

UGC - ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE
JNTUH, KUKATPALLY

Book Reading Exercise

Title of the Book:

"THE LEADER WHO HAD NO TITLE" - By Robin Sharma.

Question 1. What are the three key concepts/ ideas and examples?

Concept 1: (One that is making you 'Critically Think')

By going through the above mentioned text, I came to know about three concepts/ideas. They are 1. Mediocrity 2. Leadership and 3. Success. 1. Mediocrity - even though 'the word' is unfamiliar to most of all, the meanings which it has, are applicable to all. Mediocrity means ordinary, average, neither good nor bad etc. In the present scenario most of us never try to become 'The Best' nor like to be 'The Worst'. We like to stay in between these two. Because the first one squeezes you in all ways, so we stay far away and the second one, though it ask nothing - from you, still we fear/afraid to be called as 'the worst'. This aspect made me Concept 2: (One that is 'Inspiring You') to think critically about the matter.

Leadership : To overcome the above first concept, we need maximum exposure to the leadership qualities. And these qualities can't be acquired without some sacrifices, which may in the form of pain, trouble, sorrow, etc. As there is a saying - 'Great people construct monument with the stones their critics throw at them'; we have to come and stand in the first/front and take the risks to (become) acquire these qualities. "The leader doesn't follow others, but makes others to follow him". We should leave our marks in this world like many leaders left.

Concept 3: (One that could be 'Useful to Indian Society')

Success : When there are many leaders in the nation/community/society, it will definitely leave its mark in the history. As many surveys, findings, experts opine that India is on the way of becoming a super power, it is because of the leadership qualities it has showing at the international level. An ordinary man, like Gandhi ji showed the whole world that a leader can be born in any place. ☺

Question 2: How can you apply these concepts in your/professional or personal life?

Professional Life: As a teacher, I should be a role model to the children. To do that I have to wipe out my inferiority complex, fear and take the role of a leader. I will not worry about difficulties, failures, hurdles, dangers etc, in the initial it may be difficult to keep in the track, but when I reach the end, the people I came across will remember me even after the ^{end}. Leaders are not created (but), they are made by the problems they face. Who knows I may be one among them...

Personal Life: more than other members of my family, I, as one of the responsible member should lead my family. Here I get numerous opportunities to show my leadership qualities than anywhere. With the virtue of honesty, humbleness, courage, humane, sincerity, firm decision making power. I will make my family stable & happy. The more challenging the conditions, with the more marvelous the opportunities. ~~As~~ Turbulent times build greater leaders and as Neale Donald Walsch said 'Life begins at the end of your comfort zone', I am ready to enter the other zone...

Note: Prepare a 500 words summary of your observations.

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"THE LEADER WHO HAD NO TITLE" - by Robin Sharma

Book Review

Summary

a) Background: Robin Sharma, a leadership advisor, a highly influential blogger and social media celebrity has written many books which deals with various skills. Most of his books provide inspiration to the readers to excel and inculcate those qualities in them. Here in this he shares his views, ideas and opinion on the leadership skills. The reader comes know that these skills are told by the reader through a story (fable) by the 1st person. (That means 'I & we') form. The language he used, is a simple one, which can be easily understood by a common man. To keep the curiosity of the readers he quotes maxims, quotations and sometimes narrates real incidents. He we come across a few characters like Blake, Tommy, Anna, Ty Boyd, Jackson Chan, Set Brisley etc.

b) Summary: Blake Davis, a young man, was born in Milwaukee, but spent most of his life in New York city. Lost his parents in his childhood, grew up with his grandfather. In his early 20s, he tried to stand on his own by doing many jobs, but didn't settle in any one. For him, work was merely a means ~~of~~ to feed his stomach and a way to pass the time. Finally he joined the army. He was sent to the war in Iraq. There he experienced many traumas. His military service came to a sudden end due to some injuries. He once again became a civilian, spent some sleepless nights, sometimes even wished to die. He was taught love for learning, especially through books. So again he started to work in a bookshop, SoHo. His negative attitude and complacent behaviour didn't help him to get satisfaction here also. He was almost at the verge of being dismissed from his job by the owner of the shop. Then suddenly an event took place, which changed his entire life and fate within few years.

One dull monday morning, sitting on a stool behind book shelves, he was sipping a cup of coffee. Suddenly he got a tap on his shoulders from 70 year old man, Tommy glinn. Though the old man had an odd appearance, still he had a strong influence on Blake. He introduced him as a new co-worker in this book shop.

Tommy to the boy that was a friend of his father Oscar. earlier Oscar had told Tommy that Blake had a great potential, but he needed proper guidance. So Tommy told he came here to help him. Tommy said that he was the number-one employee of this book-shop straight for the past 5 years, mainly because of LNT.

Tommy briefed Blake about LNT, meaning Leader without a title. this is what which made him successful. 4 Teachers had taught Tommy this LNT. So he took Blake to these 4 teachers. Each one of them taught him the 4 principles of LNT, with four Acronyms. The 1st teacher is Anna, a housekeeper in a boutique hotel, in newyork told the first principle of LNT - 'you need no title to be a leader', with the acronym 'IMAGE'. The 2nd teacher is Ty Boyd, a former skating world champion briefed him the 2nd principle of LNT - 'Turbulent Times Builds great leaders', with the acronym 'SPARK'. The 3rd teacher is jackson chan, formerly a CEO of a mvc, now a gardener at Newyork city central library explained the 3rd principle - 'the deeper your relationships the stronger your leadership', with the acronym of 'HUMAN'. The 4th teacher is Jet Brisley, a massage therapist, briefed the 4th principle - 'to be a great leader, first become a great person', with the acronym 'SHINE'. All these 4 teachers have applied these principles in their chosen work and succeeded. They taught these principles to others who showed the burning desire to achieve. The old man, Tommy glinn is also one a pupil of these teachers. In turn Tommy took Blake as his disciple. After learning all this about LNT, wanted to show his learning in his work ^{from} on the next day. Next day he received the news of the death of Tommy, his mentor.

He recovered fast from his master's death. Though it is irreparable loss, he had to show his master his success, as promised earlier. By applying the principles of LNT, he worked hard. As a result, now at the age of 29, Blake was most successful person. He got the money, name, fame and moreover success. As his promise to his master, he spread the LNT philosophy by writing this book titled 'The Leader who had NO title'.

Conclusion

If people in every organization, from companies to governments to communities to schools to individuals embrace this LNT concept, the whole world would transform. Success doesn't just happen because someone's stars lineup, it's something that's consciously created. If an arrogant boy like Blake achieves success, why can't we? Let us try. I wind up this writing with a quote of Ernest Hemingway, a writer. He said - "Man can be destroyed, but cannot be defeated."

Reviewed by: KANTHARAJA K.P.
8/3/14.