

WE CANNOT PREDICT THE FUTURE, BUT WE CAN MAP IT

Maps are our representation of the underlying reality. None of us make decisions without some kind of a mental map. In many instances the maps we create are more metaphoric, a mental map of the situation and issues that confront us.

"Every Map Tells A Story Of Imagination"

Maps are not just representations of places and locations. They are systems that helps us understand where we are and where we are headed. Maps open our minds to reality and they also fire our imagination. They depict our hopes and fears and shape our worldview.

OUR CURRENT OPERATING ENVIRONMENT, CALLS FOR NEW THINKING

Leaders Need To Embrace New Mental Maps

We are living in times of Irreducible Uncertainty. We need to revisit our current mental maps and assumptions in face of New Challenges and Emerging Opportunities. Our old ways of Linear Thinking will leave us handicapped in these times of Exponential Change. We need to move to a more Prospective and Explorative way of thinking and imagining possibilities



Maps Influence Our Beliefs and Open New Vistas

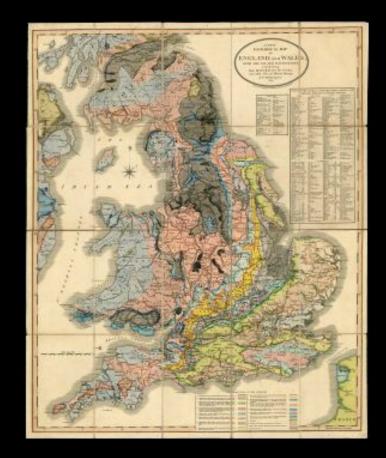
Map That Changed Our Belief About Disease



John Snow's map of cholera outbreak in 19th century London, changed our understanding of the disease. In 1850s, we lacked any knowledge of germ theory and the common belief was that cholera spread by miasma in the air. Snow mapped the cases and it became apparent that all of them were clustered around a water pump. This changed our understanding of disease as water borne and its implications were huge for urban planning around the world

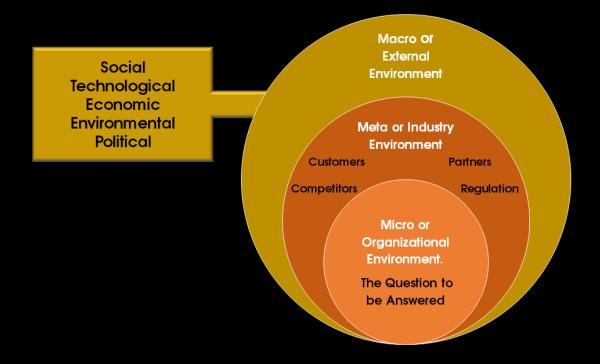
Map That Gave Birth To A New Science

Geological maps are a fundamental tool for the Geologist. They are the starting point for exploring the Geology of a place and assess the availability of raw materials. William Smith spent 15 years surveying 175,000 square kilometres of Britain in the early 19th century. When published in 1815, his map would be of great value to locate coal, but also to agriculture. This was the first true Geological Map of the world and we can imagine the importance of this map for Geology and our resource dependent world.

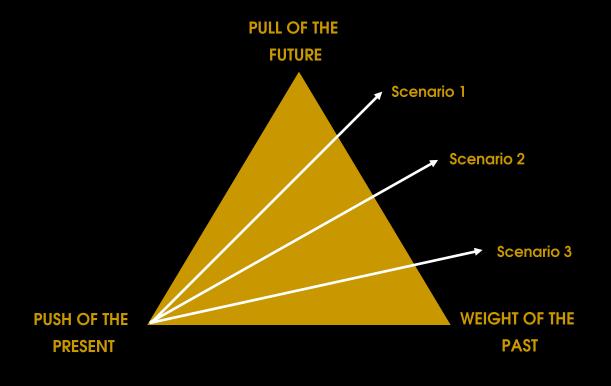


Mapping The Futures is about Strategic Foresight

Foresight Tools Help You Scan the Environment for Trends



.... and Leverage the Insights to Map the Emerging Possibilities



Mapping The Futures

Foresight Methodology



Reorient

Challenge Assumptions and Reframe Problems



Sense

Identify Drivers, Trends and Patterns



Map

Visualise Possible and Plausible Future Scenarios



Navigate

Design Road Maps and Action Plans

How Geographic Thinking Rules Our Lives

It is when we look beyond the obvious, we realise how deeply ingrained Geography and Maps are within us.

While maps have been crucial to our understanding of the world, it is their influence on our thinking that stands out. How often do we use terms like "Navigating" "Disoriented" or "Bearings" as a part of our everyday conversations? A quick Google search for the phrase "Navigating Unchartered Waters" threw up 636,000 results.

Metaphors related to Geography and Maps rule our lives. In many ways, maps hold a clue to what makes us human and are an integral part of our thinking. As individuals, we feel the need to chart the course, get our bearings right and explore opportunities all the time.

Metaphors of the Mind

Road Map Scaling the Peak **Moral Compass Crossing the Chasm Riding the Wave Guiding Star Tipping Point Domino Effect** Sailing in the Blind Wind in the Sails **Tsunami of Change** Flood of Information On the Horizon **Anchor Your Decision Charting Course Explore the Possibilities** Voyage of Discovery **Feeling Rudderless Defining the Boundaries**



What's The Future? ...

... of Being Digital, Work, Experiences and Innovation

There has never been a more appropriate time for "Mapping the Futures". In these times of unprecedented uncertainty, leaders, organizations and individuals need tools to chart the path ahead. They need to envision the futures and build Strategic Narratives about the possibilities and what it means for Employees, Customers, Partners and Self.

Let's Map-On



Srinivas Peri is the founder of Mapping The Futures and Storycrafting, whose goal is to enable leaders build Strategic Narratives. A history buff and intrepid traveller, he is passionate about technology and innovation. He has worked with large technology MNC's, responsible for scaling and building high performance teams. He holds Masters Degrees in International Business and International Affairs from Fletcher School @ Tufts, Harvard Business School and American University

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