

**A century is not good enough**

**Saurav Ganguly**

**Cricket may be a sport to some, but to me it was life and very close to my heart.**

**Always take the challenging path, you will  
end up the winner**

**I did not cry at my father's funeral. Tears are  
the easy way out of sadness**

**Most of you can switch jobs in the career world, for cricketers , there is only one job, India. There is no other job, India or nothing**

**Attitude is important. It is what separates  
the men from the boys**

**I have a suggestion for any youngster wanting to achieve big. The cycle of hope and despair can crush you. It will destroy your confidence temporarily. But you have to look at it positively.**

**You will enjoy your holidays only when  
there is pressure in your work.**

**If you say you are turning back at a challenge because you fear the pressure, then you are wasting an opportunity to get better.**

**When you are down and times are tough,  
the best solution is to work hard and keep  
quiet. Only your actions and nothing else  
can change your destiny.**

**Young cricketers reading this book must understand that most of the game is played in your mind.**

**Heroes are made when you confront an uncomfortable situation head on.**

**For me the art of captaincy was not theory  
but practice.**

**As captain, I was clear I wanted to play and win, I hated draws.**

**My captaincy was characterize by two pillars – proper identification of talent and ensuring the young finds played fearless cricket.**

**I have the ultimate respect for Steve  
Waugh, he is the ultimate opponent and as  
captain, the one I wanted to beat most.**

**Ian Chappell once told me that as captain when you go to bed, you must be absolutely sure that you have been honest and treated every player on merit.**

**My five year experience suggests that captaincy is an amazing disease. It either cures you or kills you. Captains turn into different individuals once they are offered the job.**

**However difficult a challenge, you must  
always aim high.**

**You never had a battle with Steve Waugh's team, it was always a full fledged war**

**History has not recorded many instances of a winning captain being dropped unceremoniously, that too after scoring a hundred in the last test series.**

**Never ever think that by agreeing to a difficult demand, you are belittling your self. You should look at it as an opportunity to climb back to the top**

**A lot of people asked me how I hit big sixes. I used to visualize the ground to be small and would take out the long on and long off from the equation.**

**When you are down, it's not best to protest too much. Let your actions make the statement**

**When I was dropped, I made three decisions**

**:**

**a. I will train the hardest**

**b. I will play all the Ranji matches in the season and**

**c. I am not going to give up**

**My mind was split into three :**

**a. Tremendous belief in my own ability**

**b. Unsure about my comeback possibilities**

**c. Growing pessimism with every India win,  
since selectors rarely change a winning  
combination**

**The truth is the the best in the world look at the toughest of situations as an opportunity to become famous.**

**Professional life is all about remaining in the present. I, an ex captain, was called back to be a budding player and was actually 12 th man in one match.**

**In competitive sport, as in any career, your job performance for ten years is only a bonus. It is never a fixed deposit. Once you are done at the top, you may have to climb the ladder from the bottom again.**

**A coach has to be a team's friend. Greg Chappell had no clue on mana management and hence when he left, every one hated him**

**The burden of captaincy gets heavier over time, it is actually easier at the start.**

**Even when things are not working for you,  
don't quit. Just hang in there. Darkness also  
has an expiry date.**

**All performers must remember that there is  
no tomorrow in the professional world.  
Every day is about that day not the future,  
not the past**

**In your life, you will come across people who will harm you. For no fault of yours, they will become enemies and damage your growth.**

**There is no point on dwelling on people who are not worthy of your attention. you will only expend negative energy and waste precious time on them.**

**Pressure is another key thing to master. It will be with you as long as you continue to attempt to break barriers, set targets and retain your reputation.**