

## A Pact with the Sun

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Saeeda's mother had been suffering from fever, cough, body pain and joint pain etc. A number of physicians treated her. The quacks forbade her normal food. They also advised her to remain in the closed room. They asked her to avoid both sunshine and fresh air. Their advice did not help her. In fact she needed sunshine and fresh air for good health.

Then people suggested that she should consult a specialist. She was poor. However, she knew that life was more precious than money. So she consulted a specialist. She sold her ornaments also to meet the expenditure on medicines. The specialist examined her. He prescribed effective but costly medicines. He allowed her to eat anything of her taste. He laid most importance on fresh air and sunlight. He advised her to shift in a big room with doors and windows open. He asked her to sit in the sunlight from eight to nine daily.

Some people opposed the specialist's advice. Saeeda's mother did not listen to their proposals. She got her bed moved to a bigger room. She desired to sit in the sun on her cot for an hour daily.

Unluckily, it remained cloudy for a few days. She started lamenting and complaining to God.

Saeeda saw a spot of pale sunshine late in the afternoon. The people forbade Saeeda's mother to bask in the sun. They told her that it was too late and chilly. Saeeda requested the departing rays of the sun to come the next day with enough warmth and brightness. The rays gave her the desired promise because her ailing mother needed their help.

Next day the rays were keen to go to the earth early in the morning. After all they had given a word to Saeeda. But the sun said. "It's our day off again. The road to earth is blocked by the clouds". The ray who had given its word to Saeeda said, "Sir, I can't stay back ..... I'll pierce the clouds to reach Saeeda's courtyard."

The sunrays revolted against the sun to keep their honour. They focused their heat and the clouds scattered. The sunrays reached the earth a bit late. Saeeda's mother basked in the sun and breathed in fresh air. Her pale face glowed. The doctor's advice had a magical effect on her. She is fully recovered now.