I know... I know... still we have to overcome it and survive... but how? ... okay, what are your plans?”

That group comprising eight students and one teacher discussed many things till very late in the night. Virtually they did not sleep at all. When the morning sun arrived with harder realities, they started home with much fear and some hope.

## 8 THE VIRTUAL LIBRARY

*“It was a very hot day. Though it was 9 p.m., Reona suspected whether she could cut through the extraordinarily large playground undermining the piercing heat rays radiated from the land and the nearby buildings.”*

Reona was an Assistant professor at the Imacifutu State Skill University. She was thirty years old while these incidents took place. She was the Coordinator of the complete digitization initiative of the university library. The meeting of the senate, which had decided to switch over to an open distance mode, had also decided to digitize all books in the university library and make it available online to all the registered students.

She had to walk about one kilometer to reach the university library from her faculty cottage at the southern edge of the campus.

Every night, while going to and from the library, she walked across the playground full of dried brown garden grass. At the other end of the ground there were a row of

fifty two faculty cottages. The faculty cottages were old fashioned rock wall buildings, the exterior of which were covered in brown dust. It always appeared to her as a scene from some fairy tale. Along with it she had to bear with the heat, which was felt as if numerous needles were being pierced into her torso.

When she reached the library, the whole staff was busily scanning and uploading books to the library management system of the university, which was grown on a powerful free and open source software platform. They employed a dozen high speed scanners that could scan books as a whole by pulling it inside the machine from an associated tray. Books with a total page count of ten thousand could be fed in the tray at a time. While loading the books in the tray a special kind of chip stickers were pasted on the cover pages for the scanner to read each book and create files accordingly. It took just seven minutes to complete the scanning of ten thousand pages including uploading of files. The machine scanned the pages by passing special kind of air waves and rays through the folded book.

“Hello folks, how’s it going on?”

“One and half million roughly so far” – a chubby girl replied.

“So we have two million remaining” – Reona whispered.

“Yea, it’s too big a job for just five persons to handle” – the Assistant Librarian murmured.

“But we have nothing else to do. We have no rentals; no reading room guests... all have gone. At least this heavy workload will help us to forget about the burning airs outside” – a very serious looking Reona replied.

“You are right, Reo” – the Chief Librarian agreed with Reona’s comments.

The conversation ended when all of them including Reona had fully engaged in the scanning job. Nobody liked lengthy conversations during those extremely hot days.

Reona was day dreaming amidst the humming of the scanners. She mechanically engaged in running the scanners, arranging the books to be scanned and taking the scanned books back to the shelves.

Reona remembered the words of Prof. Humann in her post-graduate class: “Friends, yours are a transitional generation. I’m anxious about your future. More evils are waiting for you... and I would advise you to come prepared for facing it”

Prof. Humann was a wonderful man; quiet and soft spoken. His classes were like a friendly chat within a family. He never got angry at all. Nothing and nobody could provoke him. “Cool grandpa” – that was his nickname among the pupils.

His words were always thought provoking. In his opening remarks at a crucial seminar on ‘climate change and related issues’, he commented that: “In the millions of years of history, mankind has overcome drastic changes in the living environments through adaptation. But today, the fortress of luxuries that we built recklessly around us has made the adaptation quite impossible. Ironically, the luxuries, that we build to create what we believe as a comfortable living environment, really make the changes in the environment harder for us to adapt.”

The open distance learning scheme of the university was initiated by Prof. Humann. While launching the first course in ODL stream he told “Friends, I firmly believe that open distance learning supported by open educational resources would build the inclusive mainstream education system in the immediate future.”

## 9 A SILENT LOVE?

***“Reoman continued to be a bachelor just because he had no time to think about living together with a girl. His friends always teased him saying that he was cohabiting with the internet and their honeymoon would never cease. Of course, marriage as an institution was just a myth in Imanofutu by that time.”***

Reoman spent a major portion of the night every day for browsing, conducting online classes, group discussions, open content generation and blogging. He received two master’s as well as doctoral degrees in Information Technology and Open Education. His career development was also a mischievous thing for most of those who knew him. He completed his masters in IT as a university topper with a gold medal at a time when IT industry was at its peak. He received a lot of job offers from the market leaders during that time, but he did not accept it. Instead, he joined for his master’s in open education. It was, in fact, a clear indication of the vision

and mission of his life.

Reoman's hostel was next to Reona's. When Reona went out to the library in the evenings they usually met near the campus health club. That day when she went to the library he saw her through the lightly tinted glass window of the health club. Reoman had great appreciation for Reona's very energetic and constructive involvements with university's affairs, especially during that very sensitive transition period. Aside from being a colleague now, she was also his pupil at the outset of his career as an Associate Faculty in the University, immediately after finishing his first doctoral degree in IT.

On the first day of her PG class itself Reoman noticed that she was something different. Immediately after his inaugural lecture, nineteen out of twenty students in the class had encircled him with their tablets for getting his digital signature at the recommendation part of the online application form for library membership. The Imacifutu state university library maintained the procedure that every student membership application should be recommended by a faculty. At this Reoman had noticed that Reona alone was sitting peacefully at her seat. Then Reoman asked her "don't you want a membership of the library?"

"Not in a hurry sir, I'm accessing Open Courseware. It is sufficient for the time being" –Reoman liked her answer, but he did not comment on that.

After coming back from the gym Reoman went to the kitchen to cook something for the breakfast. Now a day breakfast was the meal taken between 9 p.m. and 11p. m. While sitting on the floor of the living room, leaning against the wall, with his tablet and bread toast, Reona appeared in a popped up window. She reported that at the library they were facing some system error while

uploading the digital books.

“Dear, let me look into it” – he replied.

Romania set aside his breakfast hastily and began to work in earnest on his tablet by opening another desktop. He was always quick in responding to the calls for help. He was quicker whenever the requester was Reona. After a few minutes Reoman returned to the desktop where Reona was waiting with a smile.

“Dear it’s okay now. The database server was down.”

“Thank you” – Reona thanked him with a sweet smile.

She smiles only on very rare occasions. Those occasions happened most often while Reoman was physically or virtually near her. If it was anyone else other than Reona, others might have believed that they were in love. Reona was very sincere and energetic but she most often worked as if a machine without expressing any normal feelings. Moreover they had sufficient reasons to think that Reona would not fall in love.

## 10 LIFE OF A CLONED CHILD

*“She was very confused over her attraction for the opposite sex. The basic reason for this was that the affinity for normal procreation was not usually triggered by her hormone system. She had dreams with a difference! Perhaps, these were things that the science was not able to successfully coordinate so far.”*

Before Reona’s birth, the cloning experiments of the Imanofutu Institute of Health Research faced failures a number of times. Miscarriage was the common failure. Forced abortion due to pregnancy complications was the other big reason for failures. There were also prenatal deaths of cloned embryos. Some babies took birth with fatal irregularities and passed away shortly after birth.

First successful human cloning in Imanofutu was in 2014 and it was Reona! Though cloning was successfully conducted in animals during the first decade of the 21st century itself, things grew more complex and complicated in the case of human beings.



Reona was the cloned child of three ladies! What actually had happened in the Imanofutu Institute of Health Research (IIHR) was the somatic cell nuclear transfer. Ovum was taken from one of the lady scientists in the team. The body cell that provided the nucleus to replace the core of the ovum was taken from an actress who was an inpatient of the Institute during that time. The ovum was then stimulated by an electrical pulse to produce a human embryo. The clone embryo was implanted in the uterus of a very poor surrogate mother from the northern region of Imanofutu. She did it just for the attractive contract amount offered by the institute. Though the institute kept the history of Reona's origin as a top secret, after becoming an adult, she found out more information on that by her own way.

Even though a scientist couple in the Institute had adopted her legally after six months of her birth, Reona continued to be a specimen cloned baby for researchers. During her childhood the researchers observed that she got an entirely different mental setting than the normal children of her age group - perhaps a machine like a child, it was she! She did not feel much attachment to any person or thing during those days. Yes, everything was quite mechanical.

While studying at K12, she spotted the mechanisms employed by her adopted parents and the research institute to track her day to day activities for research purposes. This incident made her rebellious for the first time in her entire life. Again it was the first time she felt the real feelings of loneliness and suppression. It kept on aggregating and finally, while she was doing her under graduation she approached a court of law to prevent her adopted parents and the institute from intervening into her private life for their research needs. The court

ordered that “Reona is an individual with all rights that the constitution of Imanofutu bestow to its citizens and the research center will be able to observe or conduct further studies into her life only with proper permission from her”.

It was the end of her association with her adopted parents as well as the research center. Her maid friend arranged a lodging for her and without much delay Reona was able to obtain a part-time job to accumulate funds for her day to day life and to continue her studies. On completion of the post graduation she received a scholarship for research at the Imacifutu State University.

In the university Reoman was the person whom she liked the most. Is it a love?... it was not clear to her. Being a cloned child her mental settings were not like that of a child born of normal reproduction. She was very confused over her attraction for the opposite sex. The basic reason for this was that the affinity for normal procreation was not usually triggered by her hormone system. She had dreams with a difference! Perhaps, these were things that the science was not able to successfully coordinate so far.

## 11 AN ERA OF CHANGES IN SCHOOLING

***“First introduction was the e-reader, which replaced the conventional textbooks.”***

Though many technology innovations were happening in the tertiary education arena, academicians, politicians and technocrats were highly divided on the issue of introducing such changes in school education. In Imanofutean education system, school education started in grade one and ended at grade twelve, which was intended for children in the age range of six to sixteen.

A fraction of the stakeholders argued that the primary importance of school education lies in experiencing and understanding how to live in a society under institutionalized discipline, which was highly important in leading a healthy life. The behavior of the kids could not be modeled in the right way through distance education. Over and above, children in this age group could not engage in self directed learning.

Nobody questioned above arguments. However the

compulsions of the changing environment forced them to accept step by step transformations in school education as well.

First introduction was the e-reader, which replaced the conventional textbooks. It was performed on an experimental basis in Imaçifutu during two thousand and eighteen onwards. During two thousand and eighteen - nineteen academic year, the secondary and senior secondary pupils were given e-readers preloaded with all the textbooks prescribed for the given class. Subsequently, all the students were provided with a micro USB chip, connecting it to the e-readers made the e-reader function as an advanced tablet. Students were also able to connect to the Imanofutu Education Network, which was an eighth generation network, free of cost using their e-readers.

After initial implementation issues, from two thousand and twenty two – twenty three academic year onwards the use of e-reader had become popular and stable among the entire secondary and senior secondary school pupils in the Imaçifutu city area. At the outset of each new academic year they could easily back up old textbooks to their micro USB chip as well as download new textbooks from the education net. It brought about a dramatic reduction in the use of paper in Imaçifutu. Similarly, students were freed from the heavy burden of textbooks that once they were forced to take to school every day.

Consequent on the success of the pilot phase, the Government had decided to roll out it in entire Imanofutu in three years. e-Readers were manufactured and distributed by a consortium of the government and private technology solution providers called Imanofutu National Technology Solutions (INTS).

It took nearly seven years to complete the distribution of e-readers to all students in Imanofutu. Government during this period also gave special care to train teachers in the use of virtual learning environments, organizing online instructions and online student mentoring.

When the average daytime temperature surpassed the fifty five degree Celsius threshold by making daytime movements and works impossible, school timings were also rearranged to be conducted from 9 PM to 1AM during week days. Within the next two years, weekly school days were reduced to four from five and in the next year it was decided that schools would work only on alternate days.

The above situation had made all the stakeholders of education, academicians, students, parents, health professionals and education policy makers to consider seriously about innovative ways of online instruction for school children as well with the support of parents or other adults in the house. It was the actual starting point of extension of the schools to the homes in Imanofutu. Parents, other grownups in the home and volunteers were massively trained for supporting this system.

## 12 THE GREEN ENERGY

*“The committee found nuclear energy as the natural way of generating energy and radiation as the natural means of transmitting it in this Universe. As it is a system used by the Universe, it has to be tremendously powerful as well as sustainable. It is really these qualities of the nuclear energy that requires utmost attention from us while exploring its possibilities.”*

During 18th to 20th centuries the principal source of electricity in Imanofutu was its numerous thermal power stations that were spread all over the country. These power stations used diesel and coal as fuel. In the concluding portion of the twentieth century, they began to build nuclear power plants.

In two thousand and five a deadly earthquake rocked Imanofutu and five of their ten major nuclear power plants had been dangerously damaged. The nuclear leakages claimed the lives of more than one million people and many survived with deadly after effects. This

incident made people think against nuclear power stations and at last government had decided to decommission all its nuclear power stations and go back to depend on the thermal power stations again. But in the place of ten nuclear power stations that made Imanofutu an electricity surplus country, the government had to construct fifty two thermal power stations making environment pollution a bigger issue.

The scientific community and the environmentalists were highly divided in this matter. At last Imanofutu House of Senators had to directly take up the issue. The Senate committee for science and technology had heard all the fractions of people and reported to the senate that:

“The Committee is convinced that Nuclear Energy is a reliable source of energy. Most probably we do not have information about any other sustainable mechanism of energy generation to meet our ever increasing energy demands. Yet we cannot help but raise our brows when we think of Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, Fukushima and deadly 2005 accidents.

In simple term radiation is the emission of energy particles or waves from the excited (or high energy developed) nuclei of atoms. It is an effort of the high energy nuclei to go to a low energy or stable state. It is called radiation because this energy radiates or travels in straight lines in all directions. Light, heat and microwave are radiations in our daily life. Sun and stars send cosmic radiation from times unknown. Our earth is a source of natural terrestrial radiation chiefly through Radon gas and also many other radioactive materials exist in soil and rocks. Even the people themselves are a source of radiation as they carry radioactive potassium-40 and carbon-14 inside their bodies from birth. Medical use of radiation is still another major source, which accounts for

14% of radiation dose on general populations. It means everything in this planet receives radiation doses regularly, of course, in varying degrees. However, high energy radiation is dangerous because it can ionize atoms by knocking out electrons. Such radiation is called Ionizing-radiation. Another type is low charge non-ionizing radiation, the energy level of which is not enough to ionize atoms.. High amounts of ionizing-radiation is dangerous as it affects living cells, especially the DNA.

The radiation in the context of nuclear energy is ionizing one. A nuclear reactor works through sustainable nuclear chain reaction (fission) using fissile materials as nuclear fuels. Materials that are capable of providing sustainable nuclear chain reaction such as uranium-235, plutonium-239 etc. are called fissile materials. The technology is like this. When a large fissile atomic nucleus absorbs a neutron, the heavy nucleus (excited nucleus) splits into two or more lighter nuclei, releasing kinetic energy, gamma radiation and free neutrons (to return to a stable state). A portion of these neutrons may later be absorbed by other fissile atoms and trigger further fission, which is called a nuclear chain reaction. The kinetic energy created during the fission is converted to thermal energy when the free nuclei collide with nearby atoms. This thermal energy created in the reactor is used to produce compressed vapor, which is used to turn turbines to generate electricity. This reaction is controlled using special substances called nuclear poisons that can absorb the excess free neutrons.

Gamma rays that are being emitted during the nuclear fission are the major radiation from a nuclear reactor. Gamma rays are electromagnetic radiation of high frequency. Shielding from gamma rays requires large amounts of mass. They are better absorbed by materials



with high atomic numbers and high density. Gamma rays are more penetrating and hence long duration exposure to high radiation may increase the incidence of cancer.

The various scientific literatures say, it is not the fission alone that produce radiation in a nuclear power plant. For example, the radioactive substances that are used as fuel in the nuclear plants normally disintegrate or decay by the emission of alpha particles and gamma rays. Another source of radiation is the decay of fission products. Fission products are radioactive substances produced as a result of fission. Some of them would be highly radioactive. Similarly some impurities in the reactor coolant and the reactor coolant itself absorbs some free neutrons and becomes radioactive. This process is called activation. But nuclear power plants use effective technologies to prevent all these kinds of radiations from exposure to the environment. However, nuclear fuel transport, fuel change in the plant and removal of waste from the plants etc could turn out to be the occasions of radiation leak outs. Now the challenge before the nuclear technology world is to device perfect systems that can withstand accidents and natural disasters as well as to prevent radiation exposures.

The committee found nuclear energy as the natural way of generating energy and radiation as the natural means of transmitting it in this Universe. As it is a system used by the Universe itself, it has to be tremendously powerful as well as sustainable. It is really these qualities of the nuclear energy that requires utmost attention from us while exploring its possibilities.

On the above grounds the committee recommends that our scientific institutions must study further deep into the universal system to generate, control and transmit nuclear energy and design completely safe

systems for the country. Knowing the universe is the real challenge here as well.

Let us also dream about solutions, because dreaming is an easy (and natural) way to know the universe and arrive at natural remedies.”

## 13 PORTABLE REACTORS IN 2045

***“In Imanofutu the word nano had been used as one word for drastically reducing the size of any system or functional unit along with its enhanced capacity, effectiveness and efficiency. They spared no system and technology for nanofication – as they called it. Quite naturally nanofication of atomic energy generation was also not a challenge for them”***

When the supply of diesel began to go down drastically during two thousand and thirties, the government ordered power cuts for a few minutes in various places of Imanofutu as a temporary measure to adjust the demand supply gap in electricity distribution. Then the duration of power cuts was increased to one hour of every day. In just five years the duration had been further increased to twelve hours a day. By two thousand and thirty five, drastic regulatory mechanisms had been introduced in power supply and its use. It had become mandatory that every household should setup government approved schemes for solar energy storage and usage. Regular

supply of electricity was limited to fifty six hours a week.

When the supply of diesel had almost ended in two thousand and forty, Imanofuteans feared a complete blackout. When left without no other option, the Government of Imanofutu decided to reopen its nuclear power plants.

But the people did not forget the two thousand and five incident. Based on the conclusion of the Imanofutu House of Senators, the scientific community researched sincerely and worked hard to unearth a less dangerous nuclear power generation technology. In two thousand and forty five, they succeeded in it and designed the first nuclear power station that worked on atomic fusion.

The nuclear fusion power generation technology was a revolutionary progress in the nuclear science. In a short span of time a lot of alterations were successfully added to the initial conception of nuclear fusion reactor, which literally made fusion and energy generation possible using any substance so that the operating costs were lowered dramatically.

Within a decade after the commissioning of first nuclear fusion reactor for power generation, the scientific community of Imanofutu had developed first portable fusion reactor, which led the way for manufacturing portable nuclear power stations.

Since the technology has been developed by government agencies using state fund, the technology was made available free of cost to all producers who came forward to produce low cost but high quality nuclear gensets.

## 14 OXYGEN SUPPLY IN 2050

***“Life is nothing but a wonderful combination of water and breathable air – it was one of the most used sayings of Imanofutean philosophy. The Imanofuteans realized the truth in that saying when they faced severe scarcity of both”***

By the middle of twenty first century the atmosphere of Imanofutu had become extremely contaminated. The sky of entire Imanofutu began to be covered by thick clouds containing sulfur, carbon monoxide and other toxic oxides. That situation was the sum total of pollution caused by the uncontrolled increase of motor vehicles using fossil fuels and reckless industrialization wherein all kinds of products, the byproducts of most of them were dangerous, were made in exorbitant quantities without thinking about its implication on the environment. It, coupled with the devastation of forests for housing as well as industrial purpose, made the environment highly polluted.

Nobody noticed the dip of oxygen in the air below

fifteen percent. The initial symptoms were felt in the streets of major cities in the Imanofutu. It had become impossible for the traffic guards to work more than two hours at a time in the busy streets of the metro cities. Serious health problems were developed in those who worked long hours on the streets. At last Government decided to implement two hour rotation for traffic guards. After attending duty for two hours they were urged to rest another two hours in oxygen chambers set up near their duty points.

From the streets of the metro cities, this situation slowly spread to all other cities and further into villages. Oxygen shortage related health problems became common in persons regularly using the road transport system. It made the governments to issue statutes to make oxygen cylinders a compulsory part of all motor vehicles. When such statutes were implemented, two wheelers and other uncovered vehicles had been withdrawn from the streets. Only covered vehicles with air conditioners including oxygen supply were allowed thereafter. Dreadful increase of the average atmospheric temperature and increased presence of harmful rays in the sunlight were other reasons for the strict implementation of such statutes.

The problem did not end with that. Gradually all places where people gathered in large numbers were beginning to indicate shortage of oxygen content in the air. Auditoriums, schools, colleges, hospitals, office complexes, markets were all become prone to oxygen shortage related problems. In no time it had become a very serious issue in entire Imanofutu.

Though the pollution caused by vehicles stopped during two thousand and fifty due to almost complete stop of the production and supply of petrol and diesel,

the environmental issues continued to escalate. Locking down of factories that caused environmental issues had also not changed the situation. Gravity of the aggregated problems caused by the human activities regardless of the health of nature through many centuries were that much deep and wide.

Thus the federal as well as state governments of Imanofutu had to work hard to get a workable solution for generation and supply of oxygen to households as in the case of water and electricity. The primary method employed for oxygen generation was electrolysis of water and quite naturally this function was also assigned to the Imanofutu Drinking Water Corporation. At least a couple of scientists suspected that the situation was moving towards mission critical.

## 15 HUMIT AT THE SENATORS' COMMITTEE IN 2060

***“Friends, I appreciate the eagerness of ISATCO to find out another habitable planet on public interest. But I have another important question to ask you...”***

In two thousand and sixty, Humit, a pro-people young senator, was the chairman of the Imanofutu House by Senators’ Committee for Science and Technology. He was a postgraduate in applied physics. The Constitution of Imanofutu stipulates that all important issues that require approval from the Imanofutu House of Senators should be placed with the prior approval of a designated committee of Senators for that topic. In this way the office of Senate Committees was vital.

It was a night in December two thousand and sixty. That day the Senators’ Committee for Science and Technology finalized its recommendation on an important issue. The sitting of the committee that was scheduled for 10PM was delayed for another one and half hour because of the problems in oxygen supply to the



meeting room. At last the committee met at 11.30 PM. The only agenda item was the final recommendation on a request of the Imanofutu Science and Technology Corporation ISATCO for continued permission to their Space Missions for another five years. At the previous meeting the technocrats from the corporation had presented their final arguments. After hearing from the technocrats one Senator expressed doubts over Government's financial position to extend funding for another five years, which would cost many thousand million Imanofutean Dollars. In his final statement, the Chief Executive of the corporation defended his proposal by raising a critical point that it was critical for the scientific community to find out alternative living space; another inhabitable planet, at the earliest because the living conditions in the planet earth was alarmingly deteriorating.

After the meeting, the final argument of the CEO on the importance of finding out alternate living space kept on haunting Humit. Before the present meeting he conducted a great deal of research and consultation on the need and possibilities of alternative living space. At the commencement of the present meeting Humit said:

“Friends, I appreciate the eagerness of ISATCO to find out another habitable planet on public interest. But I have another important question to ask you. I would like to know from you what technology do we have to bring our planet back into its vigor and beauty? Isn't it high time that we should channelize resources and time for that?”. This opening question of Humit triggered very engaging discussions and finally the committee arrived at a consensus decision that on an experimental basis, space

explorations for the next five years might be slowed down and the savings from that would be used by ISATCO to researches on revitalizing the planet earth.

In its final recommendation sent to the Imanofutu House of Senators, the senators' committee had also recommended to facilitate international cooperation in revitalizing the planet earth.

## 16 LESSONS FROM THE PAST

***“He did not want to recollect everything from the history. According to him there were lots of things in the past which should go to oblivion for civilizations to flourish further. At the same time there was something from the past that should be remembered at every moment in life ”***

Another night in two thousand and sixty. Humit was sitting in his office at the ‘Imanofutu House of Senators’ and carefully viewing the documentary video about a very famous senator of two thousand thirties called ‘Transin. He was the then chairperson of the Senators’ committee for science and engineering. Humit was always maintained a very high academic interest in going through the history of past senators as well as various committees of the senate so that he could correctly trace transitions as well as identify gaps and possible reasons for successes and failures. “A clear picture of the history is very much required for taking stern decisions about the present as well as to plan where to place foot in the future” - he

used to say.

Till the year two thousand and thirty, the Federal Government of Imanofutu and each state government in the country maintained numerous citizen registries for different purposes like voting rights, permission to travel abroad, allotment of government supplies, various kinds of licenses, student registration, farmer registration, business registration etc. Though there were amazing advancements in the utilization of information technology in Imanofutu, e-governance was not on the right path. Each initiative remained as remote islands with no means or interest to communicate with other initiatives. As a result, though government pumped enormous amount of funds for e-governance, people were not that much happy about what was going on.

It was a burning issue in the mind of Transin from his college days onwards. During those days he used to furnish a detailed opinion and suggestions on those things whenever government sought public opinion on new as well as existing initiatives. But he found no signs of his propositions were being taken with due importance. At this he became very angry, especially as he was a very active reformist from his teen ages onwards. He decided that he would follow up on his suggestions. He was very confident that he would get a chance for that. At last his vision, strong passion and hard work had made him a proactive senator of Imanofutu.

As the chairperson of the Senators' committee for Science and Technology, the first thing he wanted to be discussed by his committee, immediately after he assumed charge, was the consequence of convergence and coordination between various e-governance initiatives.

In his inaugural speech at the very first sitting of the

committee Transin said:

“Friends, as all of us are aware, we are living through very hard times in the history of human beings. The basic reason for this situation is the reckless use of science and technology all over the world. The growth of science and technology helped people to build stable civilizations; no doubt in that. But when used in a reckless way, the same science and technologies have proved that they can be disastrous as well. Now we have to alleviate the effects of such destruction by the intelligent use of the same science and technologies. I know it is not an easy job”. At this an older senator said: “I agree with you chairman. But where should we start? Problems are now as big as the world itself. Where do we have a space to fix our feet to commence work” Everyone including Transin enjoyed that comment.

“Well, let us start from simple and basic things” - Transin said “How many government cards each one of us are having? I have eleven of them”

“In that case I will defeat you. I have twenty two of them” the oldest among that senators said triggering a loud laugh in the room.

“Yea, that’s the point I would like to make. We don’t need more than one card. So that everybody wins” - Transin said with a smile.

“But how?” many in the group asked at the same time

“As you know, the technology is now ripe enough to store, analyze and retrieve millions of data in respect of each individual. Only thing additionally required is our commitment to use them in such a way. There is no problem in having many registries or databases. The only thing we demand is that all those registries should communicate among themselves and share data between

them, again they should be able to build a master data registry at the very second we need such an information”

“We agree, this is a top priority initiative for our committee to examine” - all other members seconded the suggestion of Transin. The committee had decided to organize detailed discussions with each agency in the country which maintain or plan to maintain people’s registry in the first round and to call them together for a collaborative brainstorming in the second phase.

“We will set an example in this basic e-governance thing so that all other initiatives, not only in e-governance, would be able to easily digest and replicate the strategy” - Transin said in his concluding remarks of that sitting.

Humit closed player window and stood up. He knew the remaining part of the story. Transin and his team was able to successfully pursue the idea among all government functionaries and came out victorious in getting the proposal of ‘Virtual Individual Identification Card (VI2C)’. The Imanofutu Science and Technology agency had successfully designed and implemented it. VI2C was in fact an online repository of every individual’s data from his birth onwards. Each development in the life of an individual including health care and education were automatically updated to the online registry. When a child attained the age of 10, the biometric information was also captured and added to the repository.

Cheap VI2C readers were provided to all authorized persons in Imanofutu. When a person approach VI2C reader, after reading that persons biometrics information the reader populated VI2C. Each agency was given the facility to customize the display of the VI2C in accordance with its requirement. In addition people were

also given a micro personal information chip embedded hard card to use standalone in exigencies where networks were not available.

Humit pulled out the hard copy of the individual identification card from his pocket. He was now very proud to look at it as the outcome of the foresight of a visionary predecessor.

“However, the duplication of efforts continues to be a problem in governance” – Humit murmured.

## 17 THE MAD WINDS

***“As the wind speed showed a steep increase every year, the destructions it caused also began to grow beyond imaginations.”***

Hales Guad, a middle level officer in the Imanofutu Civil Guards Department, was in charge of the surveillance camera control room for sector ten of Imacifutu city that day. He and his team had not taken a break from the last afternoon. They were all expecting the strongest of the winds in the last six weeks. The meteorology department of Imanofutu had predicted that a deadly wind was likely to hit Imacifutu in the next twenty four hours. Some twenty five years ago the meteorology department was able to predict hurricanes two or three weeks ahead of its occurrence. But now the climatic conditions were highly volatile and hence all predictions happened only before a few hours of its occurrence.

After a day long waiting the wind hit the seashore of Imacifutu by 2.PM. Within a few minutes, visuals from almost all surveillance cameras began to show only a thick



cloud of sand; nothing else was visible. The humming of the wind even peeped into the insulated underground surveillance camera control room. However Imacifuteans feared little casualty since they had developed very matured systems to protect them from the wind. They had made effective design changes in their buildings as well as escape cellars. Moreover as it was daytime, maybe there should be no one in the streets and other open spaces.

For many centuries, some areas of Imanofutu had been prone to hurricanes. The country used to have three to five deadly hurricanes each year. From two thousand and thirteen onwards they witnessed a steady increase in the wind speed as well as the number of occurrences of hurricanes. From two thousand and twenty onwards they began to face more than ten hurricanes every year.

As the wind speed showed a steep increase every year, the destructions it caused also began to grow beyond imaginations. The high-altitude areas of Imanofutu, that were once the major tourist attractions, had become inaccessible because of the wind. Travels beyond five thousand feet sea level had become extremely dangerous. The high wind also destroyed the high altitude forests.

The evil effects of sustained high winds were not restricted to the direct destructions alone. It had also caused deadly changes in the climate of entire Imanofutu. It upset the climate cycle and thus the climate of Imanofutu had become highly volatile.

Consequent on this wind-speed-effect the entire lifestyle as well as the social systems of Imanofutu witnessed tremendous changes. Starting from the clothing style, nature of agriculture, building styles, shapes, vehicles and everything changed to cope with higher wind speeds.

Nowadays, people of Imanofutu started their daily activities by hearing the climate advisories that were mostly about wind speed, the chances of new hurricanes and depressions. Earlier, depressions had caused the rain along with high winds. But now depressions caused wind alone. It was another strange thing happened to their climate.

## 18 THE FEAR OF THUNDER

*“Heless saw his old colleague’s picture clearly at a glance. Straight off the monitor showed very bright light and went dark.”*

While watching the monitors with visuals filled with a thick cloud of sand, Heless remembered the scene from the down street he viewed three days before. It was around 9 pm. People had begun to flow in the streets for regular walks. He was peeking through the array of monitors. While looking at the visuals from the cameras on the down street, he noticed one of his old colleagues cycling through street number eight. He was seeing him many years later. So he asked the guard at the control panel to zoom that visual.

Heless saw his old colleague’s picture clearly at a glance. Straight off the monitor showed very bright light and went dark. It was the ground hitting of a thunderbolt. In this incident he lost that old colleague along with three other walkers. With a deep breath, Heless closed his eyes. Such events happened every day in Imanofutu.

All places of Imanofutu were used to witness lightning and thunder at least a dozen times a day. Imanofuteans had conducted a lot of research and made a good advancement in designing and large scale production of advanced lighting protectors. The most recent discovery was a technology to reduce the unpredictably high voltage come along with the lightning to controllable levels and store a portion of it. You could see such lightning protectors and lightning energy storage devices on every building in Imanofutu; which was required by law. Similarly in streets and open spaces you could see advanced protectors along with energy storage devices in every hundred meters apart. . They learnt to tap the advantages of adversities!

During night, sky of Imanofutu looked like the venue of a light and sound show. But you could not enjoy it because you did not know whether the next lightning would bring down a thunder bolt to finish your rejoice.

During good old days lightning and thunder had occurred rarely in Imanofutu, even though the world average was forty to fifty times in a second. Now the things had changed drastically and an average of ten lightning related casualties were being reported every minute in Imanofutu.

Now the most dreaded and common lightning in Imanofutu was Cloud-to-ground (CG) lightning, which came very close to the earth and thus the intensity of the strike was very high. The average inner temperature of the lightning was calculated at forty one thousand degree Celsius, which was double than a century back, and so it had been close to twenty thousand degree Celsius. It was another reason for the increased casualty rates during the lightning. This amazingly high temperature also indicated the very high voltage differences in the environment.

No scientific organization could correctly predict the possibility of lightning in a given region. 'It can happen in every next second', that was what they used to say. Therefore, people lived with fear as if they were in a battlefield where frequent bombing was taking place.

As in the case of ever increasing wind speed, this was also becoming a very high threat to the high raised buildings, high altitude places and the aviation systems in Imanofutu.

## 19 AVIATION CRISIS

***“It was a dark day for the aviation industry in Imanofutu. Six plane crashes in a single day; four during landing and two during takeoffs. All were due to high wind speed.”***

When Imanofutu was a star attraction for tourists, the sky of Imanofutu witnessed heavy traffic. There were hundred and eighteen airports all over Imanofutu. Fifteen major airports in Imanofutu had twenty five and more departure gates. They had more than two take offs and landing in every moment. Most often planes had to queue up in the sky for landing.

Now the situation had changed a lot. At present only eighteen airports were operational. Most of them had only two or three take offs daily. All other airports were abandoned.

Along with all other obstacles being faced by the aviation industry, the most difficult obstacle that the technocrats had been fearing for long became a reality. Ever increasing wind speeds in Imanofutu was going to

put an end to the aviation industry. Since the wind speeds began to show a steady increase from the last century itself, so many dramatic changes had been brought in aviation technology. But now, within two or three years, wind speed was expected to surpass the threshold at which existing aviation technology could facilitate safe takeoffs and landings of aircrafts.

Since the entire folk of technocrats in the aircraft industry was preoccupied with the modifications required in handling crisis arising almost every day because of the environmental issues, little research was made into the domain of a futuristic design for aircrafts taking into account of the fast changing environment.

People of Imanofutu in all walks of life were very critical of government, aviation industry and the scientific community for their failure in finding out alternative technologies by overseeing the present crisis.

The technocrats could find only two options; either make miracles happen in the aviation technology or let all aircrafts down.

## 20 THOUGHTS ON UGL SPACE

***“Now the unbearable heat of the sun, dreadful winds, environment pollution and the demand for continuous oxygen supply all together force us to think about new kinds of domiciles.”***

A day after ten years since the Imanofutu Senate had approved the recommendation of the Senators' Committee for Science and Technology to slow down the space exploration programmes of ISATCO and to concentrate on researches about alternative living space, Humit had an important meeting with Ms. Innowa Engineer. She was Humit's schoolmate and now his technology consultant and intimate acquaintance.

When Innowa came to the office of Humit, which was on the second floor of an office complex on the lake view road, she saw him standing by the window and gazing at the dried out lake. He did not know the entry of Innowa.

“Hello dear, seems to be in deep thoughts” - Innowa said while standing very near him. At this Humit stopped daydreaming and greeted her with a gentle squeeze.



“Ina” - he used to call her like that “I was thinking something wild”

“Wild?”

“Yeah! Perhaps a crazy dream!”

“My god!, nowadays it is incredible to hear that Imanofuteans can dream in this ever rising temperatures!”  
- both of them laughed

“Okay, what's that wild dream?”

“I'll tell you. I called you to share it, in fact”

“Thank you, I am very curious to hear it”

“Ina, ten years back we have decided to cut short funds for space exploration to concentrate on revitalizing the living environment in the world. Today we are spending thousands of million Dollars for revitalizing the existing environment of earth, without any tangible results at all... look at the irony”

“I know your concerns... and passion for getting the things to move in the right direction” – Ina said

“Now the unbearable heat of the sun, dreadful winds, environment pollution and the demand for continuous oxygen supply all together force us to think about new kinds of domiciles.”

“That's right. I second your dream”

“But we are not stopping the space exploration, we will continue our space exploration below the ground”

“Beneath the ground? What you mean?”

“I meant underground living spaces with the facilities like in the space stations above”

“Oh! It's not that much wild...”

“It means you see some reason in it, Am I right?”

“Sure! Tell me your dream fully”

“Ina, we have six thousand and fifty eight tube rail stations in entire Imanofutu. If we are able to expand that space further for commercial and residential purposes, we

can save thousands of people from the angry sun. We should develop the underground living space in a way that it can be separated as space station like modules in the event of an emergency so that each module will store oxygen, nutrient and other facilities for an isolated living for a reasonably good number of people for a couple of weeks”

“It’s a fantastic idea! Shall I name it?”

“You are welcome!”

“Hmm... then.. Call it UGL Space”

“UGL Space?”

“Yeah! Underground Living Space”

“Great!!!”

## 21 UGL SPACE BECOMES A REALITY

***“We are spending thousands of million dollars on things which are not certain to us. But here it is something very certain, I hope.”***

Humit and Innowa discussed the concept of UGL Space for many weeks before the idea was shared with Scientists and Technocrats at Imanofutu Science and Technology Corporation (ISATCO). Humit and Innowa researched a lot on the topic to make themselves confident about the idea in the first place.

At last Humit presented his idea in the Imanofutu House of Senators during a candid discussion on the future technologies to combat climate change. In the senate, Humit made a picturesque presentation of his idea of Under Ground Living Space. Though the reaction from the Senators were mixed, the Scientists and the Technocrats from ISATCO, who was attending that session of the senate as special invitees, received the ideas of Humit and Innowa with much enthusiasm.

Humit told them: “We are spending thousands of

million dollars on things which are not certain to us. But here it is something very certain, I hope”.

A very heated debate was there on the UGL space concept. At last intervening at the discussions the chairman of the senate suggested arbitrarily that ISATCO should be entrusted to prepare a project proposal. The senate approved the suggestion of the chairman.

The innovation division of ISATCO prepared a detailed project report and submitted the same for consideration by the Senator's Committee for Science and Technology as a follow up to its earlier recommendation to find out solutions for bettering the living environment in the planet earth.

As dreamt by Humit, ISATCO developed the design of UGL Space in a modular fashion, wherein each module could remain as an independent living space with sufficient reserve of all basic facilities like oxygen, water, food, electricity etc for eighteen weeks in the event of an emergency. There would also be elevators with sufficient capacity to lift the people in the UGL space quickly to the surface during an emergency.

The Senate Committee for S&T and the Senate accorded in principle approval to the proposal and sanctioned thousand million dollars for pilot implementation. The pilot UGL Space was built as an annex to the Imacifutu Central Tube Rail Station at the heart of the city.

## 22 LIVING IN THE UGL SPACE

***“People were trained to plan their daily activities with the support of Information Technology Tools in a way that require only very minimal travel.”***

During earlier days hurricanes had made it mandatory for Imanofuteans to build cellars attached to their homes. Later they began to extend its size, both area and depth wise, to escape not only from the mad winds, but also from the extreme heat radiated from the sun. It was at that time Humit presented the idea of UGL Space.

Consequent on the success of pilot UGL space built as an extension to the Imacifutu tube rail station, hectic initiatives were on way in many parts of Imanofutu for constructing more UGL spaces. Many businessmen were also cooperated with the Government in the UGL Space initiative. Within a five year time underground hotels had become the most luxurious hideouts in entire Imanofutu. Similarly offices of crucial government functionaries were also rebuilt underground.

Gradually government agencies began to build

underground public areas. The development of underground streets and other public places commenced as an extension of the underground rail system. Imanofutu had an extensive and well structured underground rail system, which they used to call as ‘Tube Rail’ as it was being called in UK. Later they built walkways connecting the UGL spaces. As the time passed, these walkways further developed into streets and in no time business establishments and residential structures had been built by the side of these streets.

The construction as well as maintenance of underground living space were being coordinated by the Imanofutu Underground Living Space Development Corporation (IULSDC). Tube rails were the prominent transportation system to connect UGL spaces.

The Government of Imanofutu had brought out separate statute to regulate underground living space development as well as underground living called ‘Statute for Imanofutu Underground Living Space Development and regulating underground living.’

The most important law for both the underground space development and underground living was the non-use of fossil fuels. The above law prohibited the use of all kinds of fossil fuels in the underground living space. Electricity was the only source of energy permitted for aiding the human living in the underground living space. For cooking induction cookers and Microwave Ovens were only permitted.

Another important law was the prohibition of private vehicles. To strictly control the use and thereby the number of vehicles in the underground living space, there was a total ban on private vehicles in the underground living space. It was perhaps a lesson learnt from the traffic problems they faced throughout the twenty first

century.

People were trained to plan their daily activities with the support of Information Technology Tools in a way that require only very minimal travel. Almost all official conferences were held online and official communications were made electronically. If ever they were required to travel, it should be via public transportation systems only.

Similarly they formulated a standard for underground living called 'Imanofutu Underground Living Standards IUGLS'. It was mandatory that all activities and all products used in the underground space should invariably meet IUGL Standards. As per IUGL Standards, no production and manufacturing units were permitted in the Underground Living Space as a measure to protect the living environment.

## 23 UGL EXTENSION TO SEAS

**“Innovations never stop, especially when man faces adversities. It was the reason for extending the UGL space to deep seas as well.”**

The idea of doing something equivalent to UGL space under the seas was really the idea of Fightad Busn, a hospitality businessman. Fightad's hotel network called 'Imanofutu Grand Hotel Network (IGHN)' was the most prominent hotel business group during the golden times of Imanofutu. When environmental issues began to culminate the tourism prospects of Imanofutu, Fightad had to closedown the majority of his hotels.

The major attraction offered by IGHN in Imacifutu was its underwater restaurant cum aquarium. It was placed in the deep sea three nautical miles out from the Imacifutu Beach. Getting inspiration from the UGL Space, Fightad planned a complete underwater hotel with the support of IULSDC. The IULSDC made alterations in their underground living space capsules to make them suitable for developing undersea living space as well.



The hard works of two years had become fruitful at last with the commissioning of Fightad's first undersea hotel, perhaps first of its kind in the entire world. IULSDC's interest in cooperating with this private business endeavor was to explore more options for alternative living space development.

With the victory of Fightad's initiative IULSDC obtained permission from the Imanofutu Senate for extensive use of the technology under seas in other parts of the country.

The first independent initiative of IULSDC in this regard was the construction of its own undersea alternative technology development lab, which was double the size of Fightad's undersea hotel.

Immediately after the successful commissioning of the undersea research lab, IULSDC developed standards for building and maintaining undersea living space making use of the invaluable expertise and research knowledge it acquired through active leadership in both the above projects. During the debate in the Imanofutu House of Senators for passing the statutes containing the standards Humit said:

“we have to be extremely vigilant to see that no pollution occurs either underground or undersea as part of these advancements of technology. Our environment is already polluted. Pollution of underground and undersea living spaces would mean terminal disaster!”

## 24 A POET'S WARNING

***"You are in the return path  
You are undoing the evolution!"***

The hunt was also the patron of the Imacifutu Literary Association (ILA). The ILA was the most influential literary organization in Imanofutu with its more than two centuries experience in literary service.

During the good times of Imanofutu, the ILA Hall in the center of the Imacifutu was a star attraction on all evening. ILA Hall used to host important literary events on all days, which were enthusiastically attended not only by the city folks but also by people from all parts of Imanofutu and the visitors from abroad.

The environmental and related social issues had affected the functions of ILA also. Daily programmes were cut-short to weekend programmes and subsequently to monthly and half yearly programmes.

It was one such half year programme. The hunt was a regular visitor of the ILA hall from his undergraduate days onwards. This time he was greatly attracted by a

small poem of a young poet. The poem was chiefly a number of warnings specific to the panic efforts taken by people to escape from the clutches of the environmental issues.

“You have been reckless exploiters  
Who plundered nature and made disasters  
That you thought fortunes.

Hey men! You have spoiled the blues  
And I don’t have blue skies now,  
I don’t have white mountains  
I don’t have green valleys  
I don’t have a serene air  
Hey men! You are the arch destroyer!

Now you seek hideouts everywhere  
Under the earth, under the sea,  
These are not advancements  
But man, you remember  
You are in the return path  
You are undoing the evolution!

This poem was the last item in the literary programme that day. While returning home from the ILA hall, the last two lines of that young poet’s poem banded in his mind

“You are in the return path  
You are undoing the evolution!”

- Really some unknown fears were creeping into his mind each time he recollected these lines. “He is right, extra caution is required. UGL Space should not be the end, it should be an initial step to rejuvenate the earth’s environment. But, how???” – he thought.

## 25 NEED FOR ADAPTATION

***“At least our kids had to be trained in adaptation”***

After the Imanofutu Literary Association event, Humit's mind was very turbulent. The young poet's poem kept on haunting his thoughts. As days passed, he also started to believe the poet's declaration that:

“You are in the return path  
You are undoing the evolution!”

‘It seems to be a practical hypothesis’ – Humit used to think while laying in bed at sleepless nights - ‘Human beings overcome the adversities and exists for millions of years only because they were able to successfully undergo adaptation.’

‘But what is the current situation?’ – he asked himself

‘Man tries to be away from the clutches of natural changes... a kind of self imposed isolation’

‘But the changes are not natural’ – another part of his mind told him

‘Yes changes are not natural. If it were natural the living beings could have adopted it naturally. But here the

changes are triggered by human activities. Therefore the changes are rapid and natural adaptation is quite difficult' – he responded to himself.

At this level of thought he jumped off of the bed. 'At least our kids had to be trained in adaptation' – he wept out loud.

He immediately logged into his blog and added an article on the need for adaptation of natural changes for existence. He always relied on his blogs for sharing his ideas with his colleagues as well as general public. People used to follow his blogs carefully because they recognized that the ideas expressed in his blogs would be realized one day.

He concluded his blog with the words "We cannot run away from the changes taking place in the nature; we have no permanent hideouts, in fact. Our readiness to face and adapt the changes are a must for sustaining this world"

## 26 LACK OF DREAMS

***“Apart from dreaming about big things, you can also dream about small things that are very near.”***

An ordinary night in Imacifutu. The city which was seen as abandoned one during the day time got some life in the night. As we have already seen, people came out of their homes to work only during night, which was, in fact, regulated by law to protect them from the dangers of severe daylight and heat.

Now, in the primary classes, children were being taught rhymes saying “we get up at the beginning of the night and sleep in the beginning of the day”. It was indicative of a totally opposite lifestyle while comparing with the lifestyle till the beginning of twenty first century!

It was only in that evening Innowa came to know that Humit was not well for the last three or four days; mainly because of his restless works. Immediately she rang up Humit and requested him to take a rest that night and told that she would meet him around 10PM.

Sitting lazily at home was the hardest thing for Humit.

Still, he liked to obey the friendly instructions of Innova on personal matters.

Innova had been always very keen on her schedules. She arrived at the residence of Humit sharp at 10PM.

“How are you Hum?”

“I’m alright, stayed back at home just because I don’t want to provoke you” – he smiled.

“You are not alright now. But you will be fine if you take rest for two days. Your doctor rang up me to intimate you are not well”

“Okay... no more debates. Well, what's your plan, then? I can't just sit here to take rest” – he asked her

“At first we will have some food together... and decide today’s programme” She prepared a pudding, which was the most favorite food of Humit. They ate it together and decided to spend the remaining time at the Imacifutu seashore. Immediately after finishing food they walked to the seashore, which was very near.

While striding through the beach Innova said:

“We are fortunate. Today atmosphere is a little bit cool. Isn’t it?”

“Yeah! Good for dreaming! ... It’s quite impossible to dream in our extremely hot weather... still we have to dream of the ways to escape from the present difficulties... end of the dream means end of Man!”

“Apart from dreaming about big things, you can also dream about small things that are very near.” – Innova said it with a meaningful smile.

They spent the whole night discussing a lot on almost all matters that Humit was passionate about. He felt very fine when they returned home towards the sunrise. While saying ‘bye’ to Innova for that day he really felt that he was then passionate about something else, which was quite unusual, perhaps a new passion in his life!

## 27 IMAGES OF THE PAST

*“During those days he might not think that his photos would become an invaluable digital archive of the past.”*

Chawit was the Chief Editor of Imanofutu’s leading e-newspaper ‘The Imanofutu Daily’. He started his career forty years ago as a press photographer. It was a time ‘The Imanofutu Daily’ management was giving equal importance to the print and electronic editions. Print and electronic versions had separate editorial staff, but reporters and photographers were the same people for both the editions.

Chawit hails from Travima, a remote village in the southern part of Imanofutu. As most of the vanished villages in Imanofutu, Travima was also an agricultural village, which was famous for high quality paddy and wheat cultivation.

From his childhood days onwards Chawit had an attraction for photography. Perhaps, he might got that taste from his eldest brother, who was ten years older



than Chawit, and was working in the city as a sales executive. His brother had an advanced digital camera. Chawit used to take the opportunity to use it whenever his brother came home during vacations. Finding his younger brother's interest in photography, during one of his homecomings, he brought a digital camera for Chawit. It was the actual starting point of Chawit's photographic experiments.

Little Chawit, literally, had captured pictures of every nook and corner of his village and stored them in the tablet that he got from the school as part of an initiative of the education department. The angles he had picked out for each one of his photographs were very funny and it resulted in amazing visuals of the beauty and abundance of Travima with its never ending stretches of paddy and wheat fields, rivers, valleys and hills. During those days he might not think that one day his photos would become an invaluable digital archive of the past.

Later, after his entry in 'The Imanofutu Daily', the pictures taken by him during his childhood days were extensively used not only by his newspaper, but also by many governments as well as non government agencies that worked for environment protection. Those pictures had been featured in thousands of advertisements. They also found a place in many text books.

Twenty years after his entry into the newspaper industry 'The Imanofutu Daily' had stopped its print edition. Now it had a digital presence only as in the case of all other newspapers that were published from Imanofutu.

Now 'The Imanofutu Daily' had reserved first column on its homepage to feature one photograph every day from among the amazing photos taken by little Chawit under the title 'Images of the Past'. It was not a

suggestion from the Chawit as the Chief Editor, but a unanimous decision taken by the Editorial Board based on a suggestion from the Managing Editor.

## 28 NEED FOR JOINT FAMILIES

**“Let’s think how we can build families and then joint families... it would be an ideal case for a serious study.”**

As part of his untiring efforts in rejuvenating the environment, Humit organized an informal midnight brainstorming session at the Imacifutu Beach. Now it was a regular practice to organize all meetings in the open air. The places of Imanofutu that had a presence of the sea were considered as the premier location for meetings. Even the meetings of the government officials were also being organized in the open. This was one among a few good things happening in the social life consequent on the influence of climate change issues. Nobody wanted to be confined in big rooms after a confinement for more than twelve hours in their own homes to escape from the wrath of the sun.

The brainstorming was attended by fifteen fellow Senators of Humit, eight noted environmentalists, nine scientists, twelve journalists, twenty students and six

industrialists. Innova was in the co-facilitator's role to help Humit. The topic of the brainstorming was the 'Reuse of products and other resources'. It was an idea Humit had in his head for long. He believed that it was the blind consumerism and reckless production of articles that triggered deadly culmination of environmental issues. Now, at the face of impending terminal disasters, the government was able to control, to some extent, the production and distribution of products, which had some elements in its lifecycle that were very harmful to the environment. But a lot had to be done yet.

The brainstorming was very encouraging to Humit, because all the participants stressed the need for 'reuse of products and resources' to avoid unnecessary industrial activities.

"Each 'throw' in our 'use and throw' culture creates wounds in nature..." - Humit was highly attracted by these very emotional words of an old journalist.

"In my childhood, I got textbooks and other instruments for studying in each grade from my elder brother. I used it with care, and at the end of each academic year handed it over to my younger brother" - an old scientist recollected "at that time once textbooks are bought for my elder brother, my parents had not required to buy it again for me and my younger brother, unless there were changes in the syllabus.

"Now the textbook problem is over by the introduction of e-readers" a young lady, who was a researcher, commented.

"No, what I wanted to highlight is the need for sharing. If it was text books earlier, now it could be e-readers?"

The discussions went on till 3AM next day.

While walking back to his office along with Innova after the brainstorming session Humit asked:

“How was the brainstorming?”

“Very useful and encouraging. But I missed a point that could be very interesting if discussed”

“What’s that? Why didn’t you make that point during the discussions”

“It is about joint families. It came to my mind only after you started your concluding remarks”

“Joint families?”

“Yea, let’s take the example of reuse of textbooks that the old scientist had told. The textbooks bought by his parents for his elder brother were reused by himself and his younger brother. If it were a joint family it could have been reused by many more. It would most probably work fine in many other cases. It would also make it convenient for government to channelize government supplies to families”

“It’s a wonderful idea! Nowadays joint families exist only a very few places in the world. Our country had also joint families for a long period of time in the history. But it began to disintegrate from the latter half of the nineteenth century and completely disappeared in the first decade of the twentieth century. The primary reason for the disintegration was the fall of agriculture and farming as the principal occupation of people.”

“You are right! When people began to travel massive and extensively for trade and other occupations the joint families had been destined to a natural death”

“It was further aggravated by the selfishness and narrow mindedness of the modern society which feared sharing as a most dreaded thing and began to live in

isolated or nuclear families. I think it need not necessarily be joint families alone. We can also think about closely connected communities ”

“You and me are the products of nuclear families. But now we have families that shall not fit into the old definition of a nuclear family, that is, father mother and a single child. Now we have new kind of families, either father or mother and a cloned single child, or even a child alone” - Innowa laughed.

“You are right. Earlier in Imanofutu, by law, only couples who have no chance for getting a child through normal pregnancy were permitted to have cloned children. Medical Research Centers were permitted to do cloning only on the recommendation from a designated medical board. There were justifiable reasons for imposing such restrictions on cloned births. The most important reason was, of course, to protect the family system, which is the basis of a sound social life” – Humit said.

“But during two thousand and forty, business men ganged to get a foolish bill that permits cloning on a simple request from any individual passed by the senate. One of the senators who was behind that move had told media immediately after passing the bill that the new law will promote a new kind of cloning industry in Imanofutu and that would make Imanofutu the cloning destination of the world! Thus now we have Cloning Centers everywhere as we have provisions or grocery shops earlier. It ruined the entire social system” Humit took a deep breath

“Let’s consider how we can build families and then joint families... it would be an ideal subject for a serious study” – Innowa said.

When they reached door steps of Humit's office, Innova gave him an unusually warm kiss and said 'bye... take care'

## 29 STORY OF IMBUSMAN

***“The only job remained for Imbusman was the amicable closing down of oil wells, one by one and settling the benefits of the employees out of whatever reserve funds that was available.”***

Year two thousand and eighty. Imbusman, a very pleasant middle aged man, was once a very successful businessman in the petroleum industry in Imanofutu. Now he was one among thousands of industrialists who had to give up their entire business because of the environmental issues. Imbusman lived next door to Humit. They were very good friends.

Imbusman's ancestors were known businessmen for many generations. His grandfather and father were in the petroleum industry and quite naturally he was also landed in the industry at a very young age. But unfortunately the decline of the industry had started then. There were more than nine hundred oil wells in Imanofutu. Out of that hundred and ninety eight were owned by the Imanofutu Petroleum Company established by his great grandfather.



When his great grandfather entrusted the business with his grandfather there were only thirty three wells. His grandfather was a very energetic businessman with amazingly high industrial expansion talents. Before he had handed the business over to his son, who was Imbusman's father, he was in short of just two oil wells to complete a double century victory.

During Iman's father's time as in the case of many other countries, Imanofutu had also passed the peak oil. Peak oil is the point in time when the maximum rate of petroleum extraction was reached, after which the rate of production was expected to enter terminal decline. The fear of peak oil was strong among petroleum producing countries from the first decade of twenty first century itself. But a major section of geologists as well as politicians argued that the very idea of 'peak oil' was stupid and nothing like that would likely to happen. But now time proved that it could happen and it did happen in virtually all parts of the globe. Consequently, though a very talented businessman, Imbusman's father was not able to further expand the business. But he successfully maintained the existing business during the initial two decades of his ownership. Thereafter the situation began to worsen. At least two dozen wells had become uneconomic.

When his father handed over the business to Imbusman, the situation was very bad. The only job remained for Imbusman was the amicable closing down of wells, one by one and settling the benefits of the employees out of whatever reserve funds that was available. But he was neither disappointed nor unhappy. He lived with the reality as it was.

There were three major issues. The foremost among them was the draining of wells. Second was the

government restriction on the use of fossil fuel consequent on the environmental issues. Finally, his business had arrived at a logical end when the government of Imanofutu imposed total ban on the production and use of fossil fuels and vehicles using it.

## 30 FALL AND RISE OF THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

*“When people deserted hospitals, the health care system of Imanofutu reinvented its grand old philosophy - “purely a social service.”*

Till mid twenty first century, only businesses that surpassed all the adversities in which most other industries lost the game was health care. The environmental adversities were, in fact, a boon to the healthcare industry. One in every ten persons in Imanofutu was living with diseases that required medical care in hospitals and daily intake of a handful of tablets. As the environmental issues were kept on accumulating, all hospitals in Imanofutu faced a severe shortage of out-patient as well as in-patient capacities.

Imanofutu had a fully privatized health care system with only a nominal presence of government services. In accordance with the fall of other industries, the competition in the healthcare industry was increasing. The industrialists who lost in other sectors turned into

the healthcare business finding it as the only profitable business. Thus, hospitals had become just business centers and the world had seen the highest inflated costs for medical treatment in Imanofutu. This state of affairs went on till two thousand and sixties.

By two thousand and sixties value of money became a myth by proving that the words of Inophil, a celebrity philosopher of Imanofutu, was true “once the planet earth is sick, then money shall have no value” – he used to warn people. Yes, finally it happened and it was the actual starting point of the decline of health care as a profitable industry. Finding that the government papers in their hands were not enough to get them proper medical care, even in the cases of mild ailments, people learned the art of living with the diseases peacefully – a strange adaptation!

When people deserted hospitals, the health care system of Imanofutu reinvented its grand old philosophy - “purely a social service” - that it had been upheld from times unknown and lost when everything became profit making tools in the modern age.

## 31 ECONOMICS TO SAVE THE NATURE

***“You may be an intelligent economist, but if a man with moderate knowledge and sufficient prudence does not understand your economic principles, I would call your principles as mere gambling rules.” – When a bold Ecoman, who was the federal Minister for Finance in Imanofutu, told this in two thousand and forty five, the so called economic thinkers and their soothsayers called him and idiot. But when the time proved he was right, his words became the tag line of the Federal Finance Ministry.***

After the brainstorming on ‘reuse’ Humit prepared an outline of activities that were required to ensure the effective reuse of products, services and other resources. Being a very studious, intelligent and practical Senator with a forward looking vision, Humit was well aware of the implications of ‘reuse’ in the national economy. Therefore he wanted to discuss the matter in detail with the prominent economists.

Humit conducted a series of video conferences with many Economists who concentrate on different branches of economics and conducted in depth research. At last he developed a concrete vision about reuse – a modified version of the historic barter system, perhaps the first systematic economic activity that naturally evolved in human societies.

The abstract plan of Humit was first of all to promote living in joint families or closely connected communities. Then reusable things shall be identified and the reuse of such things would be encouraged.

The exchange of articles had already been advanced by some business groups in fact. It started with publishing houses offering facilities for selling used books. Now it worked fine in the case of a few other products as well. Humit's plan was to make it systematic, effective and widespread. It required coordination between many government agencies. For this purpose a devoted national portal for placing offers on exchanging used or surplus articles and goods was established.

## 32 THE RAIN COMES

***“Though people waited impatiently for the first drops of the rainwater, they had to stay away from it to protect their body from acid burns.”***

A day in two thousand and eighty. Thick brownish clouds kept on covering the sky of Imacifutu. Below that wind also was also gaining more momentum each minute and it produced whirls of sand, which matched the color of clouds. Midday temperatures increased by three degree Celsius owing to the increased humidity. At last the much awaited rain had been predicted in four hours in the entire Imacifutu city.

Now the rain was a very rare phenomenon in Imanofutu. More than nine months elapsed since the last rain, which lasted for just eighteen minutes in most parts of the county. That day, the Imanofutu Weather Department had announced the possibility of rain in next thirty six hours.

Imanofuteans in the northern part of the country celebrated the announcement. The daytime temperature

was fifty three degree Celsius during those days. At least a week's continuous rain was required for a reasonable decline in the average temperature at least for a few weeks. Every family talked about the anticipated rain.

Though people waited impatiently for the first drops of the rainwater, they had to stay away from it to protect their body from acid burns. The atmosphere of the Imanofutu was highly intoxicated with sulfides and carbides and hence always the rains started with acid shower. Therefore, government agencies issued strict warnings, as they did during hurricanes, to keep away from the rainwater till the national chemical agency would say that the level of acid in the water was safe.



### 33 TRIAG'S TRANSFORMATION

***“I want to bring this back to the old glory...I want to see it as a farm of flowering plants again...”***

Another story of two thousand and eighty. Triag , a middle aged and well known agriculturalist was an online research scholar in the Imacifutu State University two decades ago. He had to face very severe adversities before he could reach up to that stage in the academic ladder. He was a below average and lazy student till the end of schooling. He got a flare for studies during his undergraduate days. He completed his graduation and post graduation in mathematics online with gold medals.

It was with much expectations and enthusiasm he joined the Ph.D programme. Quite naturally he made amazing progress in his researches within a very short spell of time. He was least bothered about the environmental issues and the perils of people in overcoming from its fatal effects. His mind was filled with mathematics; there was nothing else.

During that time, he made a train journey to the

northernmost part of Imanofutu to participate at a research scholars meet. Their trains were specially insulated ones to protect the passengers from dangerous sun rays and the polluted air outside. During that travel, the electric bullet train ran through dried out farms. He looked at both sides. The land looked like a never ending stretch of desert.

An old man who was sitting in the opposite seat told his granddaughter who was sitting beside him: “ if we were travelling sixty years ago, we would have seen the most beautiful flower farms here”

“Flower farms?” - the child asked with much astonishment

“Yes, this was one of the most beautiful areas in our nation, which was seen by thousands of tourists each day!”

While staring again at the desert like land after hearing the above conversation, some unknown fears began to creep into the mind of Triag, which was filled with mathematical theorems. Soon it overwhelmed his thoughts. It was the first time in his life he looked at the drastic changes in the environment with the kind of seriousness it deserved.

“I want to bring this back to the old glory...I want to see it as a farm of flowering plants again...” - he murmured and got down at the next station, giving up his journey and of course, his studies as well.

## 34 FARMING CHALLENGES

***“Humit asked Triag whether he was afraid of living lonely in that desert like place. At this Triag replied “fear is really an inherent mechanism to save one’s life. Only when one recognizes that the purpose of one’s life is to protect other lives, the fear is conquered.”***

After having stopped his journey for attending the conference half the way, Triag did not go back to home. He temporarily settled down near the deserted village station where he hopped down from the train. His ultimate mission was to make farming possible in the changing climates.

He had to overcome a lot of procedural hurdles before he could get access to the land for his farming experiments. That land was part of a hundred squire kilometer land abandoned by people. Subsequently, as the land was transformed to desert like, it lost all the landmarks. The land owners never came back. Even if they return, they would not be able to identify the piece

of land they owned, because now it looked like a single desert land.

But for government machinery the above facts were not a sufficient reason to permit Triag to conduct farming experiments. The bureaucracy of that place, which was very nominal then, directed Triag to obtain digitally signed permission from all the land owners of that entire hundred square meter area so that they will be safe to allot any part of the area without bothering about landmarks.

Triage told them that it was impossible because an initial inquiry made by him revealed that the people owned that land areas left the place more than two decades ago in search of other livable lands and might have migrated to other counties as well. But the bureaucracy and their procedures were very rigid to see reason in his arguments. On this, as a final attempt, Triag decided to contact Humit. He had read a lot about Humit in e-journals. He contacted him through a social network and discussed his ideas. Lastly, he requested Humit's support to obtain a piece of land for his dream farming experiments. Humit got attracted by the plans of Triag.

The very next day, quite unexpectedly, Humit visited Triag. It was a great surprise for Triag. Before he could come out of his excitement Humit handed over another surprise to him in the form of a government order permitting him to conduct farming experiments and farming at any part of that desert like land.

While returning Humit told Triag "count me in as your peasant"

## 35 A MEDICO'S STRANGE THOUGHTS

***“There was nothing like foolish thoughts’ but there were strange thoughts. Strange thoughts are triggered by the known and unknown reception of information, most often facilitated by nature for some purpose. When someone boldly proclaimed it, people called them prophets, visionaries and scientists. ”***

Mewstrath was a final year student of modern medicine and surgery at the Medical School of Imacifutu State Skills University (ISU). He was very brilliant and thoughtful. Since ISU had adopted Open Distance Learning as the mainstream education system, he covered a major portion of his theory classes online, and attended clinical practices at local hospitals.

Face to face teaching took place only on two days in every three months. All monthly theory tests and submission of records and assignment were made online.

From the first year of his five year medical course onwards, he cherished a strange suspicion that increased

occurrences of cancers in man were the early signs of another wave of biological evolution. But during the first year of his medical study he was neither courageous nor confident enough to share it with his friends or teachers. But he did not give up his thoughts and continued his research and collection of data in that direction.

When he was in the second year of his medical study, he got some courage to share it with his intimate friends. Some of them teased him, some were found confused and a few told that it could be true. Yet he continued to gather data, make strange analysis and form hypothesizes based on them. At last he ventured to present his findings in an online conference. Contrary to his expectation, his hypothesis were accepted seriously for further research.

Towards the end of twenty first century it had become a challenging topic of research for all disciplines of science.

## 36 WORRIES OF A BOTANIST

***“Greenery over the land of Imanofutu was a very fragile thing in presence, but a phenomenal thing in effectiveness. Therefore, it was easier for people to destroy it and bring in the holocaust. ”***

Earlier there were 6698 plant species in Imanofutu. The existing assessment reports, based on the surveys conducted during 2094, showed that currently there were less than 3500 species of plants.

Prof. Sincebota, the Chairman of Imanofutu Botanic Research Association (IBRA), viewed it as an indication of a holocaust. According to him “large scale disappearance of anything - whether plants or animals or non living things - is not at all a good indication. When it comes to the case of plants, it has to be taken as indications of sustainable damage.”

Sincebota's love of plants started from his early childhood. The main reason for it was the photos of Chawit that he had seen everywhere during those days. Thus, after his schooling Sincebota had chosen

Agricultural Science for higher studies. He spent a major portion of his lifetime in the remains of forests and farms that he could locate in Imanofutu.

Now, every day, he awoke to the awful reality of considerable reduction in the number of plant types and area of tillable land than he viewed the same on the previous day in the Geographic Information System developed and maintained by IBRA.

Each day his organization convened meetings and at the meetings they kept on taking intelligent decisions. But the new adversities that were being produced in the environment failed them all. It was his real worry.



## 37 ANIMALS FIGHT FOR WATER

***“Struggle for existence meant the same thing for all living beings and therefore, it was very easy to communicate each one’s objective!”***

When humans began to recklessly destroy forests, the animal population in the forests of Imanofutu was used to come out of the forest area to man’s habitats in search of food and water from the beginning of 21st century onwards.

As atmospheric heat and drought were aggregating day by day, the water sources were also disappearing very fast. The river Imanoa the largest river in Imanofutu became a belt of just puddles of water by the second decade of twenty first century.

By this time animals, in large numbers, moved from the dried out forests to the spots near the water puddles. They attacked people who attempted to access the poodles for drinking water. At this people retaliated with deadly weapons. This had become a regular concern and Imanofutu witnessed strange wars for water between

wild animals and man, both of them tried to keep the water puddles in possession. A lot of animals and men lost their lives during those fights for water.

At last a solution evolved out naturally. Some poodles had become the sole property of animals and some become the property of men. It was something like men and animals entered into a treaty!

Thus the animals began to live permanently near those water puddles, and gradually they lost their ability to live in the wilds. Of course, there was nothing like a wild by then. Scarcity of food had triggered further violence among animals and between men and animals. Gradually the venue of the fight was shifted to sea shores.

All kinds of wild animals, even the tigers and lions, diving in the sea in search of food were a usual scene then. By the last decade of twenty first century, the animal scientists noticed that the feet of some animals had visibly broadened.

## 38 ERA OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE AGAIN

***“Medical practice was a divine thing in Imanofutu till the eighteenth century. But thereafter reckless commercialization began to swallow the domain gradually, and by twenty first century hospitals became just repairing centers for a complex machine called the Man.”***

Every human society on this planet had its own age old traditional medicine and healing methods. Imanofutu also had a two thousand year old traditional system called Imanus. In Imana – the language of Imanofutu – ‘Iman’ means life and ‘manus’ means ‘wellbeing’.

Imanus is very closely related to Ayurveda of India. The basic principle of Ayurveda was that everything in the Universe was composed of the Panchamahabhutas (five elements) – Akasa (Space), Vayu (Air), Teja or Agni(Fire), Jala (Water) and Prithvi (Earth) and hence well being meant maintaining harmony in the combination of these in very sensitive proportions, which

creates life.

There was sufficient reason for the relation between Ayurveda and Imanus. Imanofutu's history says that country had close trade relations with India for more than twenty five hundred years.

As the average heat in the atmosphere kept on increasing, the diseases due to bacterial and viral infections had decreased, because the rising temperatures were not favorable for them to thrive on. Thus, towards the end of the 21st century, the majority of diseases being affected by Imanofuteans were physiological in nature, caused by malnutrition, overheat and scarcity of water.

Traditional medicines were found to be very effective to heal physiological diseases than its counterpart drugs in the modern medicine. It was quite logical too. The root cause of present day diseases in Imanofutu were the imbalances in the nature, specifically the imbalances in the five elements of the nature. Therefore a healing system that had the maintaining of the proportion of the five natural elements as its basic principles had become ideal for the time.

## 39 THE MENTAL AGE CRISIS

***“The beauty of life lies in the romantic mysteries and strange things it stores for every next moment. When it is exhausted, life would become synonymous to monotonous”***

From the last part of the 20th century onwards, the school academic councils of Imanofutu had begun to drastically increase the content for all subjects of study at all levels of school education. What the students in the beginning of the 21st century were studying at the graduate level had become the part of the syllabus for the upper primary study by the middle of the century. Along with this it became a fashion in the 21st century to engage children to do things which they were not supposed to do at their age.

Though it was generally looked at as a great boost to the dramatic development of future generations, the net effects of these eccentric or excessive engagements of children were drastic mental damages. The devastating effect of these developments was a generation of youths

who were hopeless and found life less attractive. Young people lived with over aged minds or in another way they had seen all that life had to offer within a very short span of time. This had become a very complex societal issue.

## 40 ARMED FORCES

*“Excessive presence and influence of the armed forces in the day to day life of a society could be an indication of deep rooted societal problems. Earlier its absence was considered as the symbol of a healthy society. Now the streets of Imanofutu had only a nominal presence of its civil guards, but the reasons were totally different.”*

Imanofutu did not share land borders with any other country. The closest neighboring country was three hundred and fifty nautical miles away. This peculiar position of Imanofutu demanded only a nominal military. During the last part of the nineteenth century, when it started to grow as an oil producing country, to protect its crude as well as refined oil shipments, Imanofutu strengthened its navy. In the latter half of the twentieth century, when aerial threats began to rise all over the world, Imanofutu strengthened its air force as well.

In the case of civil policing, till the beginning of twenty century, each state of Imanofutu maintained only

a very nominal police force. From time unknown people of Imanofutu were very famous for their peaceful ways of living and orthodoxy in obeying the law of the land as well as ethics of social living. It made the need of police almost void.

But economic prosperity in the twentieth century made things totally different. The lifestyles that focus solely on profit making had begun to bring about social issues. By the end of the twentieth century, many parts of Imanofutu began to face issues relating to social unrest.

The situation further declined during the economic downturn in two thousand and seven. It triggered unhealthy struggles for existence in all walks of life in Imanofutu. Subsequently Imanofutu lost its former fame as one of the most peaceful nations in the world.

The civil issues and the increase in the crime rate had necessitated strengthening of the civil guards department in Imanofutu. The behavior of civil guards also had been criticized severely. As the pressure of work increased, the once respectful civil guards had become symbols of short temperdeness.

However the nature had put an end to this situation in the form of environmental issues. When the climate became very difficult to sustain, people had begun to stay back in their homes to the maximum extent possible. The withdrawal of peoples from the streets reduced the crime rates as well.

Now the streets of Imanofutu had only a nominal presence of its civil guards.



## 41 VIRTUAL HEALING MACHINE

***“Why you call something virtual and some other things real when everything you sense or feel is really virtual, that are relative to how your nerves organize information?.”***

As years past, along with all other issues, psychic problems had also become a major issue in Imanofutu. Because of the stress produced by living with limited resources in very adverse situations, a good number of people, irrespective of the age groups they belong to, began to stoop to complex psychic problems.

Initially through counseling and medications this issue could be brought under control to a certain extent. But thereafter it turned out to be uncontrollable. At this time the Imanofutu Entertainment Corporation, which was the leader of the entertainment industry during the prosperous times of Imanofutu, came out with a new product called ‘Virtual Healing Machine (VHM)’.

Virtual Healing Machine was the outcome of decades long experiments to combine five dimension movie,

sounds in the natural settings, the feel of a touch, odor and movements. Earlier solutions for combining three dimension movie and movements were available with the name 'x-theater'.

The Virtual Healing Machine was a very advanced technology in a compact equipment. The feelings of odor and movements were generated using micro sense stimulators that interact with the nerve system.

The most demanding games and movies were those picturing natural settings of good old days with splendid greenery, rivers, streams, farms, forest and a variety of plants and animals. Imanofutu Entertainment Corporation developed the equipment with the support of technocrats, artists, medical practitioners and psychiatrists specifically to provide relief from stress. It had options to play recorded movies as well as to engage in interactive games and virtual tours to healthy old natural beauty.

In a short span of time it was proved that a minimum of forty five minute's play using VHM was very helpful to upkeep mental health. With the popularity and success of the virtual healing machine, the attention of medical practitioners also turned to it. Subsequently the government decided to issue VHMs to households in subsidized rates as well as to install them in public places for free use.

From VHM equipments the technology had further developed into what was called 'vhmfying' of homes, wherein walls were set to provide VHM experience permanently.

Thus the VHM had provided very effective support to Imanofuteans to live with a healthy mind in very adverse climate conditions.

## 42 POLITICAL SYSTEM IN 2090

**“The evolution of politics in Imanofutu was similar to that occurred in many other parts of the world. It started for influencing and bringing people together for a common cause. When the causes lost commonality the reverse thing happened – people deserted politics ”**

In two thousand and ninety, Imanofutu had a very interesting political party system. They had only one political party called Imanofutu Peoples’ Assembly. However, during elections, the members, by their own choice, split into two camps and each camp presented their own panel of candidate for the offices of the president and two fifteen senators. The camp, which won the presidential seat during elections became the ruling camp and formed a government. The other camp functioned as opposition. Most often the camp that won the presidential seat also won majority of senator seats.

Earlier they had many political parties. As the environmental issues began to aggregate into terminal

disasters and the political leaderships proved to be inefficient in finding effective solutions, people lost faith in the political parties and eventually most parties were destined to natural death.

## 43 IMACIFUTU

***“It was a day in 2100. The day view of Imacifutu was extremely fearful. It looked like the abandoned cities in fairy tales... deadly rays of angry sun had burnt it as if it were inside a furnace!”***

Imacifutu was the capital of Imanofutu. Till the beginning of twenty first century Imacifutu was very famous as the first planned city in Imanofutu. It was also the most beautiful metro-city that the world had ever seen. In the beginning of twenty first century, eight percent of the total population of Imanofutu was living in Imacifutu.

Imacifutu, as a place rich with fossil fuel deposit, began to rise as the Industrial hub of Imanofutu from mid nineteenth century onwards. In the beginning of the twentieth century, it became an industrial hub having worldwide recognition. Every day, hundreds of thousand persons, from other parts of Imanofutu as well as abroad, used to come to Imacifutu in search of job and business opportunities. A good portion of those visitors were used

to settle down in the city. Thus the population of Imacifutu was inflated dangerously making the city highly pressurized like an overfilled balloon that might explode at any moment. Apart from migration, Imacifutu also received thousands of tourists each day.

The decline of Imacifutu was very tragic. Till the end of the first decade in twenty first century national as well as foreign industrialists were recklessly plundering the oil deposit as well as other resources of Imacifutu. They did not listen to the warnings about the peak oil situation and other possible environmental issues that had been issued by earth science agencies and other experts, which said that oil boom was nearing saturation and hence decline was imminent. But the plunderers realized the situation only when the oil wells were actually starting to run dry. Very fast closure of oil wells and refineries, which touched on the whole economy of Imanofutu, sent out waves of fears on the proximity of doom.

Now both sides of the most streets in Imacifutu were almost entirely filled with abandoned motor vehicles that had been running on fossil fuels. From mid two thousand and thirties onwards there was a short supply of fossil fuels in entire Imanofutu. There were two reasons for this situation. The first reason was the peak oil situation. The second reason was the environment pollution and the resultant climate changes that caused the government to impose severe restrictions on the production and utilization of vehicles run on fossil fuels. Instead, public vehicles run on solar or electric energy were promoted. Thus, people had no means other than abandoning their fossil fuel run vehicles in the streets.

Imacifutu city council had moved the abandoned vehicles from the main streets of the city to suburban dumping yards, however the majority of the streets were

still not commutable. Perhaps, this was a problem in all cities in Imanofutu.

The day view of Imacifutu was extremely fearful. It looked like the abandoned cities you read in fantasies. Furthermore, it burnt like a furnace. You would see houses with doors and windows tightly closed... streets with abandoned vehicles... trees charred in the anger of sun... no birds and animals... definitely you could not watch any living thing in the open! In short, days of Imacifutu were filled with deadly heat and awful silence. This was not the case of Imacifutu alone. The same situation prevailed in all other cities in Imanofutu.

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*Dear Readers, let us see again at Imacifutu in the next volume titled*  
***'Imanofutu – In 2101'.***

## CHARACTERS AND PLACES

### Places:

- Imanofutu – Acronym for ‘Imaginary Nation of Future.’ This fiction series about the environment, life and history of Imanofutu, the imaginary Island Nation.
- Imacifutu: Acronym for ‘Imaginary city of future. In this fiction Imacifutu is the capital city of Imanofutu.
- Travima : Acronym for Transition village of imanofutu

### Characters:

- Humit – Acronym for humanist integrated technologist
- Reoman – Acronym for revolutionary open education man
- Rowan – Acronym for revolutionary open education woman
- Imbusman – Acronym for Imaginary Business Man
- Inophil – Acronym for innovative philosopher
- Triag – Acronym for triumphant agriculturalist



- Mewstrath – Acronym for Medico with strange thoughts
- Prof. Sincebota – Acronym for sincere botanist
- Transin – Acronym for Transition Senator
- Heless Guad – Acronym for Helpless Guard
- Chawit – Acronym for Change Witness

#### Other usages

- Imana – language of Imanofutu
- Imanofuteans : People of Imanofutu
- Imanoa – The largest river in Imanofutu
- Imanus – Traditional system of medicine in Imanofutu

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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