

## Rules of Competition

When you play a fair game, you might win and you might lose; sometimes your chances of winning are better than your chances of losing; at other times, your chances of losing are better than those of winning. However, to enhance your chances of winning, you have to have many of the right tools such as good education and good ethics, and must be willing to endure hard work and be patient; your timing and management of time must also be good. Without gaining such tools, you are more likely to strengthen your chances of losing and undermine your chances of winning.

To improve their chances of winning without gaining the right tools of winning, some people resort to practices that are unethical and unjust and at times immoral as well, such as cheating, lying, deceiving, exploitation of others, and sheer stealing. And by so doing, they make it difficult for honest people and hard working individuals to succeed and get a fair share of the societal pie. Societies that deny their best and brightest and their poor and powerless a chance to succeed are doomed to failure; even if they succeed in the short run, they will fail in the long run. Failure is the only thing that guarantees that everyone loses at the end.

In a competitive world where winning has become everything and money has become the only thing by which success and intelligence is measured, ethics have become a victim of unfair competition and sheer greed, causing society to lose the basic principles of a fair game. But when societies ignore such principles or fail to guarantee them, societies lose their sense of unity and cohesion. As a result, envy, hatred and greed replace good ethics and good education as well as hard work; manipulation replaces good time and management of time, and peace of mind and security become a mirage to be seen but not to be felt.

In societies where opportunities are limited and freedom is restricted and corruption and nepotism are widespread and accepted as normal, winners cannot win unless the poor and the powerless and the honest lose. And as the numbers of the poor and powerless and the

dispossessed increase, destructive competition rather than constructive cooperation prevails, guarantees ultimate failure.

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