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## The Role Of Self-Motivation And Morale For General Service Officer

Definitely, I had always heard about it but time had now come for me to see and taste it myself; as they say that experience is the best teacher. Cadet training, a journey to being a military officer started on a high note and everything was like hell to me, everyone around me was in hell and so we were in hell! This was contrary to my earlier expectation of a cool and conducive office-working environment as they termed it General Service Officer (GSO) training in the adverts. It was rain, mud, scorching sun, hunger, lack of sleep, fatigue, sweat and all sorts of unpleasant conditions. It took me time to understand the objectivity of all those vigorous activities that we had to be subjected to. The training had become very hard but there was no option of quitting in my mind reminding myself that when the going gets tough, it is only the tough that get going.

People had made it before me and I believed that I could also do it. The secret magic was very simple and whoever realized it early faced no difficulty in training. It was discipline accompanied by self-motivation and in built morale. Fear is the enemy of morale; fear unimpeded will lead to panic. There is no man who is completely without fear, but, with high morale, men will face danger, if not willingly, at least stoically. Because of their sentiments of duty, courage, and loyalty, as well as their sense of pride in their nation state, in their regiment, fear is no option. Self-motivation and morale make one to evaluate, identify and focus on the positive side of every difficult situation.

Self-motivation and morale bring about courage, which is core requirement in the battlefield. I understood that the essence of training was to turn us from civilians into military officers; a war machine that should lead men to the battle and bring them back all alive. He is the first to set foot into the battlefield and the last to set foot out of the same theatre. No officer can manage to overlook the plain fact that at the end of all training is the battlefield. The final test of his work is only to be revealed on the battlefield.

Therefore, cadet training is meant to be very hard under the worst possible physical and mental conditions ever. Concerning physical fitness, troops must be hardened by imposing severe tests on their physical stamina. They must be prepared to march hard and far, in correct fashion, and, over short periods, to live hard. With self-motivation and in built morale everything is possible. NEVER expect someone else to motivate you as the best and enduring type of motivation is that from within you.

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