

POSITIVE THINKING

Gandhiji's Three Monkeys – a contemporary interpretation



“Speak no evil, See no evil, Hear no evil.”

When we look at the above concept of Gandhiji's three monkeys, we will have to say the first is in our control, but not the rest two. Then why did Gandhiji promote the idea? The answer lies in another statement of Gandhiji – “my windows are always open for winds of thoughts from everywhere to flow in, but I will not be swept away by them.”

Professionalism and Professional Ethics come here. To quote Gandhiji again “every child is born divine and pure.” It is the behavioral pollution around that makes the child grow as an evil doer or an evil speaker, beginning from home to the society at large. Some time it may be a misjudgment too. And this reality of life was there from the beginning of human life and will continue forever. A true professional can play the role of an alchemist here.

When we speak of alchemist, let us hear the following words of Gandhiji “India was

once a golden land, because Indians then had hearts of gold.”

Make life a laboratory. Experiment on these words of Gandhiji as an alchemist. Let us accept mistakes are part of human thoughts and deeds. Let us analyze them. Sieve out the evils or the negative sides. Take the positive sides, remembering that the evil may erupt like a hidden volcano and the alchemist has to be ready always to checkmate it.

With positive thinking a professional can sieve out the evils and take out the pure. In real life we can explain this as Gandhiji's “TRUSTEESHIP.” Every true professional whether in private enterprise or in public governance, must remember that he/she is a Trustee of all stake holders - fellow human beings and ‘prakruthi’ or nature that covers the entire biodiversity.

A.V. Balakrishnan,
Editor