Challenges and Opportunities

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Toward a Trans-disciplinary Science of Society
Challenges and Opportunities

Opportunities that arise from Challenges

• Historically, great challenges have become opportunities
  • Bata Shoes after World War I
  • Unity and freedom after the American Civil War
  • Industrialization after World War II

• Great people seem to appear on the scene during challenging times
  • American War of Independence - George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson
  • World War II - Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin
  • Indian Independence - Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel
Challenges and Opportunities

What do challenges do?

- Challenges and our response to them release energy
- Challenges change attitudes
- New situations break resistances
Challenges and Opportunities

What differentiates those who tide over a crisis from those who succumb to it?

The winners

• Redirect the energy
• Look out for the opportunity
• Learn from mistakes
• Think creatively and adapt
Challenges and Opportunities

• Often, it is the greatest challenges that lead to the greatest human achievements
• Our response determines the results
• Is it possible that all challenges have concealed opportunities behind them?