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Context to the conversation

Jaspreet speaks about how his passion for quizzing in his childhood and early years of corporate life shaped his Operating System as a “Learn it all”.

Transcription

Deepak Jayaraman (DJ): Just staying with your journey, Jaspreet I'm curious about how people evolve. And I feel very often, even in my coaching work, sometimes the cues lie in childhood.

Jaspreet Bindra (JB): Absolutely.

DJ: I wanna go back to your 15 years and I'm curious, in what ways has your, if I may say, if I may use a tech term, your operating system that got formed in the first 15 years? How's how has that shaped who you are today?

JB: I'm so glad you're asking me this question because no one asks this first of all. Second is, actually I have an answer for this.

DJ: Lovely, lovely,

JB: Okay. And it's something I realized. So a if you were to Google me search for me before this whole, my new avatar or my late life avatar is doing all this work in AI and other technologies, you would've found me, my recognition in this world was that I was this very good, if I may say so, quizzier. So, I used to quiz a lot and it was my consuming passion.

DJ: Interesting.

JB: As a nerd,

DJ: This is school days. Huh?

JB: School went on to college. Okay. And early corporate days also. Wow. So it started in school during the teenage years.

DJ: So why are you into this whole Bournvita quiz contest?

JB: Bournvita, yes. But we had no access to it. So we have to see it. But it was school, college, quizzing, and frankly then winning everything in sight. And that was the only way. People knew me. I

wouldn't play sports, etc. and so it was a big thing for me. I was consumed by knowledge and then I discovered beyond knowledge, I discovered trivia which was even better. And then I won a bunch of things, including the, at that time there used to be something on the brand equity quiz, which was more during my, now my early corporate years after college, and then I started in college.

I used to start, used to. Organize quizzes, et cetera. And anyway, and then I won brand equity. Nationally thrice. So Derek O'Brien still acknowledges me as the person who has won the quiz the most. This is individual or as a team, or as a team with com in companies, but I was the only common factor in all those three teams.

Understood and regionally a few times. But what quizzing did was the OS. So my OS really was quizzing. It's a lot like many tech people, you would say, oh, I discovered computer and basic and c plus when I was seven years old or whatever. Okay. And I was this prodigy who didn't know. No, I was none of that.

Okay. So mine was quizzing and what that, so quizzing basically gave me this insufferable reputation of a Mr. Know it all. Okay. And I was insufferable and, but as I tell people, I used to know all the trivial things. I learned nothing useful because I would do only trivia. Now, if you read all my writing today, or when I go speak or when I, the thing which draws people to me is that for example, when I wrote my first book, the Tech Whisperer it starts with the concept of the Hindu Trinity, Vishnu, and then it goes into details of Vishnu and then how Vishnu is actually this part of digital transformation. And Mahesh or Shiva is the destruction part, and therefore is culture.

You'll find these different aspects. So Norse mythology will come in from somewhere in something else, I say. Or something which from politics, from philosophy, from history, all of that is coming because of my cuisine and is actually making all my content, frankly, different from the content that gets produced.

And I learned that people love it. Okay. They love these kind of things. And so in, I tell people that all those years that I thought I wasted, I won a lot of things at a point of time, all the. Brown and white goods of my house were, because of quizzing, my first two foreign trips ever were because of quizzing.

DJ: Wow. Is it that deep.

JB: I know the Yeah. The winnings from it. Yeah. Very deep. Yeah, very deep. But beyond that, now, actually, I'm making my career out of leveraging that knowledge, which I gained, and it's deep seated in me. So that's actually very clearly my thought.

DJ: That's very interesting. You used the word know it all right. I think I came across Satya Nadella at some point.

JB: The Learn it all bit.

DJ: Learn it all. So in a way,

JB: I told you I know it all. So I he said, I learn it all.

DJ: So in a way, while you framed it as know it all quizzing requires to learn it all right? Actually that's the real

JB: Absolutely and absolutely. And so I've reframed it also. So what you exactly said, I tell people I'm not a Mr. Know it all, but I'm now become an insufferable Learn it all. Correct. That's exactly right. Yeah,

DJ: That's exactly right.

JB: And this anyway, this learning it all is why I left corporate life, which I'm sure we'll talk about later.

Reflections from Deepak Jayaraman

DJ: It is fascinating to see how much of who we are gets baked in our childhood. However, like Steve Jobs used to say, the dots connect when you look backward not when you look forward.

End of transcription

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About Deepak Jayaraman

Deepak seeks to unlock the human potential of senior executive's / leadership teams by working with them as an Executive Coach / Sounding Board / Transition Advisor. You can know more about his work [here](#).

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