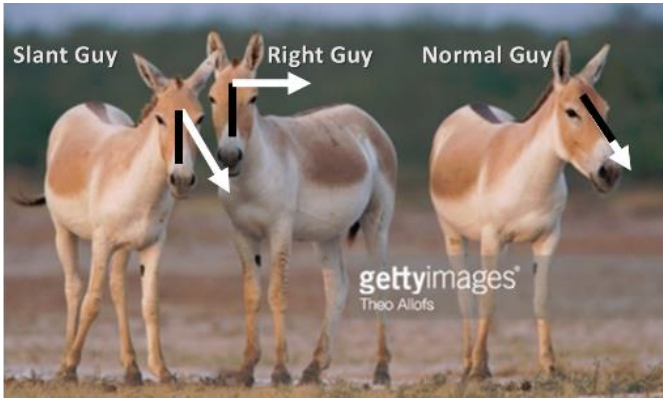


# Slant Vision



Somewhere in the little Rann of Kutch, there were these three wild donkeys (Ghudkhar) wearing Google Glasses. Each donkey will see only that shown by the Google Glass and nothing else. The one on the right in the picture sees exactly in the direction straight to its eyes. It sees everything as it will see without glasses except the side views. We call it a 'Normal guy'. The middle one has a line of sight to the right – it will see everything that is toward the 'right' side. We will call it a 'Right guy'. The third one has a glass that shows a slant vision – which is neither straight nor towards the 'right' side. Its line of sight is somewhat slant toward 'right' shown in the following image, this one is called a 'Slant guy'.

All these guys are set off to walk in the same direction from the same location – a walkway around and through a hill protected by a boundary to stop them wander away from the hill and its ways – as shown in the picture below (without boundaries to the walkway). But they all will walk in the direction they see; that's what will make their journey unique and interesting to recapture after a few months of their wandering.

Donkeys are donkeys... they keep walking until they are tired and exhausted. We will see (a) where they reach, (b) trajectories of their movement (c) what they saw during their journey and (d) their development.

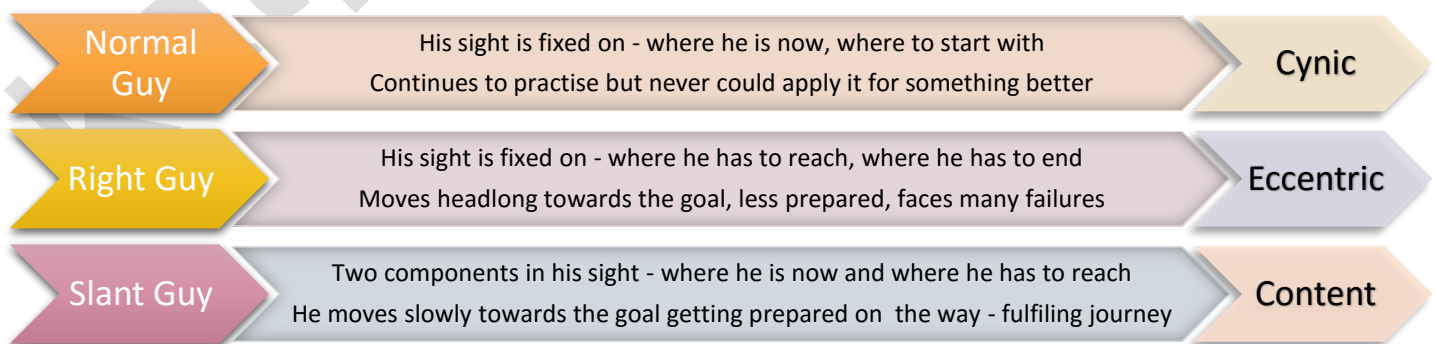


The normal guy kept walking on the periphery of the hill and took rounds and rounds around the hill! But it never occurred to him to climb up heal! He could be found anywhere on the periphery and he grew out to be very confident of what he saw – because he saw it all again and again - the same way and the same obstacles, repeatedly. He became a well-practiced master of his journey; overenthusiastic to guide others like him. But he ended up practicing only; he practiced walking and not climbing. His journey was monotonous and boring that made him a cynic - denouncing any novelty whatsoever in his life. He knows everything and believes that there is nothing worth achieving in life. This guy had walked most among the three and was least hurt by any injuries during his treaded walkway.

The right guy was found resting somewhere in the middle of the hill, bruised and hurt with several injuries. He always saw the 'Right' side and tried to climb the hill headlong! It was not easy for him to climb up the hill and he fell several times off hurting himself quite often. But donkey he is... he got up every time he could and tried over and over again. He finds his life tough and miserable with many failures and few achievements. He turns out to be an extremist. He either could be too optimist or a downright pessimist – as he recollects his journey with his shaky voice. He has walked least among the three and also is least confident of what he has achieved and what caused him to fail. His explanations are neither detailed nor rational. This 'Idealist' guy with his sight focused only on his ultimate goal ended up being an eccentric with extreme and inconsistent views on his rollercoaster ride.

The slant guy is there found walking towards the top of the hill looking around, amazed, happy, healthy and content with most of his efforts. Minor injuries he received during the not so easy journey could not stop him from enjoying the beauty around him that he happened to see while spiraling up the hill. He went through the same spots in his way but had a different height that broadened his vision. He grew out to be a sensible, open minded person with confidence to face the surprises and challenges of life and to learn from the same. He has gained wisdom and is found keen and patient for the people down the way.

Here is the summary (see the graphic below):



Continued efforts (hard work and practice) for attainment of objectives are necessary but always insufficient without a 'Slant' vision! 'Slant' vision is the one that has at least two components – the present and the future. Formal education provides the practicing ground for the journey uphill but critically lacks the third dimension. Scholarly practitioner needs to move beyond the learnt lessons to apply and find corrections in multi-dimensional world.

The mix of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities can prepare the practitioner well for the uphill journey by adding components towards the far-sighted goals. Awareness about the real-life problems with their relevance in social, economic, political, environmental, personal and many other aspects can help prepare the practitioner to view the life and world in broader perspective. That vision can make the journey fulfilling and rewarding – for individual and society, both.