Brother against Brother: Family Affairs

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War, quarrel, and some conflict were devastating. In some family for reasons of emotion, influence by other people, ideology, honor, politics, geography or the simple environment, elder brother can find themselves on opposing sides of a war and force them to be in facing battlefield. If we searching the reason for the quarrel between incent brothers, there may be the negligible reason. In straightforward, reasons for the quarrel were not very big.

Ancient History Regarding War, Quarrel, and Conflict between Brothers

One of our greatest Hindu epics and auspicious holy books Mahabharata briefly mentioned the quarrel and its impacts. The central story and the central theme of the Mahabharata are of a war between families. Two families of cousins, one family, called the Pandav, the other the Kaurav. Lord Krishna, (Lord Vishnu) avatar used every unfair trick in the Mahabharata epic book to win the family war. His lies and tricks did win the war in favor of the Pandav, but they lost too much in the bargain. Finally, Hastinapur was a land of morbid people, wailing widows and orphaned children. The Pandav themselves were left childless.

In another Hindu epic book Ramayana, Prince Ram (Son of Dasharath) was the eldest of four sons and was to become king when his father retired from the ruling. His stepmother, wanted to see her son Bharat, younger brother of Ram’s, become king of the state. During the tenure of banishment, one story was there about the brother’s fight. Sugriva (Younger brother) challenged Vali (Monkey king) to a fight. When Vali sallied forth to meet the challenge, Rama shoot and kill Vali with an arrow from the back of a tree. A dying Vali asked the following questions: He made my wife a widow and stole my kingdom. What was my crime? Another question, Even if I committed a crime (with my brother), what is your right to kill me? Ram makes the following replies to Vali: The younger brother should be treated like a son. Even if he made a mistake you should forgive him, especially when he promised to respect you for your whole life. About his authority, he said he had permission from King Bharat to spread righteousness and punish evils. You lost your kingdom while fighting with mayavi and you no more a king how can I take your help?

The whole story of the Ramayana is in the round of war, quarrel, and some conflict between the brothers. Ram and Laxman, Sugriva and vali, Sampati and Jatayu, Ravan and Vibhishan: in every way the Ramayana an exploration of the relationships and conflicts between brothers?

Misunderstanding in Modern Age

Adidas vs. Puma was the two of the world’s most renowned shoe companies were birthed from a bout of bad blood between siblings. German brothers Adolf and Rudolf Dassler launched a shoe company together in their mother’s laundry room. Their business boomed after Dassler shoes adorned the feet of gold-medal-winning Olympians in the 1930s. But as their sales spiked, so did the tension between the two brothers. World War II proved the breaking point in their relationship. While no one is sure what caused the rift, it’s said to be a result of miscommunication. After an Allied bomb attack, Adolf and his wife took cover in a bomb shelter already occupied by Rudolf and his family. “The dirty bastards are back again,” Adolf said, apparently referring to the planes, but Rudolf thought the comment was an attack against his family.

By the war’s end, the brothers had split the company and waged a war of their own in the business arena. Adolf, who preferred to be called Adi, named his business Adidas, combining his first and last names; Rudolf tried the same with his firm called Ruda, though he later changed it to Puma. It’s said that the brothers never spoke again, and their bitter rivalry even divided the town of Herzogenaurach, where they built their competing factories on the opposite banks of the town’s river. It wasn’t until September 2009, long after the brothers’ deaths, that the companies put aside their feud and faced off in a friendly game of soccer - an appropriate meeting for two companies who’ve become independently famous in the field of sports shoes.

In the famous dialogue exchange of the Bollywood hit film, Deewar, the rich smuggler elder brother tells his brother. “I have a bungalow and cars and wealth. What do you have?” And the younger brother says, “I have my parents, sisters and you too.” The ‘good’ brother does not see the pain of the ‘criminal’ brother, his desire for validation and inclusion. There is so much righteousness that there is no allowance for love or affection. And that is why the fights continue.
Present Situation

My brother, who is 30, has never settled. I spent my many time’s childhoods to adulthood with him. Since leaving failed in school leaving certificate examination (SLC), He was gone to the district head quarter for tuition. At that time, the peaks of 10 years moist conflict were there. They misbehave the police job and police arrested them for a night. Even though, he passed the bachelor’s level exam in the pass division in good human manner. He again admitted in the master’s level course in the same college, He thinks himself as the politician after that. He used to drop the exam, class and make the small gang. He spent the whole night in a hotel with girls and taking alcohol, smoking, etc. After his marriage, he passed the master degree course; he never sustained a job, home or relationship long-term, and has been in and out of prison too. He spent a lot of time money with girls, alcohol, smoking and group making. During that time me myself, parents, sister were supported him in one way or another, emotionally, practically and financially.

Recently, his behavior has taken a more alarming turn for our family members. He appears to be like mentally unwell. One night he came with the proposal to go in a foreign country (Macau) on labor visa. He asked me to give the money 8.5 lakh Nepali rupees. I asked him for the reliability of the jobs and money. If the visa and working condition were good, I am happy to give you the money. From my little knowledge, in Nepal, there were not any rules for giving money to an agent to going abroad except visa cost. He makes the call to my sister and mothers and gives the ultimatum for money. He blackmails the family members who were lived about 400 KM from Kathmandu to kill me. He shared the plan to the sister and other relatives as well. At 8:23 am Friday, December 2016 he messaged me to make the final decision of our brotherhood too. The message was

"Aha Talli Thuli Rajabanish maro phone received na. garna aba hibash kita huncha jindki ko tare maro baluka"

I was in the class to teach primary health care and international and global health for public health students in Baneshwor (Little Buddha College of Health Sciences). He was physically abusive towards my father, mother, and sister; They used to call me after noon about his plan to kill me. I sent the message to suppression the emotion. Some portion of my message were

"Why you tens in the early morning. I will give you the money and helped you in every moment to go abroad"

He gave the ultimatum of 5 lakh within the 11 December 2016 at 11 am. I used to consult with my brother (Rajan) what to do and what not? He makes me the advice to give money. Despite his blackmailing, we gave the money in his time. I am not sure hitting by police and going to asylum cause the mental problem. My elder brothers were being in exile time to time due to fighting, crime, etc. Our behaviors are largely driven by reward and punishments. Each individual have different sensitivity for rewards and punishments. If your punishment sensitivity is more than your reward sensitivity then it will create unpleasant anxiety and bad mood. I am not sure his brains were cracked by the beating of police. But I am sure his brain working mechanism is punishment sensitivity. In human being, the outer bark-like layer of our brain that allows us to so successfully use language, acquire complex skills, create tools, and live in social groups. From his behavior, I am sure his outer bark-like layer may be thin or cracked somehow now a day.

I had never been afraid of his emotional blackmail, jealousy, anger, frustration, or disagreements. I only afraid about our family prestige and dignity, in a day more than 200 students and followers have greeted me. Every family in Nepal made the parents needs to establish and enforce the family rule about respecting privacy, personal space, and property. After my graduation of the master in public health, my brother and his wife were frustrated and misbehave me. They were worried about their space in family and community. They spent most of the on talking about me. They always jealous about my jobs, hard working and the marks obtained in bachelor and masters level university exam. I never like to blame him as the bastard. I worry about their life, dignity, and the future.

What Next?

Once younger brother Laxman, the loyal brother of Ram, complained to his brother, "I always have to obey you because you are my elder brother." Ram responded thus, "In our next life, you will be the elder brother but you will still agree with me, not out of obligation or loyalty but because you will realize that all my actions are rooted in dharma." And so Laxman was reborn as Balabhadra and Ram were reborn as his younger brother, Krishna. Krishna never obeyed Balabhadra but, after initial irritation, Balabhadra always understood. Like the epics book history, sometimes I think myself as the loyal brother Laxman who obeyed the elder brother in any moment. But I need to be like the Krishna, who always lead the game of war and win the game at any moment. But I am in this country where, in remote Nepalese villages, several brothers will often marry the same woman to keep household wealth together and allow families to survive.

The conclusion may be dealing with real-world moral, conflict, dilemmas and confusions that we all encounter during the journey of our lives. It’s almost impossible to figure out who “started” a conflict, and which provocations led to which retaliations. Loyalty makes us feel secure. But what exactly is loyalty? Is loyalty about power or love? Often the elder brother expects younger brothers to be loyal to him in any moment. But is that like a pack leader demanding submission of the pack? What makes the elder brother automatically the pack leader in human families? In nature, the elder is not necessarily the leader; the strongest is. I advised him to be the social man and take the respect by respecting others. As the elder brother, he should take the roles and responsibility of the family prestige and the management of family as the administrator. In upcoming days, I pray to god he should not be the part of the story like this.

Take Home Message from Article

1. Never being greedy, lazy, hopeless throughout the life, think positive and be positive who you are?
2. Thinking the Jealousy, emotional blackmailing, quarreling, and conflicting were harm to themselves, who does. One hair from the head may not be fall to others.
3. Without hardworking, there were never grow up your life and dignity. If you work hard you will be prosperous. If not you will be rude, cruel, and smuggler, etc.
4. Without income, thinking like a rich man and adopt the luxurious style, westernized the culture where the harm in every step of life. Single moment and time might not be comparable to whole life.
5. Search your opportunity and jobs to your own interest. Do not compare yourself and your father in law as the billionaires.

6. Do not lie, If possible, always be a tie with your father and mothers, younger brothers, sisters.

7. Barking dogs seldom bite if you point out others four fingers have seen you behaviors.