

## “A FISHY WORLD”

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### Introductory Note

*The "Fishy World" story is an allegory of what goes on in our world because of greed, competitiveness and a lust to have more and to be than others.*

### Intent of this Fable.

- ✓ *To realize that cut-throat competition leads to disaster*
- ✓ *Competition as a rule is naked greed masquerading as a harmless desire for improvement.*
- ✓ *Cooperation and emulation are better ways*

## THE FABLE

The sea was vast and limitless. In that expanse of blue crystal like water, therein lived all sorts of fish: big fish, small fish, young fish, and old fish, fish of every color and shape and size. All were equally happy and free. It was fun to be a fish!

One day, "Greedy", one of the fishes began telling to himself:: "I am fed up just being one fish amongst many. I want to be bigger than the rest. I want to be more powerful, to boss and dominate."

He thought that the fastest way to grow bigger and m more powerful was to eat smaller fish. And so he began in. earnest. Very soon, he grew bigger and stronger. Now, he boasted of being the biggest fish in the sea.. Of course, he was greatly feared and highly respected by all.

When the other fish saw what had happened, they too, wanted to become bigger and stronger. And so, without any qualms of conscience, the bigger ones began gobbling up the smaller ones. It was now, the law of the jungle. Might was right. Soon, some fish grew very big and powerful. The number of fishes in the sea, however, dwindled very fast. Yet, those who improved in size, and power; did not grow in happiness!.

After many days, all that was left in the sea were two monstrous fishes, "Greedy" and his rival. They could not live in peace. They were all out to destroy each other. One day, they engaged in a deadly battle. It was a fight to the finish. At the end "Greedy" won the day. He felt very great. He grew even bigger. He became the biggest fish ever. He had no rival, no competitor!. He had made it to the top!

But now, he was feeling lonesome. He had no friends, no companions, no competitors and no rivals to dethrone! Besides, now, there were not fish left to feed on and grow bigger any stronger. Finally, in frustration and sadness, "Greedy" died of starvation in that vast empty ocean.

## **POINTS FOR REFLECTION**

- At the start, although the fish were different in size, shape and color in the sea, all were equally happy.
- No sooner (*greed*) - "**Greedy**" appeared in the scene, things changed for the worse in the happy and peaceful world of the fish
- "Greedy" brought with him an army of evils into the "Fishy World"
- Many fish grew in size, strength and power, but not in happiness
- A greedy person can never be happy
- Greed a ever growing destroying cancer once enters into our heart.
- When "Greedy" had destroyed all other fish from the ocean, **greed** destroyed Greedy:" through unhappiness and self-disgust.
- **The story of "Fishy World", unfortunately, has become history in our World!.**
- Greed is the root cause of all quarrels, fights and wars between persons and persons, families and families, nations and nations.
- If each one wants to have more and to be more than his neighbor. our world cannot survive
- Competition as a way of live is evil, baneful and fateful!
- Yet we encourage it in our homes, in our educational institutions, , in the social-political and economical life
- Love. justice, cooperation, and mutual understanding should the foundations of a peaceful and prosperous world.
- Gandhi said: There is enough wealth in the world to satisfy the needs of all, but not the greed of all..