



In pursuit of excellence

In the Constitution of India, under Article 51A on 'Fundamental Duties of every citizen of India' one of the fundamental duties of every Indian is listed as, 'To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity'. Lack of excellence should hurt. That which hurts instructs. That which instructs creates. What's okay is okay and what's not okay is not okay. Where there is excellence, explanations are not required. Where explanations are required, rarely you find excellence. Haven't we heard, 'Good, better, best; never let it rest till your good becomes better and your better becomes the best'. 'Zero defect' is possible. Precision is possible. Sustained excellence is possible. It all starts with the attitude to refuse to settle for anything but the best. Excellence can be obtained when you care more than what others think as wise, risk more than what others think as safe, dream more than what others think as practical, and expect more than what others think as possible. - **Voice of Love**

When you discover what you will be in your life, set out to do it as if God Almighty called you at this particular moment in history to do it. Don't just set out to do a good job. Set out to do such a good job that the living, the dead or the unborn couldn't do it any better. If it falls your lot to be a street sweeper, sweep streets like Michelangelo painted pictures, sweep streets like Beethoven composed music, sweep streets like Leontyne Price sings before the Metropolitan Opera. Sweep streets like Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will have to pause and say: 'Here lived a great street sweeper who swept his job well.' If you can't be a pine at the top of the hill, be a shrub in the valley. But be the best little shrub on the side of the hill. Be a bush if you can't be a tree. If you can't be a highway, just be a trail. If you can't be a sun, be a star. For it isn't by size that you win or fail. Be the best of whatever you are. - **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

To excel is to continually perform. Not for a moment or moments. Not for a day or for days. But to perform day after day, month after month, and make that uncommon performance look commonplace. To excel is to take the inner drive of competition and not only embrace it, but master it. It cannot be bought or legislated or willed into existence. It must come from the depths of an individual's desire to be the best. - **Melanie Erickson**

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything be excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. - **Philippians 4:8**

The person who is a master in the art of living makes little distinction between their work and their play, their labour and their leisure, their mind and their body, their education and their recreation, their love and their religion. They hardly know which is which. They simply pursue their vision of excellence and grace in whatever they do, leaving others to decide whether they are working or playing. To them, they are always doing both. - **Zen Buddhism**

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit. - **Aristotle**

The kind of people I look for to fill top management spots are the eager beavers, the mavericks. These are the guys who try to do more than they're expected to do and they always reach. - **Lee Iacocca**

Excellence is in the details. Give attention to the details and excellence will come. - **Perry Paxton**

My new favourite word is 'awkward'. The reason we need to be in search of awkward is that awkward is the barrier between us and excellence, between where we are and the remarkable. If it were easy, everyone would have done it already, and it wouldn't be worth the effort. - **Seth Godin**

The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavour. - **Vincent Lombardi**

I do the very best I know how - the very best I can; and I mean to keep on doing so until the end. - **Abraham Lincoln**

I am careful not to confuse excellence with perfection. Excellence, I can reach for; perfection is God's business. - **Michael J. Fox**

Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anybody expects of you. Never excuse yourself. - **Henry Ward Beecher**

If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception, it is a prevailing attitude. - **Colin Powell**

If you want to achieve excellence, you can get there today. As of this second, quit doing less-than-excellent work. - **Thomas J. Watson**

Only undertake what you can do in an excellent fashion. There are no prizes for average performance. - **Brian Tracy**

The most splendid achievement of all is the constant striving to surpass yourself and to be worthy of your own approval. - **Denis Waitley**

If you don't do it with excellence, don't do it at all! Because if it's not excellent, it won't be profitable or fun, and if you're not in business for fun or profit, what the hell are you doing there? - **Robert Townsend**

It is a wretched taste to be gratified with mediocrity when the excellent lies before us. - **Isaac Disraeli**

Anyone can be an ACE: Attitude + Commitment = Excellence - **Robert Inman**



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