

CU Talented



by *Robini Manohar*

The dictionary defines talent as a special natural ability or aptitude; or as a capacity for achievement or success. I seem to like the second definition more than the first one, for the simple reason that the second one makes me believe that every human being ever born on the face of this planet is talented. We all have the capacity for success and achievement inside us. With a little effort and a whole lot of unearthing, I am sure you too can be as good at anything you set your heart at. All it takes is a little perseverance and lots of commitment. So why is it, that there exists so much mediocrity amongst us?? Why is it, that when all of us seem to possess this innate capacity to excel, we settle for being just average?? The only two answers that immediately pop into my head are laziness and the probable damage of an image you have created for yourself.

The Greeks believed that when the Gods first created human beings, they gave out little seeds of talent to everyone. Most people put them in their pockets and forgot about it thinking them to be useless, dusty brown seeds. The

few who did think that it was worth a shot, planted it in their houses. But the tree was a hard one to grow; it needed constant caring and pruning. Some people kept at it whilst others gave up hope and decided to employ themselves with more important things. The ones who kept at it, realized that in time, the tree not only grew healthier and stronger but it also bore delicious fruits. The fruits were said to have the amazing ability of endowing the bearer with the ability to achieve and excel at anything he wanted. That seed, my friends, is inside all of us. The seed isn't really going to give rise to a physical tree inside our bellies, but with patience and effort and of course the mandatory pruning of that seedling that lies dormant in our hearts, each of us can and will achieve whatever we wanted.

You could be someone who works in a bank, but have always wanted to try your hand at playing the piano or the mridangam, but never had the guts to try. Or then again, maybe you did try it once and thought it took too much effort. Maybe you thought that people would perceive you to be a weakling. A strong, fierce bank manager by day and a docile mridangam artist by dusk. You were sure your friends would laugh at you! I don't blame you. Many of us who feel like breaking free and doing things which society doesn't perceive as the norm, do go through the above listed symptoms. There are a few of us though, who push through all our deepest fears and the criticism that the world showers upon us only to achieve what we want. But then again for those very few there are so many others who believe it is just too much to take on ■

“

*We all have
the capacity
for success and
achievement
inside us.*

”



There are a few of us though, who push through all our deepest fears and the criticism that the world showers upon us only to achieve what we want.



I guess at the end of the day, you need to decide. Do you want to be successful and talented? If yes, ask yourself another question, do you have what it takes to work and reach that perfection you seek? Even if the answer is a squeaky yes, its fine; atleast there is one part of you that believes you can do it. Hold on to that little voice and in time it will grow stronger.

I'm sure when the bandit Ratnakara wanted to turn good and become Valmiki he had his doubts about himself. The same goes for Sivaji Rao Gaekwad the bus conductor who later transformed into the superstar actor Rajinikant. We all have our doubts about ourselves, it's only normal, but if we stick to a few guidelines, reaching that level of perfection that either Rajnikant or Sage Valmiki reached, is actually quite simple.

What are those guidelines you ask!? Well read on carefully.

Believe in yourself – the most essential and fundamental rule.

Most people give up half way through, thinking they are not cut out for achievement. But think again, remember the analogy of the Greek gods.

Don't ever give up – the most practical yet hard to follow rule.

Hurdles will come, some big and some

even bigger, yet the important thing is to work at conquering them. Try reminding yourself of an achievement you made when you were little. It could be something as paltry as tying your shoelaces. Yet, when you achieved it, didn't it boost your confidence? Look at the hurdle that approaches you, dead in the eye and have faith in yourself.

The last lap is always the hardest – scary but true.

Most people tend to give up when they reach the very end of the race, losing all hope and believe its way beyond them to achieve what they want. Our advice – DON'T! Keep pushing yourself...you can do it!

Success is yours – Enjoy it.

Haha.. the last rule is quite simple. When you do achieve whatever it is you want, don't forget to enjoy it. Take heart

that you can do anything you set your heart at and seek contentment!

So there you have it, four simple rules that we think will take you from being a dusty old brown seed to a magnificent strong tree that bears the sweetest of fruit. Question is, do you want to achieve perfection and attain that label of 'talented' as much as we want you to?? If the answer is a yes, go out there and follow your heart. And success will definitely be yours ■

