Student's Persuader

---The Private Tutor

An Epilogue in favour of College Lecturer

By

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Introduction

Initially I wrote this epilogue and named it 'Magic of private tuition'—more than a magic! But now changed its name as 'Student's Persuader'. Because there are more factors than the tuition. Regular college students are focused in this book.

It's an outcome of my 25 years out station job. It was written primarily as my personal reference. And thought that it might present a tunnel view. When I came in Lahore and joined FCC and found that things are same whether in big city or small place.

It is applicable for normal students. F. Sc. below merit weak students needs personal guidance. Also students with high merit need personal attention for taking competitive marks.

It contains helpful tips, for a fresh college lecturer when he decreases his weight in front of his students due to some old experienced tutor.

This book helps to locate the hidden persuaders especially those who deteriorate the student's education and their personality.

I wish a balanced intellectual personality especially for F. Sc. students.

The aim of education is the knowledge not of fact but values.

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CONTENTS

	Introduction	3
	Contents	5
	Section 1	
1.	Meaning	7
2.	Small Group	7
3.	Listening	8
4.	Communication	8
5.	Coordination	8
	Section 2	
1.	Battleground	9
2.	Confusion	9
3.	Teacher dependent	9
4.	Time Factor	10
5.	Some Solutions	10
	Section 3	
1.	Tactics of a listening tutor	11
2.	Limitations of College Lecturer	11
3.	Guerrilla War	11
4.	Personality	12
5.	Influence	12
	Section 4	
1.	Time Utility	13
2.	Effectiveness	13
3.	Beware dear student	13
4.	Check your enemy	14
5.	Undisciplined Students	14
	Section 5	
1.	Academy	15
2.	Charm	15
3.	Much loss than gain	16
4.	Standards of a lecturer	16
5	Request to the Tutor	16

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1.1 Meaning

According to 'The World Book Dictionary', Tutor means; a person who is attached to a household or employed by a family as a private teacher.

Another meaning is; A teacher who teaches one student at a time, also, a private teacher to instruct or teach privately.

In early times, teachers used to teach a <u>single person</u> at a time. Plato taught Aristotle. Aristotle taught Alexander the Great.

Those rich children had tutors instead of going to School.

1.2 Small Group

A person to person knowledge is most effective way of learning.

For a group of less than 5 students, there is <u>personal</u> interaction. But if the class consists of more than 5 students, the way of teaching becomes impersonal.

When a teacher speaks in a class, he cannot teach according to individual's requirements. His lecture is a general for <u>all</u>, not for a single person.

In small group, a teacher is able to hear each person's problem and is able to meet his teaching requirements. Here individual interaction is possible.

An ideal small group consists of five persons.

1.3 Listening

Dr. Toyotomi says that God gave us two ears but one mouth, so that we should listen more than talk. If you are a listening person, people will make a long queue to tell you something. Everybody has something to tell you. Sometimes a tutor uses this strategy. What he listens? May be about the student's complaint about his regular teacher in the College!

Listening tutor has more magic during his personal way of teaching, in contrast to college lecturer during his impersonal way of teaching.

A listening person is more acceptable to society then a talking person.

1.4 Communication

In communications three factors are involved; Sender, medium and receiver. Imagine what will happen if the radio or TV receiving set is receiving 2 or 3 transmissions at the same time! I wonder, how a student wants to be good receptive for his private tutor and college lecturer with his single learning method.

Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak.

1.5 Coordination

When I was transferred from one of my previous College, incidentally, there was no coordination between my old colleague and me, due to certain reasons. One of my old students wrote me that his mind stuck in the classroom when his new teacher teaches in the class.

Coordination between different methods of learning is a basic condition in the field of education.

2.1 Battleground

When a mother punishes a child, and if dad hears the child's complaint, that leads to <u>spoiling</u> of that child. How about tutor verses college lecturer, with the student's mind a <u>battleground</u>. College lecturer sometimes gives challenging task, but the tutor entertains him with easygoing solution. The student forgets that,

Good habits are acquired by petty sacrifices.

2.2 Confusion

Efficiency in education demands <u>singleness of mind</u>. God gave each person a unique personality. Each student has his own style of learning. Then his regular college teacher imposes one style of learning. His tutor imparts another method of learning. And more than that Urdu Bazar's (keys, notes and guides) boosts and flares up the battle ground of student's mind. I guess this situation is not cope-able even for a super human being. If a student takes all these privileges, the final result might be a greater <u>confusion</u>.

The highway to success is singleness of the student's mind.

2.3 Teacher dependent

In Jalalpur Jattan College, one of my Science colleague was so fresh and inexperience that all of his F. Sc. Students were unmanageable for him and were unable to understand the subject. One of a brilliant student, <u>upon my instruction</u>, did not take tuition, instead contended with the textbook and his confusing and not understandable teacher. As a result he was the only student who passed in all the subjects. Now he is Prof. Shabbir Ahmed.

The chief glory of every people arises from its authors.

2.4 Time Factor

A student learns from different methods;

- 1. College lecturer's 40 minute lecture.

 Adopting this method the student needs one hour more.
- 2. Self study from simple text. It needs at least one hour per day.
- 3. Learning from private tutor.

 Needs further one hour for adopting his method.
- 4. Using keys, notes or helping guides. Needs at least one-hour to grasp their styles.
- 5. Learning with class-mates or group discussion. Needs more time for interaction and chat etc.

When a student entangled with all these methods. Imagine how much time he needs per day per subject. Definitely no singleness of mind, but greater confusion.

Its not enough to be industrious, so are the ants. What are you industrious about?

2.5 Some Solutions

- 1. <u>Share</u> your problems with your regular college teacher, when confusion or shattering of mind occurs.
- 2. Make a <u>coordination</u> of all these methods of learning, which might not be possible.
- 3. The student should be <u>impressed</u> from one of these methods, and give <u>second rate</u> to all others. It is possible for a genius.
- 4. The student should have <u>his lecturer's recommended tutor</u>, as a great problem arises when there is no coordination between regular teacher and his listening tutor.
- 5. <u>Meet senior students</u>, especially your regular teacher's old students and take guidance concerning your confusion.

When one aspect of a thing is in conflict with the whole it is wise to sacrifice it to save the whole.

3.1 Tactics of a listening tutor

- 1. Repeating of text taught in regular class.
- 2. Listening about teaching of the regular teacher, which deviate interest from regular teacher.
- 3. Sharing weak points or so-called rumours about regular teacher.
- 4. Making use of anti elements during personal talk, with the privilege of no public check.
- 5. Not accountable being private speaking.

He that is not with me is against me.

3.2 Limitations of College Lecturer

- 1. No personal interaction due to impersonal class lecture.
- 2. Constant judgment of personality in the class.
- 3. Unaware of students' background and 'roots'.
- 4. Have to show manners during public speaking.
- 5. Accountable being public speaker.

It is always safe to learn, even from our enemies—seldom safe to instruct even our friends.

3.3 Guerrilla War

In case of no coordination between listening tutor and regular college lecturer, it's just like a guerrilla war. To win this war the college lecturer needs to have ten times more sophisticated 'weapons'. Its like a man who is trying hard to extinguish flames near a wall, but failed because those are fueled heavily from behind the wall.

The self-educated are marked by not easily handled peculiarities.

3.4 Personality

A student builds his personality along with formal education in the college. The role of the lecturer is more in student's personality development, and he is responsible for it. In contrast, the tutor tries to give a mere education. The influence of private tutor on the student's mind kills his personality (personality murder!) at the cost of his personal knowledge. When a student gives preference and primary importance to his tutor and rejects his regular teacher, he does this at the cost of his personality.

College discipline is a kind of order that sets me free to fly.

3.5 Influence

Usually the college lecturer has more influence on the student than his private tutor.

Once in my class, one of my students, asked me to solve a certain Physics textbook problem, as he was unable to solve it. I <u>ordered</u> him to come in front and solve that problem on the black board (and no one is going to help you!). Out of fear and obedience, he came and solved that particular problem without any help! Later he told that previously he tried but couldn't solve at home and he doesn't know <u>how</u> he solved in my presence in the classroom. Afterwards he followed strictly only classroom instructions. Later he went abroad for his Ph.D. Now he is Dr. Khalid Mughal.

Pathetically many students are spoiling their bright career after ignoring their classroom's instructions.

The influence of a teacher goes to eternity.

4.1 Time Utility

I always read the books lending from library, as <u>I have to return</u> those books within the limited time of one month. I never read my purchased books, thinking that I can read <u>any time</u> (and that *any time* never comes). When a student pay money to his tutor for one month. Definitely he will try to utilize completely that money within that limited time. Tragically majority pay for spoiling their personality instead of building good personality!

Snatch at today and trust as little as you can in tomorrow.

4.2 Effectiveness

Most effectiveness in the talk of the lecturer is, when he talk outside the class. I have remembered the talks of my old teacher, which he said to me outside the class. I have a practical experience that how a student become very powerful 'weapon' when someone talked with him outside the class.

Environment is more powerful than heredity.

4.3 Beware dear student!

- 1. Beware of sugar coated pills.
- 2. Check whether your tutor is honest in his regular duties, in case he is a college lecturer.
- 3. Are you paying money for taking more marks in exams?
- 4. Does your package have <u>money back guarantee?</u> Lest you fail!
- 5. The person who asks, 'how is your college lecturer's teaching', is not sincere with you.

No man means evil but the devil, and we shall know him by his horns.

4.4 Check your enemy

Student's instigation is a great crime. A person who plays with your future by influencing negatively, is your personality killer. Did your clever tutor made you to think your college lecturer as your 'step-mother'? Please trace your enemy. Is it sweet talk listener or stern talk college lecturer?

In the end, the cat always eats the mouse it's played with.

4.5 Undisciplined Students

When a comparison between regular teacher verses someone else comes, it is always when somebody make it aware to the student. Then he would say some good or bad comments about his teacher. Otherwise even at post-graduate level, a student by himself cannot dare to overrule his teacher. I wonder how 1st year college students make agitation against his regular teacher even in first week after studying from him!

The most undisciplined students in my class are always those who are captured by the factors especially pointed out in Sections (1.3, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3 & 4.4). These students use to lead the class in wrong direction.

A case study¹ of this type of student may be taken up. Then someone will lead to the conclusion that they have some interaction with "politically incorrect personalities".

You have never wanted my advice or paid my attention when I corrected you.

¹I got documentary proof. But its confidential! Being a teacher, its not in favour of a regular student, to make it public.

5.1 Academy

Originally, in ancient Greece, a public garden outside Athens, dedicated to Athena, where Plato instructed his followers; his informal school came to be known as the Academy. Subsequent schools of philosophy, modeled upon Plato's were also called academies.

In colonial America, the term academy was introduced by Benjamin Franklin. After the American Civil War, public high schools replaced most academies in the United States. Now our tuition centers have been replaced by academies.

A modern name of the tuition centre is the *academy*. As private tuitions started to loose its good name. They reshape themselves by putting more money, bringing reputed teachers and introducing exam focused strategies. Is it not blackmailing of knowledge?

Someone make reputation in a regular college and then establish his academy. Like a civil hospital's doctor who introduce himself in the hospital but attend that patient in his private clinic. Academies focus only exams and regular college give wholistic education. These can be like termite for some regular college students.

They can make an inexperienced person clever and teach young people how to be resourceful

5.2 Charm

- 1. Their timings are suitable.
- 2. They have co-education.
- 3. To recover the money paid.
- 4. The Exam paper centered 'resources'.
- 5. To conform with prevailing fashion.

Charm is deceptive, and beauty disappears.

5.3 Much loss than gain

Your College lecturer is for life and is irreplaceable, e.g. your F.Sc. admission for regular class will never come again, as you cannot repeat as a regular student. Following the college discipline makes your <u>future</u>. Whereas tutor's discipline weighs merely one month's fee.

Do not let the good things of life rob you of the best things.

5.4 Standards of a lecturer

A college lecturer should have some standards and should maintain his level of personality.

Etiquette requires that he should talk only about the subject in the classroom, and not to deal any matter out side the classroom.

If men were better instructed themselves, they would be less imposing on others.

5.5 Request to the Tutor

A tutor who teaches privately to a regular student should consider the student as someone's sacred keepsake. In my joint family, I never teach my families' own children of F.Sc. level, lest they become double mind or may compare methods of learning. A mature person is sensitive and responsive to the needs of others.

His faults were mine, his virtues were his own.