

**Sheikh Farid – Sabad 99**  
**ka(n)dhee utai rukhaRaa kicharak ba(n)nai dheer ||**  
**Salok, Seikh Farid, Guru Granth Sahib, 1382**

ka(n)dhee utai rukhaRaa kicharak ba(n)nai dheer ||  
fareedhaa kachai bhaa(n)ddai rakheeaai kichar taiee neer ||96||

**Summary:** Support is crucial in the early stages of growth because it often begins with dependence. While guidance can spark insights, reinforcement lies in how deeply it is embraced. For example, a young tree on a riverbank receives nourishment to thrive. Yet if it doesn't learn to deepen its roots, the very soil it relies on can be washed away by the river's flow, risking its survival. Sustainability, therefore, demands becoming anchored in a foundation where stability no longer comes from outside support but from inner grounding.

ka(n)dhee utai rukhaRaa kicharak ba(n)nai dheer ||

On the riverbank, how long can a young tree retain support? This implies that while early guidance is vital for learning, reinforcing those insights is key to lasting growth.

fareedhaa kachai bhaa(n)ddai rakheeaai kichar taiee neer ||96||

Farid says in an unbaked vessel, how long can water be retained? This emphasises that without inner maturity, the knowledge we acquire from experiences can quickly drain away. (96)

**Essence:** Sheikh Farid draws on the image of an unbaked vessel to ask how long water can remain within it. The question turns inward to reflect when the self is still ignorant; whatever life teaches cannot be retained. What we do not reinforce in our conscience tends to leak away. Life may give us experiences, insight may briefly touch us, yet without inner ripening, it does not endure. This reflection suggests that truth is not retained merely by encountering it, but by developing the ability to hold on to it.

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