

Leader Speak

'Adaptability, a key quality'

What qualities make a great leader?

A leader is not a mere title or a position. He should have a passionate vision of what he wants to accomplish and he should share that vision with his team members through effective communication. A leader inspires and motivates his team members by being one among them. Leadership is about creating a strong foundation within oneself that is able to support and nurture others around him.

An incident from your life, or, what you observed, which you think was great leadership?

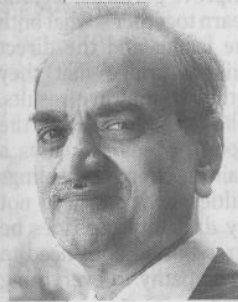
My parents helped shape my style of leadership during my childhood. I feel that the traits that they demonstrated in their daily life represented a good leadership style. My father was straightforward and unequivocal in his communication. He would not be intimidated by adverse situations. My mother treated employees and relatives with humility, another important quality for a great leader.

Two or three ways in which you think young managers can develop leadership skills?

Today's young managers need to demonstrate flexible leadership by adapting their leadership style to the situation and the state of the team. They have to be good communicators and should know how to multi-task. They need to be passionate about what they are doing and should share that passion with others. Importantly, they need to be true to themselves and must display humility and integrity.

Who is your leadership ideal in the corporate world - India or global?

As such, no one person is my leadership ideal. I feel my current style of leadership is influenced by the traits of all the bosses I have had over 35 years of work life. I have absorbed qualities that appealed to me and have tried to improve on attributes that I disagreed with. — **R. D. Chandak, MD, KEC International**



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