
“SIGNIFICANCE OF TENSION AS A POTENTIAL ELEMENT FOR SUCCESS”

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Abstract :

This article aims at depicting the significance of utilisation of tension as a potential for achieving success. This article narrates that man has learned to adapt and utilise the energy potentials of water, steam, electricity, etc., and transform them from being blind and often destructive forces into being the driving forces for development. This article also discusses how man has exploited or utilised the tensions for achieving success. This article throws light on how chemical, biological, psychological, professional, economic, financial, social and political tensions (forces of energy) are subject to the same laws as physical tensions like water, steam and electricity.

Key words : Tension (Potential), blind and destructive forces, physical potentials, external tensions (forces of energy), peaceful driving forces, development, utilisation of energy potentials.

Man has increased his technological effectiveness to an unimaginable extent in the last 200 years. This was possible because he learned to adapt and utilise the energy potentials of water, steam, electricity, and of course solar power currently, etc., and transform them from being blind and often destructive forces into being the driving forces for development. Apart from these physical potentials, there are also are psychological, economic, social and political potentials. According to the same laws these blind and violent forces can be changed to become powerful driving forces which work for our benefit.

Humans and firms faced enormous problems to assert and establish themselves against the resistances in their environment. For thousands of years man has been dependent on the strength of his muscles for this. It was a decisive step forward when he learnt to use the force of water 'to lead it to his mills'; this converted an uncontrolled force, blindly destructive at times of flood, into a prime mover of his machines. Instead of doing the work himself, he made the water do the work.

It was still more decisive, in the past, when he learnt to put steam under tension and to conduct this steam 'to his mills' or 'machines'. But the most crucial technological step was when man discovered in electricity that there are tensions still more invisible than steam and when he learnt to generate these invisible tensions and make them available at every plug point.

It appears at first sight that we are dealing with basically different processes when we talk of the utilisation of water, steam, or electricity, but at the core they are all the same. It was not water, steam or electricity that man converted to a utility, it was the tension (energy) stored in them. It is immaterial whether the tension is contained in water (as a differential) or in steam or in electricity. On the contrary, the more invisible the medium was, the purer, more flexible and more effective was its energy. Basically the same process (namely, the utilisation of physical tensions) is involved in all the three cases ; the same laws of nature therefore hold good, in principle, in all the three cases.

Man has exploited or utilised the tensions. Let us consider the effects of this :

1. He became technologically more effective in the same measure as he made external tensions (forces of energy) useful. With less and less of his own energy, he achieved greater and surer effects and success.
2. His physical effectiveness and his technological success do not depend anymore on his own bodily force but on his ability to utilise outside tensions.
3. He has learnt to control the originally blind and frequently destructive forces. These forces have become peaceful, and they have they have become powerful driving forces for human development.
4. The relationship between him and the forces of nature has changed from being a fatal confrontation to a peaceful, hand-in-hand co-operation.

Water, steam and electricity are physical tensions. However, there also are chemical, biological, psychological, professional, economic, financial, social and political tensions. What about such tensions?

The management strategies claims :

- a) that these tensions (forces of energy) are subject to the same laws as physical tensions.
- b) that they can be converted in an exactly similar manner from being blind and often destructive forces into powerful driving forces for our own development – and that, too, in principle, using the same, already tested methods.
- c) that man can achieve in professional, economic, social and political life, the same that he has already achieved physically : with less and less deployment of his own forces to become more and more effective and successful and to turn what up to now were his counterforces into peaceful driving forces. Quite simply by making the psychological, professional, economic, social and other tensions useful following the same principle, according to which, he has made the tensions of water, steam and electricity useful.

Basically man has been doing this for a long time. All success up to now – economic, social and political – can be traced back to the better utilisation of such tensions. Companies make use of the tensions between demand and supply (scarcity) , and they have learnt to increase it through advertising. Revolutionaries harp on existing social tensions in order to conduct the growing tensions to their political mills. Sportsmen, stars, authors, journalists, politicians, etc., attempt to generate tensions through peak achievements or other sensations. Their success is determined, if one examines it very closely, not by magnitude of their efforts but by the manner in which they have learnt to utilise the tensions. We have seen how Parties, Politicians, and Media try, in their own way, to conduct the tension to their mills, when a state of tension prevails because of situations like disqualifying popular sportspersons in mega events or in case of any controversies. The special goal of revolutionaries was always to bring the existing tensions to a boiling point through a martyr, and thus incite a process of discharge (as in the principle of lightning). The Hitler phenomenon can be traced back to the fact that he directed the growing tensions between the socioeconomic chaos and the yearning of man for equilibrium and harmony to his own mills, under the promise of ‘law and order’. In military strategy people are beginning to discover that instead of employing one’s own force, one can make use of the tensions in the opponent’s country for its own internal self-destruction.

So up to now success and tension conditions were related to each other. Without it being noticed, effect and success were not determined by intelligence, knowledge, etc., but by the fact that some utilise the psychological, economic, social and political tensions better than the others. And because one was not aware of this connection, the better utilisation (and thus, success) remained a matter of chance.

If at all these tensions have been utilised up to now they have been utilised short-sightedly, wrongly and negligently. In the use of professional, economic, social and political tensions man stands today in exactly the same position as he was 200 years ago in the use of physical tensions. He has in the meanwhile increased his physical and technological -effectiveness in gigantic proportions, right into the core of atoms and up to the moon. Why should it not be possible for the economists, managers, artists and politicians to achieve what the technologists have been able to do (quite simply through the more purposeful utilisation of social tensions, wherein the laws of tensions and energy discovered a long time ago by Physics serve as absolutely reliable guidelines) ?

One only has to compare the economic and political methods current up to now with the methods developed by Physics in order to recognise how accidental, clumsy and dangerous the former are. No electrical expert would hit upon the idea of increasing the voltage without simultaneously making provision for fuses, controlled utilisation and , if need be, timely discharge.

Most of the social and political methods put man, economy and society under still greater tensions. It is like setting fire to a forest in order to cook a soup. The prevailing methods are a blind play with fire. Their success is just a matter of chance, limited and transitory ; short-lived apparent success is always followed by destructive setbacks.

Individuals and organisations have increased their technological achievements in the last hundred years to a degree which was inconceivable earlier, quite simply by harnessing the physical energies (tensions) which were earlier uncontrollable. It is absolutely certain that they can increase, in exactly, the same manner their economic social and political success – again, not through their own efforts, but by harnessing in a better way the unruly psychological, economic, social and other tensions. That this is unimaginable to our contemporaries today, just as it was to the contemporaries of those days – that is your problem and our problem.

Knowing the inter-relationship between tension and success we can understand why professional and economic success was until now a matter of chance. The professional, economic and social effects of man are not determined by the magnitude of his own efforts but by his skill at successfully conducting the environmental tensions ‘to his own mill’. The inter-connection explains further that “with less and less of one’s own forces greater and greater as well as surer effects and success are possible “. This is nevertheless possible, because the harnessed outside tensions take the place of one’s own forces. The interconnection explains too why there cannot be a more effective mode of behavior than the bottleneck-oriented strategy. The flow of a river shows that at the bottleneck the tensions are the greatest (that is why it ‘saws off’ at its narrowest point most heavily). But where the tensions are maximum, there the greatest possible effect can be achieved with the least application of one’s own forces. This is why, for example, an electrical power station is built not at the broadest but at the narrowest spot of a river so that the water is pressed into an artificial bottleneck.

Conclusion : In thousands of individual cases, it has been proved exactly that all atomic, molecular, biological, medical, psychological, professional, economic, social and political processes are at their deepest core tension or energy processes; psycho-analysis and medicine are just discovering this in all its fundamental aspects. But then this means also that they must all be, at the core, subject to the same laws of energy and tension.

Reference :

“Energocybernetic Strategy” authored and conceived by Wolfgang Mewes, Frankfurt, West Germany ; under chapters ‘Facts about tension (potential)’, (1972), of Mewes System, Frankfurt.