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Yogesh Haribhau Kulkarni • You

Principal Architect (CTO Office, Icertis) | PhD in Geometric Modeling | Google Devel...
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Fame/Fortune/Freedom (3Fs)

Many of my Saturday-consultation-slots get booked by requests for career guidance/mentoring/mid-career-transitions, apart from the usual topics related Artificial Intelligence (AI) or Machine Learning (ML). Right from college students, all the way up to seasoned professionals.

After many such sessions, seeing that, in any opportunity/position/role, you can typically chose only 2 amongst the 3 Fs, ie. out of Fame, Fortune and Freedom. Only one of them can be chosen strongly, the second one, rather weakly and the third one gets chosen automatically, no choice there.

Another observation: the strong 'F' varies based on the stage of career you are in. Seeing (or, rather, even suggesting) roughly 3 such stages in one's professional life, say of 10-12* years each:

- Building ('Fame'): working hard (18 hrs/day??!!), heads down, either horizontal (generalist) or vertical (specialist) or ideally 'T' kind of expertise, aim is to build mastery, thereby, a good reputation, the 'Fame'.
- Leveraging ('Fortune'): reaping benefits of the mastery, typically in a leadership/managerial role, handling big positions/accounts and there by, basically making money, the 'Fortune'.
- Giving ('Freedom'): With the expertise and money under the belt, give that knowledge to others and also, you can now afford to be free to build on your own ideas, the 'Freedom'.

This, of-course is a very idealized, linear version of a career plan and am aware that the career may take quite a bit of twists-n-turns as many things are external to our sphere of influence. But still, having some rough plan/stages in mind, helps, especially at the decision making cross-roads.

#career #consulting #careerplanning #midcareertransition #leadership #opportunity
#students #money #mentoring #coaching

*your mileage may vary



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Sameer Mardhekar • 1st

R&D Solutions Architect at BMC Software

4d ...

Very well said. Freedom is actually a dependent entity on first two F's 😊



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Manish Mittal • 1st

Smart Digitalization & Intelligent Automation Tech Evangelist | Expert in RPA CoE setup | I help Business Reduce Operational Cost, Cycle Time and Enhance Quality, Accuracy with my Bespoke Intelligent Automation Solutions

Very well articulated [Yogesh](#).

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Vishwas Kshirsagar • 1st

Jr. Data Scientist @ U-Smart AI Lab

This is so true 🙏

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Adarsh Tiwari • 1st

Software Developer at C. H. Robinson | Data Science Enthusiast

The pattern seems almost too relevant with the people I've met... It's a growth pattern which increases the incentives by a large amount along many years. I'm still a beginner in my career and I aim to go through these 3 stages and many more "sub-stages" if possible

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Pratima Joshi • 1st

Data Science enthusiast with testing and automation expertise in applications and system softwares.

You've articulated it really well. I'll say that the "freedom" part depends on two other "Fs" in most of the cases; but yes, it is important to give back in some way.

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Sagar Sabade, Ph.D. • 1st

Experienced VLSI design engineer with strong background on DFT flows and methodology



Somewhat over-simplified and generalized view, in my opinion. Hardworking may build reputation, but may not always contribute to first F. The second F is highly dependent on being at the right place at the right time and having the first F that is recognized. The third F is always illusion. There is never third F as long as you are tied down by first or second F - especially in corpoc ...see more

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