

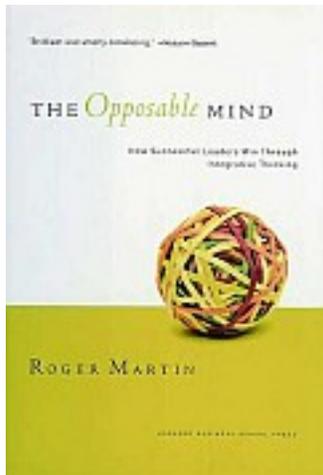
Saturday June 27, 2009

Snapshots

Compiled by THEAN LEE CHENG

The Opposable Mind: How Successful Leaders Win Through Integrative Thinking

Author: Roger Martin



Publisher: Harvard Business School Press

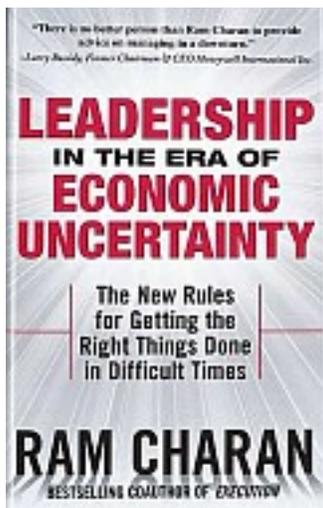
AUTHOR Roger Martin writes that brilliant leaders are skilled at integrative thinking – the ability to hold two opposing ideas at once, and then reach a synthesis that contains elements of both but improves on each.

Most managerial decisions are made by examining the pros and cons of the presumed alternatives, then eliminating all but one. Conventional thinkers focus only on obviously relevant features, break problems into pieces and work on them separately, and settle for what they perceive to be the best available options.

But truly successful leaders try not to make “either-or” decisions. They see factors which are not immediately obvious, consider non-linear relationships and see the problem as a whole. Martin draws from the experience and leadership of corporate figures to illustrate his point.

Leadership In the Era of Economic Uncertainty

Author: Ram Charan



Publisher:

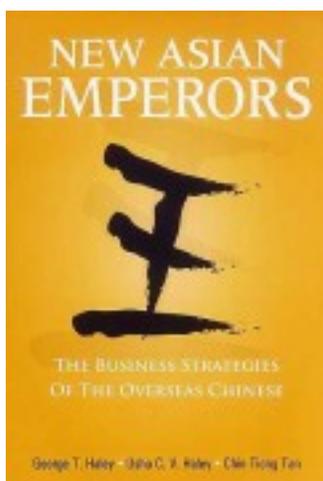
McGraw-Hill

BUSINESS leaders today face an unprecedented challenge – the worldwide economy downturn. Cash and credit are dwindling, sales forecasts are dismal and morale is sinking.

Ram Charan helps you steer your business through the minefield of contracting markets, cash shortages and ongoing uncertainty.

No matter what your leadership role, Charan's insight will help your business to emerge leaner, stronger and well in front of the competition.

Charan suggests you protect cash flow vigilantly, and use cash more efficiently and use ground intelligence to survive the storm. Also, position your business to thrive in the aftermath. Lots of examples and case studies on how leaders at DuPont, Wipro and other companies use Charan's techniques.



New Asian Emperors

Authors:
and Chin Tiong Tan

George T. Haley, Usha C.V. Haley

Publisher:

Wiley

SOUTHEAST Asia's economy is dominated by about 40 families, most of them of Chinese descent. Their conglomerates span the real estate, telecommunication, hotel, industrial good, computer and sugar plantation sectors.

The authors outline why these companies continue to dominate the region and have extended their reach to East Asia, despite the Asian financial and SARS crises of the past decade.

Their conclusions are based on interviews spanning a decade with Li Ka-shing (Cheung Kong

Holdings and Hutchinson Whampoa), Stan Shih (Acer), Kwek Leng Beng (Hong Leong group), Victor Fung (Li & Fung Group), Stephen Riady (Lippo group) and Sukanto Tanoto (RGM International) and other corporate figures in the region.

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