

Power of Words

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Abstract: Once Abraham Lincoln said, “determine that the thing can and shall be done, then one shall find the way as well.” There are many people dreaming of doing something worthwhile in their lives. Most of them may be having a very faint idea about their targets, yet achieve their aims.

By virtue of their determination and with encouragement from their well-wishers, they achieve success in the long run. I remember an incident when one of my friends wanted to be a champion in football. He joined the hardest classes of physical education during his college days. He sadly used to say, “I play football but the other students are good at it, whereas I am not.” One evening the instructor assigned him to hit the ball to his team-mates so that they could knock it to the net. Not difficult for most people but it terrified my friend.

He feared humiliation, if he failed. A young man in his team sensed what he was going through. He walked up to him and whispered in his ear “Come on! You can do it.” One can hardly understand what effect these words brought upon his mind. These were the words of encouragement, creating a sense of confidence in him. With these words he felt like a strong man.

He made it through the class. Many years have passed since that incident and one day, I happened to meet the same old friend of mine, who was working in a Govt department in very senior position. While gossiping our college days, he impressively told me that he never forgot those four words, which infused a new life in him and changed the very course of his thinking from pessimism to optimism. These four words became the beacon light throughout his life, maybe his team-mate has forgotten them by now but he laid the foundation of his successful life. In another incident, one of my friends who happened to be a journalist for a leading daily of our nation posted in Raipur, told me a very sad incident which happened when he was out for a coverage. It was of a policeman who was shot during a Naxal attack subsequently died. Shortly afterwards a senior police officer accompanied my journalist friend came to dead police man's house to condole, who had been just a 40-year young veteran of the police force then, his teenaged daughter handed over a note to the police officer, which read as “Dad. This note has come directly from my heart. I love you so much it scared and amazed me that you had to go out every day and risk everything to provide us with all that we have.

I wrote this to express how much I love you and how lost I am without you. Actually this note is dedicated to all the policemen of the world who have children who love them with all their hearts but this is especially to my Dad, Smita.” Smita had seen her father's dead body, the note further read “Daddy, my daddy can you hear me cry? Oh! God, I need my Daddy, please don't let him die!. The official Incharge took the note to work and showed it to his fellow officers. He said that he had never seen so many grown up men cry. Some even couldn't even finish reading it

. According to my journalist friend the cop always took Smita's note in the pocket of his police jacket. I will probably carry it with me forever, cop concluded. This is the power of words.

Khalil Gibran wrote “I would not exchange the sorrows of my heart for the joys of the multitudes. And I would not have the tears that sadness makes to flow from every part turn to laughter. I would wish that my life remains a tear and smile.”
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