

Passion not pastime



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I had observed as a student how concepts of IQ, EQ and SQ had evolved. At a book release held recently, I got acquainted to another concept called PQ or 'Passion Quotient'.

I had heard about Intelligence Quotient (IQ), Emotional Quotient (EQ) and Spiritual Quotient (SQ) before. But the coinage of 'Passion Quotient' or PQ, as termed in the book, had escaped my knowledge. I was therefore excited to learn more about PQ as author Varinder Kapoor had conceptualised it. Kapoor is a teacher with the Symbiosis School of Management Studies.

IQ or Intelligence Quotient has long been considered a skill developed to solve logical or strategic problems with focus on the use of rational intelligence. Psychologists, who devised tests to assess it, called it intelligence quotient. The measurability of IQ focused primarily on verbal and mathematical capabilities.

Howard Gardner's "Frames of Mind" (1983) widened the narrow views on IQ and expanded the concept to include spatial capacity, physical fluidity, musical capability and interpersonal and intra-personal intelligence. According to learned psychologists, Intelligence Quotient contributes only 20 percent of the factors that determine success in life. This leaves 80 percent of factors that impact human responses. As Howard Gardner said, "One's ultimate niche in society is determined largely by non-IQ factors."

What followed was the concept of Emotional Quotient (EQ) as propounded by Daniel Goleman in the 1990s. EQ focused on feelings, one's own and of others. Such as, 'do unto others as you would want others to do unto you'. These involve soft skills that are being integrated in almost all training programmes of today. By implication, they are hard and soft skills. In other words



PASSION QUOTIENT IS THAT SPARK WHICH PROVIDES THE IGNITION, THE LIGHT, THE DIRECTION, THE TRUE JOY OF DOING — THE PASSION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

So where does Passion Quotient (PQ) fit in? I recalled how the passion quotient personally worked with me without my being aware of the power of such emotion. Every time our teacher/s asked us girls in school or college what we wanted to become, I would be the only to raise my hand and say, 'I want to make a difference'. Over a period, such an affirmation becomes a way of life, which is self nourishing in itself.

I helped students understand and search within themselves their inherent strengths. The kind of strength that is inherent in them from birth — the aptitude and the natural talent. Once they identify these strengths, they could focus on developing them further.

Earlier the identification, sooner, sounder and deeper is the growth. Injection of passion and/or identification of one's hidden talents is possible at any age. The trigger factor can be many — some can be born with it; some can acquire it; while in some cases it may simply happen on its own. And passion or PQ is that spark which provides the ignition, the light, the direction, the true joy of doing — the passion to make a difference.

it is the person — skilled professionally and personally.

Still not enough and with certain areas searching for explanations to human responses, evolved the understanding of Spiritual Quotient (SQ), the foundation for the right application of EQ and IQ. The truly insightful rule maker, the rule abider, and the self police-er. An integral guidance present in all our prayers from time immemorial. The only difference lying in the explanation, which varies in ways and forms depending on various cultures, practices, ethics, classes and moral science literature.