## CHANGE OR PERISH

Bala Iyer Priority Pages October 2010.

## **CHANGE:**

Change is related to growth. If you do not change, you do not see, hear, feel, know or go towards anything more than where or what you are now. The challenge therefore, is in managing the trend that's inherent in change. Change is something we all live by and by adapting to these is our lives, be it at home or the workplace and society makes it a rewarding and fulfilling experience.

Change calls for strength and resilience of mind and spirit while pushing you to do your personal best and draws out those poised and ready to accept new ways.

## **CHANGE OR PERISH...**

A disciple once asked a Zen master what does change mean and how do I Understand do, perceive, anticipate and adjust to it. The master in his supreme wisdom replied that all creation is the result of change. It is constant, continuous and concomitant. There are basically two types of changes, one that is organic and ordained and the other that is created to fulfill an imperative need.

The organic and ordained is the circle of life, the change of seasons brought about by the forces of nature, which we can anticipate, perceived and adjust to such as planting a seed or fixing one's roof before the onset of the monsoons. Whereas the ones that are created are the result of man's ingenuity to fulfill the necessities that compel him, thereby comfort and convenience to his daily life.

The invention of the steam engine, the incandescent light bulb, the telephone, the automobile, the airplane, cinema and in modern times the computer to name few, are those that have virtually revolutionalised transportation, communication, our behavior and lifestyle. It. doesn't end there, look at the way we dress, speak, eat seek entertainment and conduct our business, it's the enigma called change that has made it possible, only to leave its lasting impression and move on to usher in newer ones with the passage of time.

Change is always awkward at first, but contributes abundantly to enjoy the dynamics of the life. It calls for strength

and resilience of mind and spirit while pushing you to do your personal best and draws out those poised and ready to accept new ways. Nevertheless the process alters with the passage of time. Time is slow for the reluctant, and yet it is a whirlwind for those who embrace it. It's when you accept change that you realize you are different, stronger, confident and progressive.

Did anyone anticipate or imagine that the finance and banking industry would undergo a sea change from the time William the Third of England and Ireland (William of Orange) introduced banking by an Act of Parliament in 1694? William needed to finance his war against France, so issued debt instruments in the same way governments today issue treasury bills and placing them out on the open investment market, and this was created the Bank of England. The rest is a never – ending sequence of change in the banking and finance industry.

Change is here to stay. Change is related to growth. If you do not change, you do not see, hear, feel, know or go toward anything more than where or what you are now. The challenge therefore is in managing, the trends that's inherent in change.

How do you then manage change?

Change has to be owned. One must understand that conflicts are a necessary part of change and that not all changes happen automatically. Much of mankind's success is the result of managing change with clarity, focus and purpose.

In the final analysis, Change is all about the will to progress and survive. Nothing more, nothing less!

## CHANGES that have positively impacted LIFE

**Electronic banking,** instant money transfer, saved time by speeding banking procedures, brought convenience, reduced use to paper leading to conservation of ecology.

**Natural gas for transportation and cooking,** reduced pollution, saved energy, saved time, improved efficiency, protected environment.

Laser surgery, saved time both in procedure & recovery, prevented loss of blood, especially patients of cataract.

**Organized retailing,** ushered a sea change in shopping experience, extreme convenience, discounted pricing, offered choice of products under one roof.

**Packaging,** cost saving by changing from metal to plastics, laminates, pouches, strips blister packing & shrink – wrapping.

**Transition in music forms,** symphony, Jass, Rock, Reggae, Rap, Funk and Fusion to cater to individual listening pleasure.

**Organ transplants,** saved millions of life, brought hope by extending human life span.

**Bionic limbs,** a boon to those who lost their limbs and helped them lead a normal life.

**Solar energy,** helped in saving the depletion of fossil fuels, protected the environment from pollutants, reduced operational costs.

**3G Technology,** allows simultaneous use of speech and advanced data services, unprecedented voice quality, wide range of data services, video conferencing, live streaming movies, full track songs download, multi-player gaming, fastest internet access.

**Euro Currency,** Speeded up money transfers, reduced formalities of foreign exchange, boosted economy.

**I-Phones,** ushered unprecedented convenience and connectivity across the globe.