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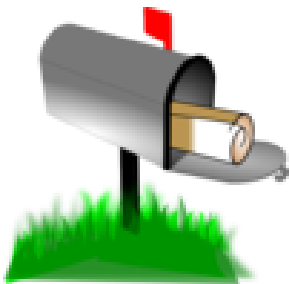
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Letters



This has reference to your article, ‘The U.S. Can Adopt another Indian Phenomenon’ in the Winter 2014 issue of TheThinkClub. In my opinion, the Indian phenomenon that you mentioned is flawed. America will be better off without anarchy.As they say, Don’t fix it, if not broken.

Bipin Akhoury
Patna, India

I enjoyed reading your segment, “Publisher’s Desk” regarding National Health Care (The Think Club; Winter 2014).

I agree with Dr. Prasad that the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), as imperfect as it may be, must be given a chance to work. As Bill Clinton would say, “Mend it, don’t end it” However, I fail to see why the author had to get into how the universe was created or how the society was formed or how USA was formed or how medicine evolved.

Pradeep Srivastava
Detroit, MI

I enjoyed reading ‘Driving Michigan’s Snowy Roads’ (TheThinkClubWinter 2014). Yes, it’s a thrill driving on wintery terrains. We always go North during the winters to ski and do snowboarding. Driving to get there is as much fun as winter sports itself.

Susan Alchin
Saginaw, MI

Thinking Wildly

America is a tune. It must be sung together.
—Gerald Stanley Lee, *Crowds*

If you are ashamed to stand by your colors, you had better seek another flag. If you take advantage of everything America has to offer, there’s nothing you can’t accomplish.
—Geraldine Ferraro

People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do.
—Isaac Asimov

Do not take life too seriously. You will never get out of it alive.
—Elbert Hubbard

Only the mediocre are always at their best.
—Jean Giraudoux

I had always imagined paradise as a kind of library.
—Jorge Luis Borges

I think the media spends a lot of time fooling itself.
— Penn Jillette

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Why Such a Disregard for India

By Anil Shrivastava

Something extraordinary happened in India in the month of May. India, the largest democracy in the world had a general election — much larger in significance compared to elections in Egypt and Syria. 815 million people were eligible to vote and 500 million of them cast their votes (66.38%). The Indian election results were declared on May 15. As with every change of guard since India became independent in 1947, the power was peacefully transferred to the new government again.

At about the same time, NBC Nightly News devoted the majority of its time on a special on texting and the Syrian bombing. CBS Evening News went all out to cover the story about an openly gay player with the St Louis Rams football team. The remaining time was mostly spent on climate change. For Diane Sawyer, the demigod of the network news, it was more important to talk about her reverence of Barbara Walters than cover the Indian election on so-called ABC World News. PBS's News Hour pontificated on the unsure situation in Greece and France. There were no mentions of India's elections on any of the above channels.

The cable news channels were not far behind, though they mentioned India's elections sparingly. Fox News showcased their interest in India by featuring a leopard on the loose in some obscure corner of the country, at the same time when millions were pouring into polling booths. The fact is that Mr. Narenda Damodardas Modi became the fifteenth prime minister of the country humiliating the ruling Congress party. He won on the promise of good governance and economic progress and not on the basis of any religion or cast. The American print media keep referring to his BJP Party (India's

People's Party) as a Hindu Nationalist Party. It's just like branding the Republican Party as a Christian a Fundamentalist or a Fascists Party which is not true.

The basic problem is Hinduphobia in the minds of many in the United States. For them, Modi's victory is a win for anti-secularism in India. The deep-rooted fear among the media moguls is due to the fact that Hinduism is not an Abrahamic religion. The Indian journalists living in the US such as Mr. Zachariah didn't do much to dispel this notion either, let alone bringing up the massacres of Hindus in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kashmir.

Indians today, living and growing up in a rapidly globalizing cultural environment, aspiring perhaps to study or work in other countries, generally disposed favorably towards the United States and the West, and also, for the most part, accustomed to diverse, multi-religious coexistence in India and therefore not inherently hateful to other communities, find a tremendous contradiction between how they see themselves and how they are represented in the global discourse.

It's time for the US media to modify their attitude.

Sent your comments to:

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Commentary



King Rama And the Importance of True Knowledge

By Musafir

There is a lot of talk these days about the validity of decisions made by our world leaders. There is always a doubt in people's minds whether the right knowledge (information) was obtained before taking important actions. Rama's (the Hindu King) sermon to his brother, Lakshmana about enlightenment can help answer some of these questions.

Rama was a paragon. The period he ruled is termed as "Ramarajya," which is synonymous with an ideal kingdom. Rama led a pure and ideal life both as a prince and a king. During his rule, his kingdom was full of wealth and trees were loaded with fruits. His subjects were very religious. No one in his kingdom lost children.

While still living Rama himself traveled all over his kingdom and preached true knowledge to his people. Because people emulated Rama's actions, everyone in his kingdom achieved nirvana (freedom from the cycle of birth and death).

Lakshmana once requested Rama to give him the sermon on enlightenment. Rama told Lakshmana that Karma (one's action) is important because the next birth is decided on one's karma in this life. However, karma can be either pious or vile. The reason for bad karma is ignorance. One can achieve *nirvana* (freedom from the cycle of birth and death) only through the end of ignorance. Therefore, knowledge surpasses karma since knowledge alone can guide someone to do the right karma.

Since living beings are always involved in performing karma, it's important to have the knowledge of righteousness in order to do the right karma. In this world nothing exists by itself. Everything is dependent on something for existence. A coal is assumed to be a fuel. But the fuel doesn't exist until it is lit by fire. So, in order for coal to be a fuel, it must have a dependency on fire. Similarly, karma can only exist as long as knowledge and ignorance exist. For a king to make the right decision and subsequently for

doing pious karma, he must acquire the right knowledge; otherwise his karma will be based on ignorance.

Furthermore, a person can only obtain right knowledge if the person is free of arrogance. An arrogant person is surrounded by an aura that resists knowledge. The aura of arrogance acts as a resistant to self-knowledge which is the true knowledge. Therefore, a king must give up arrogance and acquire true knowledge. Doing so, he will not be blamed for his karma because true knowledge is infallible.

The eternal knowledge, when transmitted into wisdom, creates consciousness. Again, consciousness cannot exist without its dependence upon wisdom. For example, an iron piece cannot be shaped without heat created by fire. Similarly, consciousness cannot be shaped without wisdom.

Rama then described the quality of a king to Lakshmana as follows: A king is free of ignorance; he is always conscious and is full of wisdom. He looks to his inner-self for righteousness. His self-knowledge cures his ignorance like a good medicine would cure a disease.

I hope, the above passage from Ramayana (Hindu's holy book) can clarify a lot buzz about the actions of our world leaders today.

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Humor



Money Saving Tips for the Summer

By Musafir

Skyrocketing prices for toilet paper, canned food, and even dental floss have everybody scrambling for ways to save money. Good news, you can save enough money in the summer to get you through the winter. So read on, be of good cheer and enjoy being cheap.

Dress down: Summer is an ideal time to save on expensive clothes. You can walk around in skimpy shorts and a flimsy t-shirts. At first, you may look out of place at your in-law's place, but don't worry, tell everyone that you are doing this to save the planet. You'll soon become a trend-setter.

Save on Household Supplies: Do not throw away aluminum foil after a barbeque party. Through judicious use, rinsing, and re-using, you won't have to buy another box of aluminum foil for the rest of your life.

Sandwich bags can be easily rinsed out and dried and used again and again. And don't waste an entire sheet of fabric softener when you can cut the thing in half.

Borrow toilet paper from work. If you only take very small rolls that are almost done for themselves, no one should notice.

Take cold showers: There is no better time to take a cold shower than summer. Skipping hot water will reduce the expense of heating up the water as well as the water bill itself since you'll likely take shorter showers.

Visit Friends and Relatives: Remember how your friends and relatives complained that you never visit them during Chirkut's marriage? Hey, summer is a great time to oblige them. You may live through the entire summer for free depending on how many friends and relatives you visit. Another benefit is that nobody will visit you since you won't be home.

Turn your car off—while it's still moving. Gas will, probably, be your only major expense in visiting friends and relatives. You can save money on gas by using the car's momentum to glide into parking spaces or move downhill, you can get where you're trying to go without burning much fuel.

Save on Electricity: Fortunately, we get as much as 15 hours of daylight in the summer. Do not turn on your

lights during the daytime. You may get away with turning on just one light bulb in the evening by placing reflectors strategically in different corners of your home. The best strategy is to either use night vision glasses or go to bed early, if you can.

Save on Food: Summer is a great time to eat out. Visit churches and temples for free food. Go snacking at gourmet grocery stores with food samples. You might be able to lunch your way through the shopping aisles as long as you are not too fussy about sharing your sauce and dip with other shoppers.

Take extra packets of whatever the restaurant is passing out. Ketchup, salt, sugar, sugar substitute, non-dairy creamers, crackers, plastic utensils, napkins. Nothing is too small.

Cancel Unnecessary Vacations: Cancel that African safari you've been planning and go to the zoo this summer instead. Look, when you've seen one giraffe, you've seen them all. Buy CDs of Rome and Kirabati instead of actually going there. You will save the hassle and expense without personally meeting Lucius or Aurelia. It's like watching the Superball on TV. It is more enjoyable to watch and the view is much sharper.

Make Extra Money: Check all vending machines for change that was not retrieved or loose food items. Do not draw the ire of any security guard by shaking the vending machine. However, if you keep a sharp eye out, you can sometimes find packages hanging, ready to fall out in such a way that if you buy the next one, you get the first bonus one free. After you do that, check under the machines for any more loose coins. People often don't realize that they dropped more change than they picked up when they drop them.

Save on Magazines and Newspapers: Borrow magazines from your doctor's office. If you feel bad about this, return them when you are finished. Go to a hotel's lobby on your way and pick up daily newspapers.

Have a wonderful summer and happy savings!

Perspective



In The New World Order The US Is A Regional Power

By Anil Shrivastava

There seems to be a lot of blame directed towards Mr. Obama's foreign policy, call it American retreat or isolationism. The fact remains that Mr. Obama is accepting the new global reality. The United States has ceased to be a world police and has disqualified itself from its past status as the arbiter of the world's politico-economic order. The critics of Obama's foreign policy have to realize the following realities of the twenty-first century:

- The American public is tired of numerous American misadventures in post World War II era.
- The world is divided in four areas of influence:
 1. The Americas and Western Europe led by the USA
 2. Eurasia led by Russia
 3. Southeast Asia led by China and
 4. The Muslim world led by regional tribes.
- America has overspent and overstretched itself neglecting its domestic priorities.

To make the matter even more complex, we should also realize that the U.S., Russia and China are not alone in having regional influences. Brazil, India, and South Africa are now preeminent participants in shaping new regional orders. Brazil and others in South America openly challenge U.S. dominance in the Western Hemisphere even as they build more robust relationships with China and the Islamic world. India, under Modi's leadership, plans to be a far more assertively dominant force in its part of the world than China seeks to influence. South Africa aspires to lead the rest of Africa while Africans increasingly look to Asia rather than Europe or America for development partners.

The regional powers are also realizing how underrepresented they are in major institutions of global governance. They are demanding a new world order where they will be treated as equals. The U.S. and Western Europe have made major decisions relative to economic, military and cultural affairs, so far. The other regional powers, especially China and the Muslim world

along with India, Brazil and South Africa remain unacknowledged. The United States is now widely seen as both a relic and an arrogant abuser of power. At least that's what the perception is among other regional powers.

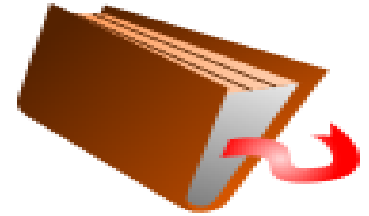
The regional powers have now gone beyond merely groaning and moaning over American influence. They are now taking actions to limit America's global dominance. On June 6, 2014, Russia announced that its main energy company, Gazprom Neft had signed agreements with its consumers to switch from Dollars to Euros (as transition to the ruble) for payments under contracts.

Another Russian super deal with China will not be using dollars but the Renminbi (or Yuan) and the Russian Ruble. It links China and Russia economically further minimizing the American global influence. The Russia-China agreement is a clear defeat of the obsessive geopolitical attempts by Wall Street to keep the two countries in a situation of competition or, ideally, war-like confrontation.

On the home front, the U.S. federal government's revenues from all sources will total \$2.2 trillion this year. Transfer payments to individuals for unemployment, pensions, health care, and other entitlements of a decent and civilized society will total \$2.4 trillion. To sustain these, the United States will borrow another \$1.3 trillion this year, much of it from abroad. In total, every dollar the U.S. government spends on operations other than welfare payments is borrowed. Though many Americans remain in denial, it is obvious that this cannot go on indefinitely.

It is quite clear that the United States will not be able to afford a continuing role as the sole provider of free but essential police and other services to the world. U.S. strategy and policies are destined to change as America falls back to a less ambitious role. The only question is whether the change will be gradual or abrupt. Either way the change occurs, Mr. Obama is merely adjusting to those inevitable changes.

Book Review



David and Goliath

Author: [Malcolm Gladwell](#)

Publisher: [Little, Brown and Company](#) (p. 320)

“David and Goliath” is an interesting book about what happens when ordinary people confront giants. Best-selling author, Malcolm Gladwell provides many examples that range from the compelling to the, dare I say, feeble. Gladwell’s books are always provocative and fun to read. The biggest problem for Gladwell is to live up to expectations set by a book of the caliber of “Outliers” and frankly whether fair or not this book doesn’t live up to it. It lacks flair and most importantly scientific rigor.

This provocative 320-page book is broken out into the following three parts: 1. The Advantages of Disadvantages (and Disadvantages of Advantages), 2. The Theory of Desirable Difficulty, and 3. The Limits of Power. Does having a disadvantage make you stronger in the long run? Malcolm Gladwell explores this and similar questions in his latest book. Like his previous works, Gladwell delves into the stories of many people (some famous, some not) to determine why some become wildly successful whereas others crash and burn. Are there key elements in their upbringing that push people to excel?

Two interesting observations revolve around dyslexia and the loss of a parent. Some of the most prominent people in the world are, surprisingly, dyslexic. Richard Branson, Charles Schwab, and Brian Glazer are three. A shocking 12 of the 44 U.S. Presidents, including George Washington and Barack Obama, lost their fathers when they were young. Gladwell explores the possibility that people who are faced with a major disadvantage can use it to propel them to heights they otherwise would not have achieved.

While this book is very thought-provoking, I must admit that I can’t completely agree with all of it. I found some conclusions to be over-simplified. Even so, this an entertaining and worthwhile read. Gladwell fans will definitely appreciate it.

The Road to Reinvention

Author: Josh Linkner

Publisher: Jossey-Bass (p. 224)

I had had several opportunities to listen to Mr. Linkner in person. He is a brilliant messenger of invention and reinvention. In ‘The Road To Reinvention,’ his message is that a company or an entrepreneur needs to constantly reinvent itself in order to survive the inevitable changes in the marketplace. One must challenge the status quo and change its business strategy.

Linkner’s most convincing examples of companies biting the dust because they did not pay heed to the changing market dynamics are Blockbuster (victim of Netflix) and Borders (victim of Amazon.com). In essence, Linkner’s message is, we must think independently and understand the changes taking place around us. “Speed and innovation now trump rigidity and conformity.”

One Amazing Thing

Author: Chitra Divakaruni

Publisher: Hyperion, Penguin Books India (p. 220)

I decided to read *One Amazing Thing* after spotting the author, Chitra Divakaruni on Twitter. I was attracted to her novel due to its attention-getting title, “One Amazing Thing.” I am glad that I made a good bet. Divakaruni has the ability to keep her readers on their toes. *One Amazing Thing* begins with the suspense of a detective novel and soon turns into a climatic disaster thriller. Divakaruni very skillfully weaves through these events and transitions to the theme of the novel, *One Amazing Thing*.

Divakaruni uses sentences with fluency unlike many of her contemporary writers of the Indian origin. However, she has a tendency of using complex vocabulary unnecessarily which dampens the reading pleasure.

Essay

Religion and Knowledge



(Based on Musafir's interview with Late Dr. T. K. Venkateswaran)

One should also learn to distinguish between religion and religions. There is religion in all religions. Religion is a multi-faceted discipline that influences all the branches of human knowledge. Other branches of learning are mostly single-dimensional or linear in the sense that they touch upon a single aspect of human dimension only. Religion, on the other hand, complements all the branches of knowledge. It is all pervasive. Political Science deals with state, constitution, and governance. Religion provides it the basis for formulating law and order. Economists may talk about micro and macro aspects of demand and supply, but it is religion that establishes business ethics. Similarly, religion is inherent in history, in as much as it goes beyond chronology and analyses, the impact of old ideologies on new order. Religious revelations enrich philosophy by adding new tenets to this important discipline. Religion ameliorates psychology by adding the nature of religious experiences. In like manner, religion provides guidelines for social order and thus enriches sociology.

Religion, especially Hinduism, has an interesting role to play in science. Scientific theories are embedded in Hindu thoughts. Hinduism never opposed science. As a matter of fact, scientific theories, such as, different dimensions of time, transformation of matter into energy, the indestructibility and transformation of energy, the variable dimensions of the universe, and medical sciences (*Ayurveda*) have always been integral parts of Hinduism.

Religion and culture have always functioned concurrently. In Hinduism and many primitive religions, dance, music and literature have been a part of religious experience. Krishna is envisioned as a great flute player, and Shiva is the 'Cosmic Dancer.' All forms of art are considered divine.

Religion is deeply embodied in language. I am talking about the spoken words and not necessarily the lexicon. The Bible is the unconditional language of Christianity. For Hindus, the four *Vedas* are the language of God.

As you can see, the integration of religion with all the branches of knowledge makes it complex. Religion needs a multi-methodological and multi-disciplinary approach in order to cover all those areas.

Religion has profound effects on different branches of knowledge. Let me give you the example of sociology first. If you think about it, distribution of labor can be divided in four classes (*varnas*). The Hindu religion classified those *varnas* as *Brahman* (knowledge worker), *kshatriya* (warriors and administrators), *Vaishya* (traders, farmers) and *Shudras* (service providers). This classification is practiced even today in all societies. However, this concept degenerated into a caste system. Nature of religious experiences has enriched psychology. A well-integrated peaceful life through meditation is an example of that. Sometimes people feel negative

experience of religion too. Degeneration of religion into cult and sectarianism is one example of that. Similarly, apartheid was considered a part of religion in South Africa by white missionaries.

There are six dimensions of human religious experience. They are: ritual, mythological, doctrinal, ethical, social and personal experiences.

Some examples of rituals are worshipping, yoga, chanting of mantras, sacred music and dance. Rituals are also a means to directly communicate with the Almighty. Again, this depends on personal preference.

Mythology is believing in symbolic figures and stories. Hindus never abandoned their myths as happened in the West. It should be noted that myth is different from verbal dogma and ideology. They also help to raise the human consciousness to the highest levels. For example, Ravana's ten heads symbolize his overgrown ego.

Doctrinal aspects of religion give answers to questions like what happens after death. The individual soul reincarnates, evolving through many births and deaths, until all the *karmic* results, good and bad are resolved. One can and should strive to attain liberation from this cycle of constant births and deaths in this very life.

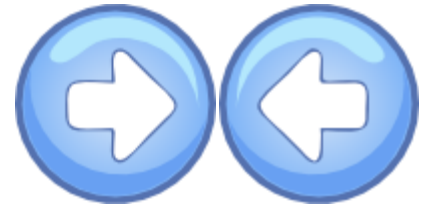
Ethical aspects provide rules for personal conduct (example: the Ten Commandments). Hindus believe that all life is sacred and is to be loved and revered through the practice of nonviolence.

Social aspects of religion establishes social order. The classification of working class (*varna*) is an example of a social aspect of religion. According to Hinduism each individual passes through several stages in life. The four classical stages are: (1) the student, (2) the house-holder, (3) retirement and spiritual pursuit and (4) renunciation (optional).

Personal religious experience is obtained through individual experiences. For example, Buddha experienced *Nirvana*. His followers believe him and Hindus have no problem in accepting that concept. Hinduism encourages mankind to progress on a spiritual path. It doesn't try to put a stop to human quest by limiting or controlling one's quest.

Although religion provides unlimited opportunity for quest, everyone should follow some basics (a problem arises when religion limits itself to those basics). Those basics are practicing *dharma*, *ahimsa* (non-violence), truth, accepting a higher Reality, accepting accountability for one's *karma* and following the path toward spiritual progression. Remember *karma* is very important. You only reap what you sow.

Yes, religion on the whole is complex because human beings are complex. But it provides answer to everyone according to his or her quest in life.



Dissecting Leadership

Studies of leadership have produced theories involving traits, situational interaction, function, behavior, power, vision and values,[3]charisma, and intelligence, among others.

The search for the characteristics or traits of leaders has been ongoing for centuries. Philosophical writings from Plato's Republic to Plutarch's Lives have explored the question "What qualities distinguish an individual as a leader?" Underlying this search was the early recognition of the importance of leadership and the assumption that leadership is rooted in the characteristics that certain individuals possess. This idea that leadership is based on individual attributes is known as the "trait theory of leadership".

The trait theory was explored at length in a number of works in the 19th century. Most notable are the writings of Thomas Carlyle and Francis Galton, whose works have prompted decades of research.[4] In Heroes and Hero Worship (1841), Carlyle identified the talents, skills, and physical characteristics of men who rose to power. In Galton's Hereditary Genius (1869), he examined leadership qualities in the families of powerful men. After showing that the numbers of eminent relatives dropped off when moving from first degree to second degree relatives, Galton concluded that leadership was inherited. In other words, leaders were born, not developed. Both of these notable works lent great initial support for the notion that leadership is rooted in characteristics of the leader.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, however, a series of qualitative reviews of these studies (e.g., Bird, 1940;[5] Stogdill, 1948;[6] Mann, 1959[7]) prompted researchers to take a drastically different view of the driving forces behind leadership. In reviewing the extant literature, Stogdill and Mann found that while some traits were common across a number of studies, the overall evidence suggested that persons who are leaders in one situation may not necessarily be leaders in other situations. Subsequently, leadership was no longer characterized as an enduring individual trait, as situational approaches (see alternative leadership theories below) posited that individuals can be effective in certain situations, but not others. The focus then shifted away from traits of leaders to an investigation of the leader behaviors that were effective. This approach dominated much of the leadership theory and research for the next few decades.

New methods and measurements were developed after these influential reviews that would ultimately reestablish the trait theory as a viable approach to the study of leadership. For example, improvements in researchers' use of the round robin research design methodology allowed researchers to see that individuals can and do emerge as leaders across a variety of situations and tasks.[8] Additionally, during the 1980s statistical advances allowed researchers to conduct meta-analyses, in which they could quantitatively analyze and summarize the findings from a wide array of studies.

This advent allowed trait theorists to create a comprehensive picture of previous leadership research rather than rely on the qualitative reviews of the past. Equipped with new methods, leadership researchers revealed the following:

- Individuals can and do emerge as leaders across a variety of situations and tasks.
- Significant relationships exist between leadership emergence and such individual traits as:
 - intelligence
 - adjustment
 - extraversion
 - conscientiousness
 - openness to experience
 - general self-efficacy

While the trait theory of leadership has certainly regained popularity, its reemergence has not been accompanied by a corresponding increase in sophisticated conceptual frameworks.

Specifically, Zaccaro noted that trait theories still:

1. focus on a small set of individual attributes such as Big Five personality traits, to the neglect of cognitive abilities, motives, values, social skills, expertise, and problem-solving skills;
2. fail to consider patterns or integrations of multiple attributes;
3. do not distinguish between those leader attributes that are generally not malleable over time and those that are shaped by, and bound to, situational influences;

Continued on page 13

Point

India Has Always Been a Superpower By Anil Shrivastava 'Musafir'

People do ask, "When will India become a superpower?" This is a ridiculous question because India has always been a superpower. I don't understand why India should even be looked down upon as an *emerging* superpower. The definition of a superpower is as follows:

"A superpower is a state with a leading position in the international system and the ability to influence events and project power on a worldwide scale."

In that respect India has always been known as the repository of information since time immemorial. The greatest invention of all time, the number zero was invented after all by Aryabhata. India has produced mathematicians like Ramanujan, great poets like Rabindranath Tagore, people who have made a difference to the world of cinema like Satyajit Ray.

Indian spirituality is the most ancient and most widespread in the world. It is true that India did not colonize any country nor has it waged a military war, but India has been spreading the teachings of Buddha, Mahavira and Vedanta all over the world before any other superpower started exerting its military might on other nations. Talking of military might, India is a nuclear power and possesses one of the largest military forces in the world. It is in India's character not to intimidate the weak.

India has always been recognized as an intellectual nation. Today, India is the leader in information technology. India has an army of software engineers running wild in the silicon valley. The wars in the coming years will not be fought on the battlefields and over the mountains but in the air-conditioned comforts of control rooms. India with its immense intellectual property is poised to win that war.

Quoting Edward Luce, the author of *In Spite of the God*, "There is an essence to India that other countries do not have, which tells you that behind the diversity of life there is a spiritual reality called unity. The human race today is in a global crisis that only India can solve by showing the way to super consciousness."

We should not forget that India is more than a country. It is a civilization. India has always been a moral superpower, it is a political superpower, the world's largest democracy, and is now an economic superpower. I know the world is nervous about India's progress. Any great change in history causes resentment and breeds fear and causes anxiety. The change that India is going through will bring a different kind of supremacy – moral and intellectual which is different from military and imperialistic supremacy that the world has yet to experience.

Counterpoint

India Is Not a Superpower – Yet By Bala Prasad

The notion that India is a superpower is nothing short of preposterous. Small areas of superstructures, housing call centers, nuclear power, or software development programs for developed countries is not sufficient qualification for status of a superpower. One cannot live off the crumbs of a Western dinner table and dream of being a superpower.

India is certainly in an economic boom – built on very weak foundation. Highways, modern bridges, world-class airports, reliable power, and clean water are in desperately short supply. The euphemism is 200 million rich and one third of the population strong. But the middle class should be looked at more closely as to what it represents. Does two meals a day make one middle class or a television and a cell phone make one rich? But more importantly, what about the other 700 million people? What about the people who cannot afford even one meal a day? What about the children who must work for the necessity of survival?

There might come a time for India to be called a superpower, but that time is not today. The basic infrastructure on which this super-structure is to be built is not there. While it is difficult to comment on every little problem that is plaguing the country, the major problems are staggering.

Lack of dependable power and transportation are major stumbling blocks. Full production capability cannot be reached because of persistent power shortages, and whatever is being produced cannot reach its destination for weeks. Up to 40% of farm produce is lost as it rots in the field or in transit thus contributing to price increases.

Delayed decision-making and rampant political corruption is another wild card. So many levels of bureaucracy are involved that the wheels of power move ever so slowly. And (according to some watchdog groups) almost every level of bureaucracy has to be "greased," be it a clerk, a district officer, or a minister. Twenty-five percent of all allotted funds for public projects go to bribes, by whatever name is called. It is estimated that the trucking industry alone pays out about five billion dollars a year in bribe money. This not only delays but also raises the cost of infrastructure projects.

Eventually, India might reach that rarified level. But the road is long and tortuous, and people who believe we are their now should get their head out of the sand.

Travel Tales



Key West, Sunset and Hemingway

By Anil Shrivastava

Dorothy Parker: "Exactly what do you mean by 'guts'?"

Ernest Hemingway: "I mean, grace under pressure."
That immortal line 'courage is grace under pressure' is the axiom I try to live by. Thus, I decided to go to Key West, FL to pay my homage to Ernest Hemingway and to celebrate the sunset over Atlantic at the same time.

I have seen sunsets at numerous vantage points over the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Indian oceans, but I am convinced that the sunset at Key West is the most picturesque of all. Beginning two hours before the sun lays down and closes its eyes on another day's work, the birds become restless, drums start beating and the visitors from all over the world gasp in sheer amazement. Sunset in Key West is celebrated every day as the red sun sinks into the Gulf of Mexico horizon. The nightly festival goes on for hours. The magicians, jugglers, clowns, musicians, artists, and food vendors present an incredible array of cultural experience. It is a true fusion of nature and eclectic earthly talents.

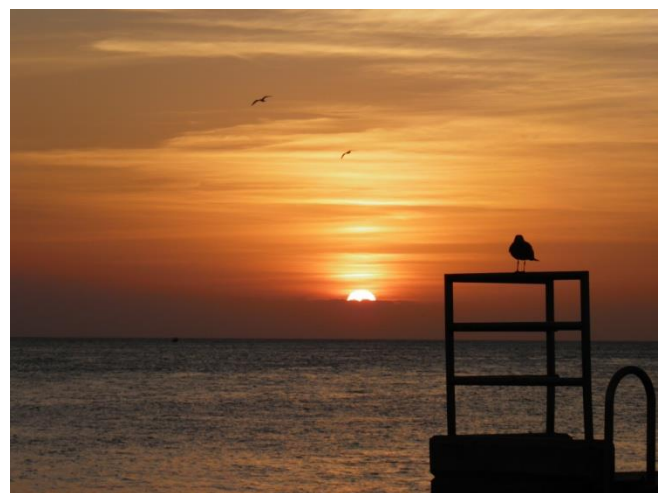
My wife and I were lucky to visit Hemingway's residence in Key West at 907 Whitehead St., which was his home through December 1939. The Spanish style villa is now a registered National Historic Landmark. The home is open to the public as a museum honoring the island's most famous literary resident. Ernest Hemingway wrote many of his best-known works in the second-story writing studio that adjoins the house. Among them were "Farewell To Arms," "For Whom the Bell Tolls," and others. He became captivated by the island's easygoing ambiance.

Walking through the living room, we saw many pieces that his wife, Pauline had collected while living in Paris, including her chandelier collection, and a 17th century Spanish chest that she used as a writing desk. Hemingway was an avid collector of Spanish furniture and we saw several examples from his collection. He also collected art, and some of his pieces are still present including a painting of St. Paul's Church by

Eugene Otto, and a lithograph of his shipmate and friend Gregorio Fuentes.

It was surreal to imagine that we were in the same setting where Hemingway entertained many good friends at his home, including Charles Thompson, Joe Russell (also known as Sloppy Joe), Captain Eddie "Bra" Saunders, as well as old friends from Paris. I can understand what Gill (Owen Wilson) may have felt like in the movie 'Midnight in Paris.'

If you ever happen to visit Miami you must travel the 'Overseas Highway' to cross Florida's mainland and coral and limestone islets into the special world of the Florida Keys.



Lifestyle



Use of Synthetic Marijuana Among Our Teenagers

By Niru Prasad

What is synthetic Marijuana?

Humans have used the plant Cannabis Sativa for its intoxicating effects for thousands of years. Cannabis is the most commonly used illicit intoxicating agents among adolescents due to its psycho active compound Tetrahydrocannabinol. Synthetic marijuana is a designer drug in which herbs, incense or other leafy materials are sprayed with lab synthesized liquid chemicals to mimic the effect of active ingredient of marijuana called THC. These products called “Spice” or “k2” and many other names first became popular in 2008. These are dispensed as incense in colorful pouches and labeled as not for human consumption. Certain case reports and surveys have proved the fact that there are serious side effects and toxicities associated with synthetic drug abuse.

The Synthetic Marijuana is smoked alone or in joint such as pipe, bong or rolled into a joint with tobacco or natural marijuana. Synthetic pot may also be baked in brownies or used as tea.



What are the effects of Pot Use?

Many of the effects include elevated mood, euphoria, altered moods and perception. Some report extreme anxiety, paranoia and hallucination. The serious side effects are palpitation, high blood pressure, heart attack, and in such cases an acute emergency response is needed.

What are the signs and symptoms of illicit drug use that parents should be aware of?

1. Red eyes-if you find bottles of Visine eye drops
2. Rolling papers, pipes, a bong, roach clips, etc. in their untidy room is indicative of drug paraphernalia
3. Incense use in the bedroom - to cover up marijuana smoking
4. Frequent uses of mouth wash
5. Small burns on thumb and fingers caused by smoking a joint to the very end

6. Marijuana stickers or posters in bedrooms
7. Seemingly talking in code using word “Dude” very often among friends
8. Sudden need of lots of money from their parents
9. Signs of depression or isolation from family, sudden drop in school performance and falling grades

Preventing Adolescent Substance Abuse

A pervasive, consistent message to young people about drugs and alcohol can prevent substance abuse. The Primary goal of prevention is to delay the first use of alcohol or other drugs. This has been a documented fact that youths who use alcohol or drugs at early ages are more prone to develop serious consequences

such as sexual assault, unintentional injuries, crimes, legal problems as well impaired school performances and failures.



Prevention works better when attention is given to multiple risk factors. Reduction in risk factors towards drug abuse involves family schools peer groups and community. Responsibility for prevention belongs to many individuals as mentioned above. Parents should be aware for what is happening. Parents are role models that define standards of behavior and achievement. They set limits and provide consequences for risky behaviors. It is also for parents to be involved in the student’s academic life. Keep in contact with academic advisors and teachers to know if drugs are a possible cause of hindering your child’s grades.

Peer monitoring and leadership programs mobilize a powerful approach that demonstrates the benefits of prevention and importance of youth as preventive partners.

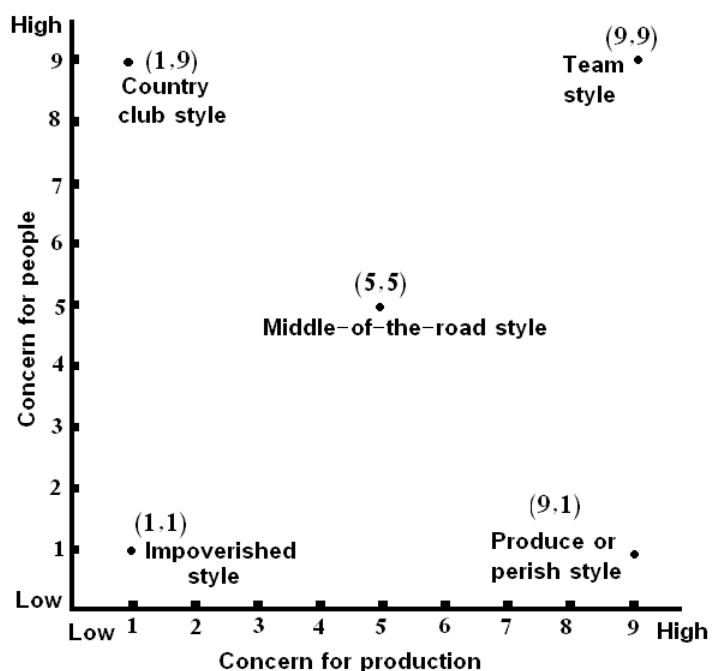
In Summary, an effective drug and alcohol abuse prevention is everyone’s responsibility in order to keep our youngsters healthy and achieve success in life.

Dissecting Leadership Continued from page 9

- do not consider how stable leader attributes account for the behavioral diversity necessary for effective leadership.

Considering the criticisms of the trait theory outlined above, several researchers have begun to adopt a different perspective of leader individual differences—the leader attribute pattern approach. In contrast to the traditional approach, the leader attribute pattern approach is based on theorists' arguments that the influence of individual characteristics on outcomes is best understood by considering the person as an integrated totality rather than a summation of individual variables. In other words, the leader attribute pattern approach argues that integrated constellations or combinations of individual differences may explain substantial variance in both leader emergence and leader effectiveness beyond that explained by single attributes, or by additive combinations of multiple attributes.

In response to the early criticisms of the trait approach, theorists began to research leadership as a set of behaviors, evaluating the behavior of successful leaders, determining a behavior taxonomy, and identifying broad leadership styles. David McClelland, for example, posited that leadership takes a strong personality with a well-developed positive ego. To lead, self-confidence and high self-esteem are useful, perhaps even essential.



A graphical representation of the managerial grid model Kurt Lewin, Ronald Lipitt, and Ralph White developed in 1939 the seminal work on the influence of leadership styles and performance. The researchers evaluated the

performance of groups of eleven-year-old boys under different types of work climate. In each, the leader exercised his influence regarding the type of group decision making, praise and criticism (feedback), and the management of the group tasks (project management) according to three styles: authoritarian, democratic, and laissez-faire.

The managerial grid model is also based on a behavioral theory. The model was developed by Robert Blake and Jane Mouton in 1964 and suggests five different leadership styles, based on the leaders' concern for people and their concern for goal achievement.

Management

The verb 'manage' comes from the Italian *maneggiare* (to handle, especially tools), which derives from the Latin word *manus* (hand). The French word *mesagement* (later *ménagement*) influenced the development in meaning of the English word *management* in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Management in business and organizations is the function that coordinates the efforts of people to accomplish goals and objectives using available resources efficiently and effectively. Management comprises planning, organizing, staffing, leading or directing, and controlling an organization or initiative to accomplish a goal. Resourcing encompasses the deployment and manipulation of human resources, financial resources, technological resources, and natural resources. Management is also an academic discipline, a social science whose object of study is the social organization.

Plans, measurements, motivational psychological tools, goals, and economic measures (profit, etc.) may or may not be necessary components for there to be management. At first, one views management functionally, such as measuring quantity, adjusting plans, meeting goals. This applies even in situations where planning does not take place. From this perspective, Henri Fayol (1841–1925) considers management to consist of six functions:

- Forecasting
- Planning
- Organizing
- Commanding
- Coordinating
- Controlling

American Scene



Follow the ...

By David Beagan

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was one of the celebrated child prodigies ever. One story has it that at the age of eight, an unfamiliar piece of music was placed before him at the piano:

The score was no sooner put upon his desk, than he began to play the symphony in a most masterly manner, as well as in the time and stile which corresponded with the intention of the composer...

The genius of Mozart as both a child and adult is renown. While there have been child prodigies numerous fields, I've heard it said that there are no great child prodigy novelists. It makes sense, writing a novel requires life experience. I think something similar could be said of being a manager or leader. Youth does not beget management expertise.

I remember as a young man getting started in the corporate world, thinking why can't a younger person make just as good of a manager as a more mature person. I thought that if you were smart, that's what should count.

Over the years, I have come to think differently. Yes, smarter is better. But experience is what really counts. Why? Because management is not about processing the information you are given. It is about judgment in dealing with contradictory, incomplete, and sometimes too much information. Life experience is what allows a manager to deal with this.

At a conference years ago, one of the leaders of a company was asked something to the effect, "Just what is your job anyway?" I think the questioner was being a bit impertinent because of the fact that the conference occurred just after the merger of two individual software companies. Perhaps the questioner felt that the company he was committed to was not getting valued or respected. I have never forgotten the leader's answer. "My job is to say 'no.'" I thought that was great — short and to the point. And the point is, there is a lot of things the two combined companies could do. Things that might sound like good ideas. And might even be good ideas in other circumstances. The great leader decides what is important to focus on, what is important to pursue right now.

With life experience also comes failure. And with failure comes growth and new wisdom. Each of us holds on to notions and beliefs that are not founded in reality. The bitter sting of failure is often what it take for us to reevaluate those beliefs and shore up the basis for them. With success we are just exercising the competencies and skills we already know how to use. It feels good, but gives us the mistaken notion

that we can just keep doing the same thing and be successful. But the world changes, circumstances change, and we must change too to continue to be successful. Failure is usually the impetus for that change. Failure brings us back to reality, we're not as good as we think.

At the highest levels this experience both in the corporation and outside of it, is what enables a CEO to be great. Steve Jobs first act at Apple computer can be looked at as a leader getting a lucky break. After being ousted from Apple, and getting life experience, he came back for a triumphant second act where his drive and truly innovative genius made him legendary.

One of the other pillars of great leadership is communication. While there are leaders that are naturally great communicators, rare is the individual who covers all the bases — great at one-on-one communications, small groups, presenting to an auditorium, and most importantly to the public, especially in the event of a crisis.

In 2010 as BP had an underwater well spewing oil into the Gulf of Mexico, CEO Tony Haywood had a tough time of it. Management experts contend that his leadership failure all began with the delay during the initial weeks of the spill. Failure to address the severity of the problem and his lackluster appearance before the U.S. Congress were key mistakes. He testified, "I wasn't part of the decision-making process in this well." Experts in crisis management know that even a savvy CEO can have instinctual reactions that run counter to presenting the best face to the public in the time of crisis.

Closer to my own backyard, with General Motor's extended crisis of vehicle recalls, new CEO Mary Barra is given high marks by Forbes magazine. "She deftly confronted the issue while downplaying the significance of her gender. Barra's communications strategy incorporates multiple digital media platforms. She has used these channels to respond to the crisis with a strong and genuine message."

Great leadership encompasses many skills. In the end, it comes down to these things. The great leader has passion and a vision. The leader is a decision maker, quick, not hasty, analytical yet thoughtful. The leader is a team builder — everyone pulling in the same direction. And perhaps most important of all the leader has character.



Who Is an American?

4th of July Special

You probably missed it in the rush of news, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American. So an Australian dentist wrote an editorial the following day to let everyone know what an American is . so they would know when they found one.

“ An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani or Afghan.

An American may also be a Comanche, Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, Seminole or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses.

An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God

An American lives in the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each person to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need, never asking a thing in return. When Afghanistan was over-run by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country! As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan. Americans welcome the best of everything...the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best services. But they also welcome the least.

The national symbol of America, The Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2001 earning a better life for their families. It's been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 different countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and other blood-thirsty tyrants in the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.

Observation

An Old Story

(Author Unknown)

The Ant works hard in the withering heat all summer building its house and laying up supplies for the winter. The Grasshopper thinks the Ant is a fool and laughs & dances & plays the summer away.

Come winter, the Ant is warm and well fed. The Grasshopper has no food or shelter so he dies out in the cold.

Welfare Version:

The Ant works hard in the withering heat all summer building its house and laying up supplies for the winter. The Grasshopper thinks the Ant's a fool and laughs & dances & plays the summer away.

Come winter, the shivering Grasshopper calls a press conference and demands to know why the Ant should be allowed to be warm and well fed while others are cold and starving.

MSNBC, CBS, CNN show up to provide pictures of the shivering Grasshopper next to a video of the Ant in his comfortable home with a table filled with food. The World is stunned by the sharp contrast. How can this be that this poor Grasshopper is allowed to suffer so?

Jessie Jackson stages a demonstration in front of the Ant's house. Madonna goes on a fast along with other Grasshoppers demanding that Grasshoppers be relocated to warmer climates during winter. President Obama states this as 'injustice' done on Minorities. Amnesty International and the UN criticize the system for not upholding the fundamental rights of the Grasshopper.

The Internet is flooded with online petitions seeking support to the Grasshopper (many promising Heaven and Everlasting Peace for prompt support as against the wrath of God for non-compliance).

NAACP stage a massive demonstration in front of the congress. Liberals call for taking this case to the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

New York immediately passes a law preventing Ants from working hard in the heat so as to bring about equality of poverty among Ants and Grasshoppers.

Finally, the Department of Justice drafts the 'Prevention of Terrorism Against Grasshoppers Act' [POTAGA], with effect from the beginning of the winter. Harvard allots 'Special Reservation ' for Grasshoppers to end inequality in higher education.

The Ant is fined for failing to comply with POTAGA and having nothing left to pay his retroactive taxes, it's home is confiscated by the Government and handed over to the Grasshopper in a ceremony covered by the media.

President Obama calls it 'A Triumph of Justice'. Jessie Jackson calls it 'Socialistic Justice'. The liberals call it the 'Revolutionary Resurgence of the Downtrodden'.

Ban Ki-moon invites the Grasshopper to address the UN General Assembly.

Many years later...

The Ant has since left the US and set up a multi-billion dollar company in the Netherlands. Hundreds of Grasshoppers still die of starvation despite reservation and special treatment.

...AND

As a result of losing lot of hard working Ants and feeding the grasshoppers, The US is bankrupt and begs for money from China...!!!

Cheers!!!

Mental Exercise

By David Beagan

Multip-add

What three counting numbers can be added together or multiplied together to give the same answer.

Match Spiral

These nineteen matches have been arranged to form a spiral pattern.



Try Angle

Can you divide any triangle into four equal pieces?



Safe Driving

A data scientist investigated a data base of traffic accidents and the conditions under which they occur. He found that in one state there was an hour each year where no accidents occurred. He checked several other states and found the same. Expanding his analysis nationwide, there were less than 2% of the number of accidents as compared to any other hour. How can this be explained?

Up and Down

Say you roll two dice, the result will be that the dice total to some number from 2 to 12. But there will be another result if you look at the two sides that are unseen laying against the table. For example, if you roll "snake eyes" for a total of two, the bottom of the dice add to 12.

What are the odds when you roll that dice that the total on top will be the same as the total on the bottom?

Answers

Multip-add

The only answer is:
 $1 \times 2 \times 3 = 1 + 2 + 3.$

Match Spiral

Take the three dark matches show below.

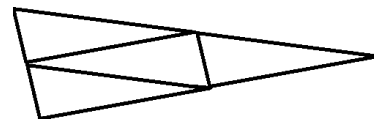


And move them here.



Try Angle

Yes, any triangle can be divided into four equal pieces like this:



Safe Driving

It is explained by daylight savings time? On the Sunday when the clock springs forward, it moves from 2am to 3am, that hour passes instantly so there is no change for accidents to occur. The few accidents that do occur were in those states that do not observe Daylight Savings Time.

Up and Down

The opposite sides of a die total to 7. So for the totals to match the numbers on top must total to 7. Whatever number comes up on the first die, there is a one in six change that the other die will come up with the number that totals 7.

Publisher's Desk



The Language of Non-verbal Communication

By Bala Prasad

Imagine that you see two people talking. One is sitting with arms crossed. The other is tapping one foot very fast. How would you interpret their non-verbal cues? You may have heard that actions speak louder than words. What does that mean? It means that what you do may matter more than what you say. It also means that how you say something may matter more than what you say. What you do, and how you say something, is non-verbal language. It is a way of communicating that has nothing to do with the words you speak. Studies reveal that non-verbal communication conveys 93 percent of what you mean to say. In other words, when your expression says one thing and your words another, people believe the body language.

We often show our feelings and attitudes through non-verbal cues. Some people believe that non-verbal cues are more reliable than the spoken word as a way of interpreting someone's true feelings or intentions. Certainly, these non-verbal cues help us get the right meaning. For example, body posture and walk tell us a lot about a person. Standing straight shows confidence. Slouching shows insecurity. It also shows disrespect – as if you don't care. Crossing your arms over your chest shows you have a closed mind – that you are uninterested in the opinion of others. It can be viewed as a confrontational stance – as if you are telling the other person, "I don't believe a word you say." It can also mean that you are protecting yourself. Arms at your side show openness. Walking is body posture in motion. Your walk should be different at home than at work. At work, you should walk quickly – like you are ready and eager to work. At home, your walk should be relaxed, maybe even slower. You should not be in a hurry.

Tone of voice tells us a lot about a person's attitude toward the listener, as well as the person's attitude toward a particular subject. For example, your tone of voice can relay that you are bored, or unimpressed. It can also relay skepticism. On the other hand, your tone of voice can express enthusiasm, or excitement. Tone shows feelings, and it should be constantly changing. We all adopt different tones for different contexts.

Maintaining one's physical distance from another person also tells us something about that person. There is an invisible line that surrounds each of us. We allow people we care about to cross that line, and get closer to us. But strangers, or people we are skeptical about, are seldom allowed to cross that line. They get too close for comfort. At work, we probably would not allow too many people to infiltrate our invisible line. In our personal lives, of course, we enjoy hugs and kisses from those we love.

Hand gestures are also symbols. A handshake, in and of itself, is a well-known greeting. Even if we were among people who spoke a foreign language, a simple handshake would make us feel welcome, and at home. A firm handshake reflects confidence, and sincerity. A flimsier handshake might suggest nervousness. But either way, a handshake says hello.

Body gestures are also indicators. Shrugging your shoulders tells people you don't know, or you don't care. Children often shrug their shoulders when parents ask them a question they don't want to answer. Even without saying a word, parents would know that the child who

shrugs his shoulders might be embarrassed or ashamed about something. Of course, children who roll their eyes at their parents are also conveying a message without saying a word! Tapping a foot shows impatience. A hand on your hips shows frustration. And, of course, a single nod of the head shows agreement, without ever having to speak a word.

Eye contact is an extremely important type of non-verbal language. When we look another person in the eye, we are telling them to trust us, no matter what we say. Sales people have probably perfected the art of looking people in the eye. It also shows you are interested in the other person. Looking someone in the eye and nodding during conversations tells the other person you want to hear what they have to say. If you can't look somebody in the eye, they will question your motives. They might think you don't care about what they are saying, or that you have something to hide.

Although you might not think of it, appearance also tells others things about yourself. For example, if you wear dirty, sloppy clothes, that may reflect that you don't care – that you have little interest in yourself or the person with whom you are speaking. Employers may not think you will be a good worker. If you wear certain types of clothes, or certain types of jewelry, that may help you identify with certain groups of people, who share your cultural or socio-economic background. Think about how people dress at work. Lawyers wear suits. Doctors wear white coats. These indicators tell us who they are before they speak their first word. I have always believed that you can tell a lot about a person by how polished his shoes are!

A good role model for non-verbal communication is former President Bill Clinton. In his presidential debates, he would often shake his head at his opponent to convey skepticism. Or, he would signal attentive listening by putting his finger on his chin and nodding his head. This body language would also convey Clinton's willingness to consider the ideas he was hearing about. Clinton's hand gestures also conveyed what he was thinking – holding his two hands apart conveyed to the audience that he was serious about the issue he was discussing. Holding his two hands together, almost as in prayer, conveyed is thoughtfulness – or in some instances, his repentance.

Next time you are in a gathering with other people, watch their non-verbal cues. And watch your own non-verbal cues as well. Do your cues say what you mean to say? Non-verbal language can easily become a habit for us – so let's make sure we are not giving the wrong impression by it!

Sincerely,

Bala Prasad

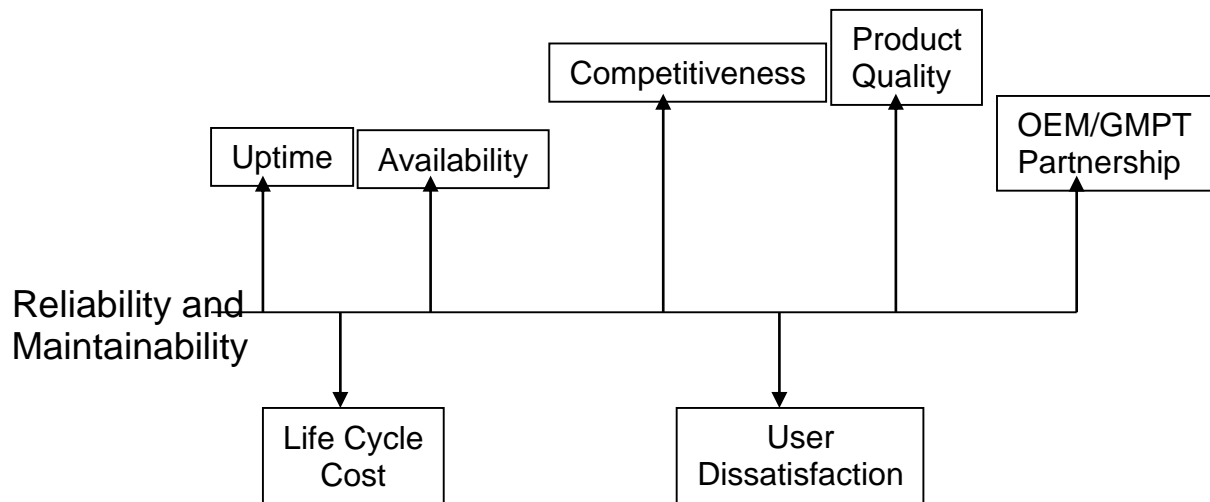
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As one of the most dynamic real estate teams in the tri-county area, Lynn Baker and Deby Gannes Team of Hall & Hunter Realtors leverage over 60 years of combined experience, having sold more than 1100 Michigan homes since 2001, **valued in excess of \$425,000,000!**

Honored in 2012 and 2013 as Hour Detroit Magazine's Real Estate All-Stars—the top 2% of Michigan realtors with the highest sales volumes—Lynn and Deby are consistently considered the top listing agents at Hall & Hunter Realtors and sell nearly 50% of their own listings.

The team attributes their success on the core values of trust, expert opinion, tenacity and experience. "Our philosophy has been to sell real estate as a 'mini-business,' with each buyer and seller receiving our full attention," Lynn said. "We also develop individual marketing plans for our clients because the real estate market conditions and economy are constantly evolving."

Prior to their partnership at Hall & Hunter Realtors in 2001, Lynn served as Sales Director for a number of renowned area builders. Deby also

specialized in the residential real estate market, accumulating more than 25 years of experience in selling homes in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne Counties.

In addition to their commitment to their clients, community work and volunteering has also been a cornerstone of the team's value system. Deby has been a Docent at The Detroit Institute of Arts for over 30 years and very active at Cranbrook Schools. Lynn has worked in developing programs at the

Pontiac Light House, Judson Children's Center and Greater Detroit Society for the Blind. Their community involvement has helped them to establish relationships with the Kresge Foundation, Oakland University, Henry Ford Hospital, Crittenton Hospital and many other organizations.

Lynn and Deby maintain a deep commitment to doing what is right for their clients and strive

to be a "Realtor For Life." These philosophies have been the reason that referrals are the foundation of their business. They do what is the best for each individual, their family, friends and neighbors.

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For a confidential market analysis, call:

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In 2013:
80+ properties closed
and over
\$33 million dollars
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