

DAILY INSPIRATION

a daily journal for self improvement

Empower Your Soul - to Inspire

Ability

"Knowing others is intelligence; knowing yourself is true wisdom. Mastering others is strength; mastering yourself is true power."—Lao Tzu

Character

"You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one."—Henry David Thoreau

Goal

"In absence of clearly defined goals, we become strangely loyal to performing daily acts of trivia."

The Challenge

A merchant was taking his morning stroll by the seaside when he saw a man squatting on the beach and filling a cup with sand. As the merchant watched, the man emptied the contents on a large pile of sand beside him and began filling the cup again. The merchant went up to him and asked him what he was doing. "I am Bidhata (Fate)," said the man. "I am measuring out the food each man is to receive today." "Can you really do that?" asked the merchant. "I challenge you to withhold my midday meal today!" "As you wish," replied Bidhata. The merchant bought a fish and took it home and gave it to his wife. Then he went on to his place of work.

In the afternoon he came home and sat down to eat. His wife placed the cooked fish before him. "Fate said he would withhold my midday meal," thought the man. "But now who can stop me from eating this delicious fish?" And he burst out laughing. His wife thought he was laughing at the way the fish had been prepared and she began to scold him. The merchant got angry. He got up and stormed out of the house. It was only when he cooled down that he realized the significance of what had happened: Fate had succeeded in withholding his share of food for that afternoon.

Enlighten Your Mind - to Excel

Vocabulary

Accredit v. To give credit or authority to.

Benevolence n. Any act of kindness or well-doing.

Convene v. To summon or cause to assemble.

Decamp v. To leave suddenly or unexpectedly.

Ebullient adj. Showing enthusiasm or exhilaration of feeling.

Forthright adv. With directness.

12th July in History

100BC: Birth of Roman Emperor Gaius Julius Caesar.

1920: US President Woodrow Wilson officially opens the Panama Canal - six years after the first ship sailed through it.

1975: Sao Tome and Principe declare independence.

1998: France win football's World Cup - beating Brazil 3-0 in the final in Paris.

1823: First Indian Steam Engine Ship "Diana-a-Gunboat" sailed in a sea near Calcutta. It was built by Kyd & Co.

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