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BHAGAWAN KRISHNA – THE LEGEND OF COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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ABSTRACT

The ability to communicate with the world is a natural phenomenon that exists in all the living beings and humans have mastered it which gradually made the ability in the form of skill. The one who wins the word would surely win the world. This paper discusses the amazing skills of communication, negotiation and the level of diplomacy portrayed in the Indian mythology through the character called SREE KRISHNA. The current article focuses on the greatest communication skills that were possessed and executed by Krishna and how they are still fairly adoptable in 21st century.

Lord Sri Krishna, The Indian mythological super hero, the one who bestowed the unmatched triumph to the clan of pandava in the Kurukshetra war, the one who stole the umpteen hearts of amorous gopikas, just with his mischievous smile, is unarguably one of the greatest communicator, an exceptional management guru, mentor of the mentors, coach of the coaches, guru of all motivational gurus.

Swamy vivekanda says about Krishna 'Five thousand years have passed and he has influenced millions and millions. Just think what an influence this man has over the whole world, whether you know it or not. My regard for him is for his perfect sanity. No cobwebs in that brain, no superstition. He knows the use of everything, and when it is necessary to assign a place to each, he is there'[1]

. According to Krishna, as he taught in *Bhagavadgitha*, effective communication is the fine blend of truth that is beneficial to the listener, an ear soothing context that pleases the world, which must be made only after self exploration. The one who follows the footprints of Krishna in conveying

and exchanging ideas, both in intra and inter personal communications, will surely be the best communicator and definitely lead the people with great empathy. Our abilities of communication are greatly hampered by the delusions that are being carry forwarded to the generations, sometimes with inferiority and many times with superiority. Humans are tend to think of themselves either in a view of condescending context, or in the mirror of self pity. When they over estimate themselves, their talks will turn into arguments which they further will take the shape of conflicts. When they speak with inferiority, their knowledge gets underrated with the lack of confidence. The adroitness of balancing the both complexities is what we need to maintain the perfect relationship, through communication, that can easily malleable from the life of Sri krishna.

Lord Sri krishna had been the cynosure of The Mahabharath, an Indian grand epic. Krishna was the reason behind victory of Kurukshetra, indeed he had been the ultimate reason behind every single conquests of Pandavas, ironically, Lord Krishna didn't use any single weapon to cross the threshold

of victory, not even the *Sudarshana chakra*. The only phenomenal weapon that he used throughout the life was *Tongue*, which is serrated than any other sword ever this universe had. The talks of Krishna were harder than diamonds, which as well softer than tender buds of flower. All though Ramavatara and Krishnavatara were merely the incarnated forms of the same celestial and cosmic power, there is a certain difference between two, especially in the context of communication. Lord Rama, was not aware about his *amsha*, (form), he led his life as just as many ordinary human did, the way he communicated with people was lucid, crystal and honest rather diplomatic. The Krishnavatara was different, Krishna was very aware that he was the pervasive, he knew it every minute, subsequently his communication skills were diplomatic and ambassadorial. Krishna was clearly conscious about his strengths and unquestionably knew his limitations.

At the battlefield with Narakasura, despite his unconquerable power, the demon was supposed to be killed by Sathyabhama, who was one of the loving spouses among eight. Krishna clearly knew this and simply made Sathyabhama take over the charge by mischievously pretending as he was hurt by the bow shot, because asking a lady to take the charge in battle field is not seems to be in *Yuddha neethi*, but fighting with all his skills to kill the Narakasura was futile thing as he was benefited with the boon, to be killed by his mother only. Krishna stimulated her with his teasing and made Sathyabhama pull a bow from her quiver. This shows, Krishna's spontaneous usage of body language which speaks better than verbal communication. We may learn that, one should communicate in such a way listener must instantly respond to the action and also one should not hesitate to break the conventional constraints when things are surpassing the control.

There is another Situation in the Mahabharath, which shows one of the key skills to retain relationships at the time of killing Sishupala, Krishna had given ninety nine chances for an enemy to turn out a friend but he had never given single chance to a friend to turn him an enemy. Sishupala, the kind of chedi, once he was invited to the

Rajasuya yagam organized by Yudhishtir, eldest brother among Pandavas, as per Bhishma's advice, Yudhishtir called Krishna to take the offerings made for yagna as the mark of respect, Sishupala was witnessing all this and roared with anger. He stood up from his seat and started displeasuring at Krishna, as mere cowherd being honored first, he went on abusing Krishna and engaged himself in perverting Krishna with verbal duel. Krishna is not the person whom can be simply provoked by taunting, a good communicator should always carry patience along with the intelligence, he gave him ninety nine chances and forgave all his ninety nine abuses, he killed ,only after outnumbering his mistakes to hundred. The Krishna- way of communication, forgiving all the maltreatment, only for the sake of giving another chance. Similarly, he never gave a single chance to any friend to turn out them a enemy, which is clearly evident in the relationship with Arjuna, he never let him loose the faith and obedience towards him, he perfectly carried and protected him throughout the Mahabharath.

The primary reason behind communication is to bring two minds together and this can be achieved only when what the sender means is perceived in the same way by the receiver. Two way communication bridges two minds together which is the significant attribute of any communication. *Bhagavadgita* is the epic example of consistent flow of intellectual communication between the sender and receiver. *Bhagavadgita* is the best book that explicit the effective communication. The first professional motivational counseling happened to be in the battlefield of Kurukshetra, Swami Bodhananda (2) categorically states "The Bhagavad Gita is important to the modern manager because the problems and situations he faces are similar to the ones which Arjuna faced, when Arjuna was tend for renunciation, Krishna pulled him from the gloomy pessimistic roots and galvanized him to do the things that he was supposed to do. The affinity in their conversation must be notable. The interaction between Krishna and Arjuna is by addressing each other by their names, which are very beloved to each other. Arjuna addresses Krishna as Kesava, Madhava, Achyutha, in response

Arjuna as kauntheya, Partha etc. This connecting bond of personal nudging makes their conversation highly effective. As we know, a good communicator should always be a good listener as well. Throughout the *Bhagavadgita*, all the chapters are filled with the conversations of two persons, Krishna and Arjuna, their question and answering ceremony with much reverence to one another. In order to comprehend the ideas and pulse of Arjuna, Krishna uninterruptedly maintained his noble silence. Even while Arjuna reciting the same doubts and arguments again and again, Krishna reprimands to speak. He keeps his majestic silence. But so expressive was his silence. He was rather stimulating arjuna with a provocative smile. Krishna intervened only when Arjuna lost all the doubts and altercations. This is the best possible classic example for two way communication. But Indian bosses are still bound with one way communication, their empathy is always hindered under the egoistic walls of superiority complex. One may learn the way of delivering an effective two way communication from the footprints of Krishna that he marked at *Bhagavadgita*, it stands in its sterling position among many traditional epics, especially on effective communication.

Krishna, in his earlier form, as Vamana, the way how he executed the plan of killing a rakshasa, Bali chakravarthy, is an epic way of teaching the diplomatic way of communication which can always be done for the ultimate harmonious results of the universe. Although Bali was great king and kind hearted, since Rakshasas are not fit to rule and become Indras, Vishnu was forced to kill him. The strategy which can be used in executing ferocious and violent cannot be employed here as Bali is very humble. Vishnu goes in the form of Vamana, a small kid, and asks Bali chakravarthi for the place that could fit his three feet. Bali was such a righteous man that he would never take his words back or never show an empty hand to anyone who comes to his abode and ask. As soon as Bali gives his concord to the boon, Vamana grows, grows and grows. He grows so big, that from where bali stands, only feet of the boy were visible to Bali, nothing else. The boy grows so huge that the earth itself seems to measure up in his one step. The boy lifts

the other leg and occupies the all sky. Vamana asks bali to show the place to step one more step as he promised him. Bali simply reverts as he is not the person who breaks the promises and shows his head to put the third step. Vamana gives a majestic smile and puts the third step onto the head of Bali, which pushes him into the *pathala loka*, under the dark layers of the earth. He got things done through the perfect way of communication by keeping all his egos aside when the need was bigger.

Krishna listened to everyone, he listened and listened. He paid the same keen attention in listening to the 'Moo's of cows, and also to the poor friend who could not even afford any sensible gift except uncooked flattened rice flakes. Listening must be the first quality of anyone in the pursuit of acquiring better communication skills. How ever to absorb more from the teachings of Krishna, it is suggested not to see Krishna as mythological fictional character or a merely a religious prophet.. Krishna's life itself is the biggest message to the mankind. Substantial information is also getting unfolded day by day as the Mahabharatha was not just a fictional epic. Its very important to preach in colleges because although they have lot of conditioning but they have not set their mind in a particular direction as yet, they are open and inquisitive. But once they get a profession they get accustomed to particular way of living, behaving etc[3]

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