

Well Begun is Half Done

A Introduction

B. Good Beginnings Increase the Efficiency and Help in Completing Half of the Target

- 1- The strong foundation of children contributes in partial development.

Case in Point : • John Locke's
Concept of 'Tabula Rasa' and
role of education

- Early Childhood — time of psychological development

- 2- Well defined strategies, planning and execution of goal by individual leads to completion of half of the goal.

Case in Point • Goal Setting

Theory - SMART

- 3- Promoting social equality from the beginning, helps in curbing the societal evils earlier.

Case in Point: • Prophet (P-B-VH)
on theft of rich woman

and state of Madinah
(Riyasat-ul-Fadilah)

- Bill of Rights to the USA- Constitution

4 The courage and desire for change at initial level, bids in acquiring half of the struggle for socio-political change.

• Case in Point • Views of David Thomson About Tennis Court Oath of Third Estate in France, 1789.

5- Well defined economic plans and execution on them plays significant role in completing the target.

• Case in Point • Five Years Development Plan of Stalin and Development of Russia

- Marshall Plan and Reconstruction of Western Europe

• Determination and struggle of early feminist help in achieving

many of the women rights

Case in Point: • Sennica

Falls Convention and

Political Rights for Women

- 7- Industrial revolution - a good beginning - lead to development of technology earlier by setting up early development stage.

Case in Point: • Journey

from Mechanization to
automization.

**C- On Contrary, Bad Beginnings
Decrease the Efficiency and
Hinders the Completion of
Target**

- 1- Weak institutions from the beginning hinder in achieving their target

Case in Point: • Structural

Weakness of League of
Nation

- Issue of Veto in
United Nations Security
Council

2- Facing disruption in constitution making at start, lags the timely constitutional development

Case in Point: • Challenges

in Making first constitution of Pakistan

• Making of Constitution after nine years

D- However, Sometimes Good Beginnings Donot Assure Completion of Half of the Target

1- Good start of a war donot lead to success always.

Case in Point: • Successful

Blitzkrieg of Germany

in World War II, at start,

but failed at last

2- Unpredictability and factor of luck, sometimes turn even a good beginning into bad ending

Case in Point: • The Role of Luck

in Cricket Match

• Black Swan Theory

Conclusion

Richard L. Evans, an eminent writer and author said, "**Your direction is more important than your speed.**" His words clearly explain the importance of right direction in defining a good beginning. When one starts his journey properly then the half of target is believed to be completed. At individual level, the strong foundation of child helps in his half of development. Moreover, the careful execution of goal makes one nearer to goal. At social level, the promotion of social equality from beginning aids in limiting the social evils. The courage and strength to change the socio-political discriminations at early level, helps in completing fifty percent of the struggle. Similarly, in economic realm, the execution on plans in early years help in

completing them earlier. To add with, current women rights are attributed to the struggle of early feminists. Within technological field, the industrial revolution helped in development of technological advancements. On contrary, bad beginnings reduce the chances of achieving target at time. **It is evident that when beginnings are good: in right direction, the efficiency increases which helps in completion of half of the target.**

When analyzing at individual level, the strong foundation of children helps in determining their development. If children are taught, trained and guided in proper manner, half of their upbringing efforts are fulfilled. **John Locke gave the concept of 'Tabula Rasa' - the blank state.** According to him, individuals

are born in a blank state,
it is upbringing and education
that shapes course of their.

Such studies are even backed
by psychology that associates
early childhood, typically
till eight years, as an age
of psychological development.

Hence, if foundations and basics
are good then the half of
the development is done.

In the similar line of
thought, well defined planning
and execution of goal at
elementary level completes half
of the goal. According to
"Goal Setting Theory" if the
goal is planned as **SMART**,
the chances of success
increases. By making goal specific,
measurable, attainable, realistic
and timely, the likelihood of
its completion increases
manifold. In the initial stages

incorporating such strategies yield the positive outcome towards the accomplishment of the goal.

At social levels, practicing equality towards all the classes from the start, helps in making an ideal society. Prophet (P-B-UH) applied the principle of rule of law equally on all from the very start. This has led to the development of ideal state and society of **Medinah**. Similarly, developed nations have also made rule of law and progress of human their priority. It has helped them to champion human rights currently. **First amendments to US Constitution - the bill of rights** were related to the rights of individuals. Thus, starting the nation's journey

by practicing equality ensures that major development for progress is

Similarly, the change at social level stems from the courage of those who remained steadfast at early levels. It means that for any revolution to complete, the strong will and courage of initiators is important. During the course of French Revolution, Monarch, Louis XVI tried to suppress the protestors by locking them in Tennis Court. However, it was the iron will of protestors that they demanded provision of right. **David Thomson** called Tennis Court Oath as an event that is sufficient to be called as revolution. Thus, the courage at initial level ensures half of the success.

From the economic lens, the execution and practice of well defined plans in the

starting years ensures later sustainability. If plans are made at initial level, the chances of the desired output becomes more likely.

Joseph Stalin, Russian totalitarian leader, right after coming in power gave five years economic plan. The successful execution of the program ensured half of the progress for the state. Similarly, in the aftermath of second World war, USA followed the **Marshall Plan for reconstruction of war-torn Europe.** Within few years, western Europe was able to recover from the horrors of the war. Thus, the well executed economic plans at the start ensures progress later.

Turning down the ladder, for the rights of women, the

persistence of early feminists has a major role. Their struggle has made it easier for women today to enjoy their political and social rights.

The start of women right protests and events like

Seneca Falls Convention-

1848 played a half role in the development of socio-political claims women exercise

today. Thus, a clear goal and direction oriented start of the early feminists have left a deep mark on the development of female rights in the following years.

Moving further, industrial revolution has left marks for the later technological development.

The good beginning shaped through the development of a **steam engine** transformed

the development outlook towards mechanization. The mechanization provided the opportunity for the later development of all the technological progress. It is appropriate to claim that half of the journey for all the progress had already begun with the start of industrialization.

On contrary, when the beginnings are uneven, irregular, undefined and bad, it becomes difficult to attain the target. Institutions that are inherently weak struggle in achieving their targets. **Structural weakness within league of Nation** has lead to the territorial conflicts within state and ultimately the start of second world war. Similarly,

Day _____ Date _____
the hegemonic tendencies within United Nations, as evident through the use of veto power proves that bad beginnings hinder the defined target - solving inter-state issues and human rights problems. Thus, when the beginnings are bumpy, the attainment of target becomes hard.

To add another aspect to above discussion, the delay in law making at beginning hinders the constitutional development in future. Pakistan faced multiple struggles including the absence of true leadership and dissolution of first constituent Assembly. That contributed in delay of the first constitution, which was made nine years after inception. So, it becomes obvious that when the beginnings are unfavorable

, it requires more time for attainment of goal than.

However, sometimes good beginnings do not guarantee the completion of the target.

There are some instances in the world that support aforementioned claim. In the war and battlefield, good start do not always lead to success. When

World War two started, Germany initially, was successful by using **Blitzkrieg - Lightning warfare technique**. However,

ultimately **after a six years long battle, Germany lost - even it started well**. This

illustrates that in some cases good beginnings do not produce intended outcomes

In the same line of thought, the inherent nature

of unpredictability in life creates unintended results.

Even with good beginnings the completion of half of the tasks is not guaranteed.

In **Sports**, many of the matches start with **good performance of team**. However, till the end team loses. This claim can

be strengthened through the '**Black Swan Theory**' which suggests that unlikely event can happen at any time and overturn the tides.

So, the good beginnings do not always take to the desired result.

To compress all the discussion, it becomes clear that in most of the case a well defined, planned and executed beginning helps in the completion of half of the target. From the

individual to social level
and political to economic
realms, it becomes obvious
that where beginnings
are good, the \downarrow burden
of completing the goal
is subtracted. There are
some exceptions, when the
outcomes are not desired.

However, most of the time
the defined starts lead
to defined ends. Therefore,
one should try to
take the right direction
and the necessary first
step in life, in order to
get success. As the famous
Chinese saying is **"Even the
longest journey begins
with one small step."**
the real wisdom lies in
taking that small step
in right direction.