

Are We Afraid of Failures?

Yes, we the Bharatiyas are very much afraid of our failures. That is why we always talk about well-trying traditions. We feel very proud of our traditions and old ways of doing things. But in the process, we forget many things. If we do not try new ways, we are not able to modify our traditions to reflect the present day values and circumstances. We would have never been able to pray on the Internet, or communicate so well as to even make horoscopes on the computer. We can never achieve the desired result by trying old ways, if it is not in line with our dreams.

As saying goes, "If you go on doing what you have done so far, you will go on getting what you have got so far."

A question should be asked to ourselves. Are we satisfied with the results? If the answer is negative, then we should be ready to try something else; work is not yet done. Of course, there will be failures by new methods, as there is nobody who can give us a guarantee that we will succeed with the very first try in any of our new methods. It may be the simplest task of cleaning a place or any other similar or big thing you try in your day-to-day life. For me, doing everything day in and day out the same way becomes quite boring. Doing new ways creates new challenges and life becomes interesting.

Look at the positive side if we try and succeed in our new venture. Then we start another new tradition, trade or product. That is what the meaning of venture is. I am sure you must have heard about the hundred of byproducts, which were the outcome of failures in scientific experiments. When one is trying to reach from one point to the other by chance, another thing may be produced as a byproduct. And then we start looking for its use. The biggest example in our time is the famous Coca-Cola, which was initially supposed to be medicine for coughing. If it were used as it was meant to be, we would possibly not know it today as it is known now the world over. History is full of such stories.

We should always remember the first fear in one's own life when we were an adolescent; the fear of falling and walking on two feet was biggest fear in every body's life. We got over that quickly and proceeded further. Only some take more time than others, and later we swiftly walk with our two feet throughout our life. In the same way, any of our new inventions can pay rich dividend through out our life and beyond. Who knows?

In the end, I wish to quote the most famous question put to Mr. Edison. He was asked, "So, you failed 150 times before you succeeded to make this light bulb?" He quickly replied that it was not so—that, rather, he knew 150 ways by which he could not make an electric bulb. Less than one half percent of our national expenditure is used on research in Bharat, and that tells how little research is done.

In the end, I want to share one prayer:

God, give us the strength to accept what we cannot change, change what ever we can, and give us wisdom to know the difference.

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