

BOOK REVIEW

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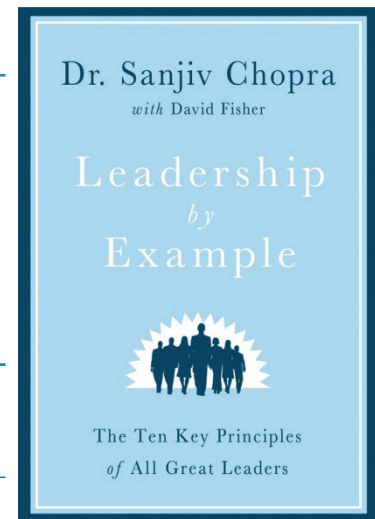
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Leadership by Example

Sanjiv Chopra and David Fisher

Citation

Chopra, S., & Fisher, D. (2012). *Leadership by Example*. Thomas Dunne Books.



Abstract

Leadership by Example is an incredibly engaging and inspiring book with an elementary writing style that beautifully uses real-life stories of leadership to convey that everyone can be an effective leader. The author displays a perspective on leadership across cultures and through time. Attributes such as Empathy, Integrity, Honesty and humility have been highlighted to drive home the point that they all are quintessential elements to achieve an accomplished goal. The book is an excellent guide for future leaders.

Keywords

Principles, Humility, Dream, Attitude, Listener, Empathy, Resilient, Sense of Purpose

Review

The book is an interesting narrative loaded with excellent quotes. The author has aptly laid out the underlying principles that define “leaders”. The Author spells out 10 easy and time-tested leadership tests for anyone aspiring to be a great leader. The author challenges the convention that to be a leader you need to have followers. Dr. Chopra says that leaders take charge by virtue of their actions and decisions and others choose to follow. The book begins with the introduction highlighting the word “Leadership” and within that the 10 letters that spell out the unique attributes exhibited by leaders.

‘L’ stands for Listen, ‘E’ for Empathy, ‘A’ for Attitude, ‘D’ for dreams and decisiveness, ‘E’ again for Effective, ‘R’ for resilient, ‘S’ for sense of purpose, ‘H’ for humility and humor, ‘I’ for Integrity and finally ‘P’ for possessing people skills.

These 10 tenets of leadership form the 10 chapters of the book and indeed spell leadership. The author has given countless examples of many leaders whom we revere. They were ordinary individuals who went on to achieve extraordinary feats.

In spite of sharing various inspirational stories, Chopra goes on to reiterate that none of us should ever forget that leadership

is a marathon journey and not a sprint. It’s a journey, not a destination, but possibilities are endless.

An endlessly absorbing book, captivating the readers’ interest from start to finish.

The book is an excellent guide for future leaders with an elementary writing style. Being adaptive and flexible in your verbal and non-verbal responses gives an extra special edge not just in selling but in interacting with others. The author displays a perspective on leadership across cultures and through time.

The author reiterates that charismatic leaders are truly inspirational and their courageous accomplishments can be applied by people to further improve their lives and consequently whom we care for thereby making a significant and positive contribution to the world.

Finally the Epilogue mentions how some leaders become by chance rather than choice and Truman was one of them.

The author has used several anecdotes and has narrated the 10 commandments such lucidly and effectively that can surely aspire anyone to be a great leader.

Overall an informative and worthy read.