

SAI SPIRITUAL EDUCATIONAL LESSION PLAN

September 8, 2013

GROUP: III/IV **VALUE:** Leadership **SUBVALUE:** Leadership -
byproduct of Spirituality

SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLE:

Leadership is IDEALISM in ACTION. Leadership is the capacity to frame plans that will succeed and the faculty to persuade others to carry them out in the face of all difficulties. In essence, Harmony in Thought, Word and Deed leads to long-lasting leadership.

QUOTE:

- Not by action, not by birth, not by wealth, but by sacrifice alone can immortality be achieved- *Swamy, 1991*
- It is not easy to rule well, and a King's one worldly duty is to rule well. It is ACTION that shapes destiny and not the other way round – *Bhishma on the battle field of Kurukshetra*
- Whether you lead five people or five million people, the essentials of leadership are the same – *Lord William Slim*

PRAYER:

There is only one nation - the nation of humanity
There is only one religion- the religion of love
There is only one language – the language of heart
There is only one GOD – and he is omnipresent

Discussion:

Its well know that in every human activity a leader is required to guide people. On the quality of the leader, depends the progress, happiness and fortunes of a family, community, country and the World. Today there are thousands of leaders appointed or elected to shoulder the role and responsibilities of leadership. We have leaders in schools and colleges (class captain, sports team captain), factories, businesses, local and federal government and military. If each of these leaders are good men and women, they will prompt unity, harmony, strength, prosperity and happiness in society.

Leadership is largely an inborn quality; it can't be really caught in class. However, every individual does have the capacity for self transformation. To improve our *character* is one of the most challenging and yet the most rewarding and joyful endeavour. Leadership training enables one become the master of his or her destiny.

There are more than 350 definitions for the word 'Leadership' in academic literature in the English language alone. This indicates the general confusion that prevails about the subject and also its complexity.

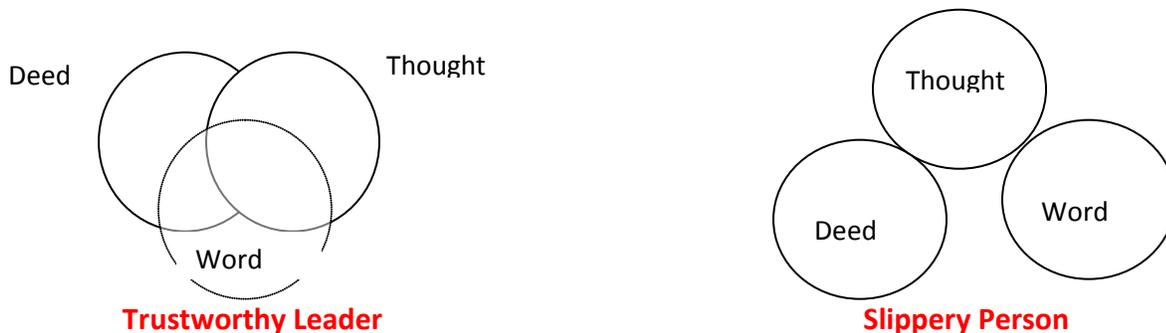
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is the definition of Leadership?
- What are the functions of leadership?
- How to measure good leadership?
- Who are leaders in your daily life that have a profound impact on your future?

Discussion continued:

In November 1990, Sathya Sai Baba, the Chancellor of the Sai University, had a long interaction with the MBA students and teachers. Being a stickler for perfection in every field of education he questioned them at great length about leadership course and what they learnt from it. After a long discussion, we gave conceptual clarity to two fundamental issues related to leadership:

- Who can be a good leader?



Read page 15 of **Mahavakya on Leadership and discuss the Harmony in Thought, Action and Deed in Leadership**

- What does the leadership process involve?
 - TO BE
 - TO DO
 - TO SEE
 - TO TELL
- TO BE is the source of leadership; to be a person of character.

- TO DO is the style of leadership by personal example. People may doubt what you say but will believe what you do.
- TO SEE and TO TELL are the functions, tools and techniques of leadership.

Read page 17 **Mahavakya on Leadership**

ACTIVITY:

Research and come prepared to discuss two examples of 'Good' leadership. The examples can be from any sphere of life or business. In your discussion, you'll need to highlight which aspects of Swamy's teachings on leadership attributes and processes are evident in the examples.

Read:

- Sathya Sai Baba's Mahavakya on LEADERSHIP
- Research for other source of literature on Leadership values

LIFE APPLICATION:

At school or home I'll lead by example in which ever small way I can. To make a realistic plan is important. But to get it implemented is a far more important and challenging capability of a leader.

See around you at school and home and identify such opportunities to practice Swamy's teachings.

AFFIRMATION:

I'll DO what I have promised to do at home and/or school within the promised timeline. This relates to 'TO DO – The action' which is the most important part of good leadership.