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MONEY 'Motivates' OR 'Inspires'?

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PERSPECTIVES

There is a need to probe whether money 'motivates' or it 'inspires' just as there is a need to differentiate between these two terms. 'Motivation,' seems to work only for a shorter duration. This is why one needs to *keep* motivating. 'Inspiration,' however, lasts for the whole life. Life, actually, falls short of it. Money is merely a 'motivating' factor (and not an 'inspiring' one). For instance, a monthly salary of \$3000 makes one happy if previously he was earning \$2000. He feels happy about this amount for a few months. After a few months the same amount starts appearing less than \$4000 to him. Only a raise is going to motivate him again (for a short while). It is applicable to any figures which someone might be earning or paying.

What 'inspires' for a lifetime is a vision. It actually sucks in many lives. It is larger than the man himself. Many organizations do not give or build a clear vision and expect the employees to *remain* motivated because they are paid (money). Nothing can be farther from truth. It amounts to working *hard* and not *smart* on the part of those organizations. Ignoring the task of working on a shared vision, those organizations introduce measures and mechanisms which the employees do not savor but they have to abide by because they are paid (money).

There is no shortage of qualified and educated people in the world. But it is not becoming a better place. The world will become a better place if, among many other things, we also understood what 'motivates' and what 'inspires' and the difference between the two.

