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The leader I Admire: Oprah Winfrey

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The leader I Admire: Oprah Winfrey

Oprah Winfrey is an American citizen famously known for her talk show known as The Oprah Winfrey Show. Apart from the talk show, she is also best known as a media executive, actress, and philanthropist (Garson, 2011). The program has been rated the best television program in history from 1986 to 2011. After successfully operating the Oprah Winfrey Talk Show, she launched her TV network known as Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN) (Garson, 2011). Being born in a low income family did not deter Winfrey from becoming a renowned black American richest philanthropist and most influential woman globally.

The outstanding leadership qualities made Oprah Winfrey successful throughout her career. Winfrey became among the most influential women globally based on her titles and clear energy, outgoing personality, positivity, and awareness of the people's welfare (Marques, 2013). Also, Winfrey seemed to be open to new experiences based on the many titles and roles. Due to her inspirational motivation, individualized consideration, and the power of influence.

By evaluating a million views in her shows, it is evident that Oprah had positive energy, positivity, and being aware of the people's requirements. Further, the world-renowned philanthropist is open to new insights evidenced by the titles owned. Additionally, Oprah can be categorized as being conscientious in her doings, including exercising fairness to others. She is also a caring leader who opened up many charitable organizations for people beyond her circle. Setting up the charitable organizations gave her an award of the Presidential Medal Freedom, deemed the highest civil honor in America (Marques, 2013). Further, she valued and cared for her fans, believing that they are the key drivers for her success.

Her humble beginning did not deter her from being among the most influential women globally; hence Oprah was a dreamer. She did not allow her humble beginning to control her destiny; instead, she grabbed the opportunity through education attainment to get a career that enabled her to fulfill her dreams. The big dream is also evidenced by opening her television channel after successfully finding the famous Oprah Winfrey Show (Marques, 2013). Above all, consistency and hard work should be employed to achieve the desired goals. Besides, achieving dreams go hand in hand with aligning values with certain dreams. Therefore, based on the above qualities, Oprah Winfrey falls under Great Man Theory.

Being in a leadership position influences one to develop effective leadership styles to run an organization successfully. As the senior assistant sales manager in a busy mobile shop, I'm optimistic about influencing its success through motivating employees and giving them insights whenever necessary. Hence I believe to be a transformational leader in my dealings with the employees and customers. In my servant transformational style, I practice the strategic selection of members of my team. In this case, I major in hiring talented individuals who I believe will effectively deliver to the organization. The benefit of recruiting the most talented individuals rather than those who surround me significantly contributes to the organization's success.

Taking care of employees is what I practice best to ensure they achieve their goals and objectives. Spending much time with my team is crucial to ensure that they can handle the given tasks without much supervision. Consequently, I have mutual respect for them despite being my juniors, providing necessary encouragements, inspiring them to achieve their goals, and placing value to intellectually challenging them. Importantly, having a good understanding of the employees' needs enables me to solve them immediately to have no excuse for

underperformance. Therefore, it is crucial to have employees at heart, for they significantly contribute to the organization's success.

I have big dreams for the success of my company and personal development. Given my aspirations for the organization, I often work hard towards achieving them. I believe that I am no different from world-renowned leaders who began with little steps to be in their current position. Hence, I have an equal opportunity of turning my dreams into reality, given the confidence I have in my abilities. To achieve these dreams, I communicate my visions to my teams to assist me in seeing them through. Communicating the visions often comes naturally with the motivation so necessary to meet the target.

My all-time mentor is the chief executive officer in the organization I am currently posted. Mr. Herman, the CEO, has a good view and plan of the organization, making him visionary leaders. Apart from the plans and effective organization's vision, the CEO is determined to assist and mentor his juniors. We had a lengthy discussion where we discussed good leadership characteristics. I suggested that being a good communicator was the most crucial trait of leadership. Subsequently, honesty, integrity, inspiring others, having commitment and passion, accountability, and the ability to make the right decisions are among good leadership characteristics.

I am a transformational leader, just like my favorite leader, Oprah Winfrey. Having mutual respect for my team, inspiring others, dreaming big, and understanding organizational needs are some of my traits. Further, taking care of employees is what I practice best to ensure they work towards achieving the organization's goals and objectives. Spending much time with my team is crucial to ensure that they can handle the given tasks without much supervision. Consequently, I have mutual respect for them despite being my juniors, providing necessary

encouragements, inspiring them to achieve their goals, and placing value t intellectually challenging them. Importantly, having a good understanding of the employees' needs enables me to solve them immediately to have no excuse for underperformance.

Despite having all the desired traits of leadership, I have areas of weaknesses that require improvement. For instance, making prompt decisions without making further consultations and delegating duties to subordinate without many illustrations. In this case, my words tend to be louder than the actual deeds. However, I learned from my mentor and favorite leader to always be a source of inspiration, have a bigger and clear picture of whatever I do, letting my actions speak for me, and keep learning, especially from mistakes made. Therefore, I am no different from world-renowned leaders who began with little steps to be in their current positions. Hence, I have an equal opportunity of turning my dreams into reality given the confidence and capability.

References

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