



A Review on 'Rules of the Game'

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* **Mrs. Rachitha Poornima Cabral**

“One must learn Mr. Rahul to unlearn; in order to learn some more”. Rules of the Game helps one realise that one is the Creator, Keeper and Beneficiary of one's own success.

A multi-faceted Business and Technical Leader, a Marathon runner, a Musician, a motivational Speaker and an exhibited abstract artist – Dr. Sumit Chowdhury - the author- debuts as a writer sharing his personal and professional excellence and experience through his Book 'Rules of the Game.'

In his introduction to the Book, Chowdhury mirrors three methods of Confucius that by three methods we may learn wisdom “First, by Reflection which is noblest, Second, by Imitation, which is easiest and Third by Experience, which is the bitterest.”

Through this book, a set of ideas have been gathered from the bitter-sweet experiences of many successful persons and imitated by many others. One fundamental concept of this book is that it is not the uniqueness of the idea that matters, but rather, the uniqueness of one's ability to implement it.

It is not a book of definitive answers; rather, it is a book of questions and ideas. One Formula definitely does not fit all but each individual has to play his game well by applying the right rules and regulations.

The Book also helps address the untaught beliefs that determine early career success. These lessons are learnt through the word-of- mouth of friends, well-wishers, mentors who see you taking your steps on the ladder of success. The compilation of the experiences of others makes it easy for everyone to have the courage, the determination and the will to become the people they want to be.

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Discover, Learn, Invent the art of speeding up your Career is what the title states. The belief is that knowledge that can help you rise to positions of leadership and impact are often not taught in most schools. Rules of the Game aims to help by offering a framework for greater self-reflection and professional success.

We do not need magic to change the World. We carry all the power we need inside ourselves already. The motivational sayings and phrases in the Book provides you with the confidence and the boost that one requires to face today's competitive world. Developing self confidence and the attitude of a winner, the power that lies in team work, investing in yourself – these are some of the concepts that the Author familiarises you with.

For the Corporate World, communication and selling are to be made a habit and talkers have always ruled. So, forget the myth that people are born Speakers. Like any other skill, the skill of communicating is not innate, it can be learnt. It is like playing a sport or going to the gym or learning how to dance. If you are willing to work at it, you can improve the overall quality of your life. Chowdhury gives simple ideas to enhance communication skills. He states that if you ever get a chance to take a course on Stand-up comedy, always take it.

Learning to listen to oneself consciously, and knowing that its not what you say but how you say it that really matters and learning what and when not to say things play a significant role in communicating rightly. Habits, the Book says, are formed from repeating both, good and bad forms of Communication.

To quote William Temple an English Educator and Logician “The First ingredient in conversation is truth, the next good sense, the third good humour, and the fourth is wit. To rise above the masses, adding humour and wit to your conversation is very essential.

The book also covers seeking feedback and self correcting. The easiest thing to give to others is 'Advice' and the most difficult to take from others is Advice. Welcoming change and learning from one's failure is a key takeaway.

The Book also contains interviews of eminent personalities like Subroto Bagchi, the Chairman of Mind Tree, Ranganathan Iyer, the

CIO of JBM Group and many other top nuggets of the Corporate World giving their gyaan on their struggles, their journey of life and the bitter-sweet lessons that they have learnt in life. A must read for fresh graduates, a must read for young working people, this book is a sure fire way of boosting one's self-awareness. It helps to understand oneself entrepreneurially and helps in the transition process that takes place from an academic to a corporate life.

How do you succeed in creating a fast tracked career? How do you make it an enjoyable journey? How do you mould yourself into a better human being and be fulfilled both personally and professionally?

'Rules of the Game' strives to provide answers to all these underlying questions, without you having to trudge through life fearing change, failures, politics and uncertainty.