



The roots of a lotus are in the mud, the stem grows up through the water, and the heavily scented flower lies pristinely above the water, basking in the sunlight. This pattern of growth signifies the progress of the soul from the primeval mud of materialism, through the waters of experience, and into the bright sunshine of enlightenment. Though there are other water plants that bloom above the water, it is only the lotus which, owing to the strength of its stem, regularly rises high above the surface.

Biosafety and biosecurity, like the roots of the lotus, give strength to the fight against emerging infectious diseases (the stem), in pursuit of global health and security (the lotus bloom).

