Last but Not Least

Don't give up.....

One day I decided to quit... to quit my job, my relationship, my spirituality...

I wanted to quit my life.

I went to the forest to have one last talk with my much-revered Guru.

"Sir", I said, "I'm fed up with my life. Can you give me one good reason not to quit?"

He observed me for a while, and then smilingly asked...

"Look there; do you see those ferns and those bamboos?"

"Yes Sir", I replied.

"In front of this ashram many years ago I planted the seeds of those ferns and bamboos;

I took very good care of them.

I put manure and watered them every day.

Within days fern sprang out of ground showing its emerald green luster.

Yet nothing came from the bamboo seeds.

But I did not quit on the bamboos.

In the second year the ferns grew more vibrant and plentiful.

And again, nothing came from the bamboo seeds.

But I did not quit on the bamboos." He said.

"In year three there was still nothing from the bamboo seed.

But I would not quit.

In year four, again, there was nothing from the bamboo seed.

I would not quit." He said.

"Then in the fifth year a tiny sprout emerged from the earth.

Compared to the fern it was seemingly small and insignificant...

But just six months later the bamboo rose to over 100 feet tall.

It had spent the five years growing roots.

Those roots made it strong and gave it what it needed to survive.

Our creator will not give any of his creations a challenge it cannot handle."

He asked me. "Did you know, my child,

that all this time you have been struggling, you have actually been growing roots".

"I did not quit on the bamboos. You too should never quit."

"Don't compare yourself to others."

He said. "The bamboo had a different purpose than the fern.

Yet they both make the forest beautiful."

"Your time will come", My Guru told me.

"You will rise high"

"How high should I rise?" I asked.

"How high will the bamboo rise?" he asked me in return.

"As high as it can?" I questioned.

"Yes." he said, "Make me proud by rising as high as you can."