Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Jewish proverb

There is nothing noble about being superior to some other man. True nobility is in being superior to your previous self.

— Hindu proverb

It is absurd that a man should rule others, who cannot rule himself.

- Latin proverb

You know that the rulers of the ungodly have power over them, and the leaders have complete authority. This, however, is not the way it shall be among you. If one of you wants to be great, he must be the servant of the rest; and, if one of you wants to be first, he must be your slave. — Jesus of Nazareth (c.4 BC-c.31)

It is better for a leader to make a mistake in forgiving than to make a mistake in punishing.

— The Prophet Muhammad (c.570-632)

The superior man is distressed by the limitations of his ability; he is not distressed by the fact that men do not recognise the ability that he has.

Confucius (551-479 BC)

A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say, "We did it ourselves." — Lao-Tzu (fl. 6th C BC)

He is able who thinks he is able.

- Buddha (fl. 5th C BC)

What you cannot enforce, do not command.

– Sophocles (c.496 -406 BC)

The spirited horse, which will try to win the race of its own accord, will run even faster if encouraged.

- Ovid (43BC-17)

He who has great power should use it lightly.

- Seneca (c.4 BC-65)

Reason and judgment are the qualities of a leader.

– Tacitus (56-*c*.120)

Leadership is the ability to hide your panic from others.

unknown

Leadership is about more than naked power.

— unknown

If words of command are not clear and distinct, if orders are not thoroughly understood, the general is to blame.

— Sun-Tzu (fl. 6th C BC)

A good general not only sees the way to victory; he also knows when victory is impossible.

— Polybius (c.200 – 118 BC)

Remember: upon the conduct of each depends the fate of all.

– Alexander, the Great (356-323 BC)

A leader is a dealer in hope.

- Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)

I don't care a damn for your loyal service when you think I am right; when I really want it most is when you think I am wrong.

- Gen. Sir John Monash (1865-1931)

Many qualities go to make up a leader, but two are vital – the ability to make the right decisions, and the courage to act on the decisions.

- Visc. Montgomery, of Alamein (1887-1976)

I never saw a pessimistic general win a battle.

- Gen. Dwight Eisenhower (1890-1969)

A general is just as good or just as bad as the troops under his command make him.

— Gen. Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964)

Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy. —Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf (b.1934)

The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help them or concluded that you do not care.

— Gen. Colin Powell (b. 1937)

Leadership is the ethical use of influence.

- based on Army's definition

Teaching is persuading students to learn what they need to know, but don't want to.

- profession's proverb

Teams follow captains they believe in.

- Imran Khan (b. 1952)

The captain should set the pattern, take his team into his confidence, and let them know where they are going.

— Don Bradman (1908-2001)

Praise works with only 3 types of people: men, women, children. – unknown

The man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd. — Capt James Cook (1728-79) One of the advantages of being Captain is being able to ask for advice without necessarily having to take it. - Capt James T. Kirk (*Star Trek*) The first opinion that is formed of a leader's intelligence is based on the quality - Niccolo Machiavelli (1469-1527) of advisors he has around him. Courage is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm. - Winston Churchill (1874-1965) A leader leads by example, whether he intends to or not. - J. Quincy Adams (1767-1848) The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it. — Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognise a problem before it becomes an emergency. - Arnold Glasgow The task of leadership is not to put greatness into people, but to elicit it, for the greatness is there already. - John Buchan (1875-1940) The shepherd always tries to persuade the sheep that their interests and his own are the same. Henri Stendhal (1783-1842) Our main business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand. - Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881) Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be. - Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82)

The highest proof of virtue is to possess boundless power without abusing it.

— Shakespeare, Henry IV

- Shakespeare, Henry V

- Lord Macaulay (1800-59)

Uneasy lies a head that wears a crown.

All things are ready, if our minds be so.

A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.

- Henrik Ibsen (1828-1906)

To do great things is difficult; but to command great things is more difficult.

- Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900)

It is better to deserve honours and not have them, than to have them and not deserve them.

- Mark Twain (1835-1910)

You are my King. I know the difference between giving advice and taking orders. You've had my advice [which was ignored], and now it's the time for orders.

— C.S. Lewis, Prince Caspian

Boris clearly realised what he had before surmised: that in the army, besides the subordination and discipline prescribed in the military code, there was another, more important, subordination, which made this tight-laced, purplefaced general wait respectfully while Capt Andrew, for his own pleasure, chose to chat with Lt Drubetskoy.

— Tolstoy, War and Peace

Oh, philosophers may sing of the troubles of a King;
But of pleasures there are many and of worries there are none.
And the culminating pleasure that we treasure beyond measure
Is the gratifying feeling that our duty has been done!

- W.S. Gilbert, The Gondoliers

Managers are like cats in a litter box. They instinctively shuffle things around to conceal what they've done.

— Dilbert

**leader**: If a manager is someone with paid followers, then a leader is someone with unpaid followers who will jump over the cliff with him, or even for him.

leadership: (i). What a leader does. And a leader shows leadership. Only a leader can see this apparent [tautology] as truth. The corollaries of this statement are (a) if you think this reasoning is circular, you'll never make it to the top, and (b) if you're not confused, then you really don't understand what's going on.

**leadership**: (ii) Relationship between the led and those who want to bewitch them.

- from Marks et al (2006)

teamwork: A few harmless flakes working together can unleash an avalanche of destruction.

— Despair Inc.