

FACING THE FUTURE: BE AN AMPLIFIER NOT JUST PERFECT CONDUCTOR

When one asked about future, it always deals with dream, hope, vision and expectation of better than today....

If tomorrow is the same as today, it is said we are loser. And when tomorrow is worst than today, it could be said we are bankrupt. So that, there is no reason to be pessimist or even afraid of future, but we should be confident that tomorrow will be better. It is because we are the one who will make it!

Therefore, the most important is to shape the future. It is not only being part of future, but we the one who create the future. There are two capacities, which we should have to determine future: knowledge and collective efforts.

Knowledge is primarily obtained from educational institute. Should knowledge transfer run perfectly, one should involve in continuous learning process. A great wise man once said, only on the last breath, effort to pursue knowledge will be terminated. However, knowledge is not to be acquired single-handedly, but should be transferred to others. The great human civilization is due to people who have knowledge willing to transfer, to apply and to share to people all over the world.

It is like a chain, getting from other and give it to others. Human behave as a knowledge intermediate but not merely pass it. Human have freedom to act, either as an amplifier (generates gain) or as de-amplifier (give losses). Indeed, tomorrow should be better than today. Then to achieve such condition, we need to generate gain to the knowledge that is passing through us.

What sort of characteristic to be an amplifier? One should have an accumulated knowledge then could increase the power of knowledge itself. It is a capacity of acquiring more knowledge from many sources. Yet, people might not rely on single institute or single teacher, for anybody can be a source of knowledge and a teacher. The scheme will run smoothly once people join in his/her knowledge-specific global community. IEEE is a good example in which community structures a solid knowledge platform for its members. Members are encouraged to not only gain something, but also contribute through academic and professional events, such as conference and journals.

I believe future could not be shaped by a single person, but by the power of collective efforts. Let's expand our perspective from normal chain to golden chain, constructing a strong and concrete structure. Even a great person can only share the vision and do initial effort, but the collective sweat does the real work of changing. Bell did invented telephone, but who are the others made such innovation being the engine of change? It is range from men who dig the hole to women who typed telegraph; and overall establishing a perfect system supporting concurrent innovation. Communication is not "one-stop knowledge". Its technical sides run through sustainable upgrading mechanism, from Bell's simple telephone to the ultimate internet. This simple example gives message that the final goal of knowledge (to benefit people in this world!) can only being attained by a collective-sustainable effort.

Let's work together, let's establish the golden chain, and each of us should have an intention being the amplifier, not merely as a conductor of knowledge.

The future is on us, and together we'll create the better world then...