

ABSTRACT

Leadership is a common phenomenon which affects the efficiency of an organization. This has been defined in many ways by various scholars. Disparities in leadership performances arise mainly due to the individual leadership traits of the leaders. It is evident that the strengths of the leadership traits have a direct influence on the effective performances of the leaders.

Development of leadership traits would be the most effective way to improve the performance levels of the leaders. Finding the appropriate methods to develop these traits would enhance the leadership performances as well as the effectiveness of the organization.

This phenomenon has no exemption for Sri Lankan military forces. It is evident that weaker leadership traits are the main contributory factor for deteriorated performances of its officers. This is becoming a major obstacle for the effectiveness of the on going war. Ill-treating of subordinates, corruptions, breach of code of conduct and absent without official leave are few of commonly seen misbehaviour among the officers.

Having understood the cause for the problem, it is required to find an amicable solution. The path to this solution would be the development of individual's knowledge in personal and professional life, re-shaping of thinking pattern, coordination in mental and physical activities. These activities could be categorised as wisdom, mental discipline and ethical conducts which are the corner stones of Buddha's teaching or the Buddhist strategies.

Buddha's teachings have influenced the lives of millions of people for nearly 2500 years as these teachings are applicable to all walks of life. It is proven that a person with

right views, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right-mindedness, and right contemplation can overcome any difficult situation. That is why it is assumed that religious strategies can influence the effectiveness of the leadership performances.