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Of Bona Fide and Mala Fide

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Abstract

Between bona fide and mala fide intention which one is more detrimental depends on the intention of the concerned person. Also, it depends on the previous track record of that very person. Bona fide upgrades, mala fide degrades social status. Bona fide may be mala fide, but mala fide may not be bona fide.

Keywords: Bona fide, mala fide, genuine, fraud

Introduction

Creative writing is based more on manifestation rather than on expression. It does not inform rather reveals, so it bears no reference. The best creative writing is critical, and the best critical writing is creative. The present article is the outcome of creative writing meant for lay readers. As such free style is the methodology adopted so that pleasure of reading can be enjoyed by the common mass. As you know well that Francis Bacon (1561-1626), the immortal essayist, wrote many essays and notably, Of Love, Of Friendship, Of Ambition, Of Studies, etc. The myriad-minded genius rightly pointed out that all the words of the dictionary can be the themes of essays one can write. But little has been done, in this regard since his death, in order to finish his unfinished monumental works. In fact, Bacon's way of presentation i.e., his unique style kindled the imagination already in me and encouraged me as well to write essays, in the light of creative writing, thus, to get relief through Catharsis.

Of Bona Fide and Mala Fide

Bona fide means genuine. It implies without deception. It is in good faith. It is sincere. It is legal e.g. a bona fide

agreement/contract/deal/citizen/specimen. It is made or done without fraud or deceit e.g. a bona fide offer to negotiate. It is real e.g. a bona fide Chippendale chair. Authentic is synonym of bona fide. Bona fides means good faith. It implies reliability. It is proof or profits of genuineness. For example: His bona fides remain unproven. It is legally mean honest and sincere intention e.g. establishes one's bona fides. Colloquially, it is documentary evidence of acceptability. For example: His bona fides are in order. He did make a mistake there, but his bona fides cannot be questioned. Mala fide means acting or done in bad faith. For example: The court ruled that the allegations were mala fide. It is not genuine e.g. a mala fide proposal. It implies treacherous action. A wise person always thinks for bona fide and follows it. An evil soul or a fool always thinks for mala fide and follows that avenue. The ultimate success of a person depends on the degree of bona fide intention throughout his life. Similarly, downfall of career of any person is liable on the inclination towards mala fide intention as a whole. Thus, a person's fate is the resultant of bona fide and mala fide intention. It is the outcome of two diagonally

opposite forces. Bona fide business pays less, mala fide business pays more. That less payment is steady income. They say, slow but steady wins the race. Some people have no interest to earn through bona fide way. As such a dishonest person adopts illegal avenue to earn a lot overnight. He knows, 'Rome was not built in a day'. But he does not want to follow that moral lesson. He needs immediate gain. He wants instant success by hook or by crook i.e. by any means fair or foul. He fears nobody. He cares none. Later on, he realises that he who rises too high is sure to fall. Ultimately, he experiences downfall quite helplessly. Unlimited income affects both minds thereby body. The person becomes brakeless. His brakeless whims are singularly liable for his ultimate and untimely ruin. He becomes poor again. Thus, easy earning money is not always easy to keep in safe custody. It needs merit. It demands wisdom. The mala fide person does lack in having both the personality traits. All cannot be rich. All are not destined to be rich. It is good to know designation. It is better to know one's limitation. Some persons envy the rich persons. Some wives provoke their husbands to be rich and give them ornaments. A wise husband seldom earns through mala fide i.e. dishonest means. A good wife always protects her husband from illegal allurements. She is satisfied with the poor income of her husband through bona fide efforts. The children of such a family get moral lessons from their parents. They shine in life. They become good citizens. They become Good Samaritans. Man faces bona fide events. Man faces mala fide events too. He has to face. He is bound to face. This facing does not depend whether he likes it or not or whether he is right or wrong, it matters little. Thus, man willy-nilly faces both events infinite times from cradle to grave. In fact, bad intention always plays in man's mind. So, power of evil is more than fair and free thinking. Good culture and honest companions save a child from destruction. Bona fide avenue escorts him towards success. Mala fide intention pushes him in danger. He becomes a diverted genius. He becomes a misguided missile. As such school life is the most precious period to teach and learn the difference between bona fide and mala fide events i.e. right and wrong. A corrupted person thinks for immediate profit through mala fide activity. He pretends to be friend. He tries to acquire belief with bona fide mask. When the concerned person believes him, he discloses his true identity and cheats the target prey. Later on, when the evil soul becomes old and inactive, hairs become grey, eyesight becomes feeble then he realises the wrongs done at bygone days. At that late period of life, he adopts the bona fide avenue. But alas! He is too late. Then he hears

the footsteps of death. Death, as if, knocks his door. He realises that his days are numbered. He perceives that death is imminent. Then he surrenders to the Almighty and cries to forgive him. Thus, the tyrant becomes a sincere devotee. An honest person may commit any mistake. Later on, when he realises it he adopts corrective measures accordingly to rectify the mistake. But a corrupted person commits bona fide mistake intentionally with mala fide intention. None can doubt anything wrong for the mistake, as if, done unintentionally or inadvertently. He waits and watches. If none raises a question, he gains silently. Again, someone may do mala fide mistake intentionally with bona fide intention. For example: Let there are some quarrelsome sons of an old person. The sons do not care their father. They quarrel and fight with each other always. Then a well-wisher asks their father to sleep and pretend to be dead. Then the person asks the sons to see their dead father. The quarrelsome sons see their father and think their father is no more. Then they stop quarrelling and unite again. They realise, 'united we stand divided we fall'. Thus, the mala fide mistake corrects the wrongs of the quarrelsome brothers. Between bona fide and mala fide intention which one is more detrimental depends on the intention of the concerned person. Also, it depends on the previous track record of that very person. Bona fide upgrades, mala fide degrades social status. Bona fide may be mala fide, but mala fide may not be bona fide.

Conclusion

Everybody believes a gentleman. Nobody believes a liar. If a gentleman speaks lie, then none will believe him. Now, that person, who is gentleman no more, if, wants to regain his status then he will have to wait for long period of time and face so many acid tests. Thus, it is difficult to be honest, it is more difficult to maintain honesty, and it is most difficult to regain the lost status. Very few people have that capacity. This answers why we see few successful persons around us having bona fide intention keeping safe distance from mala fide motive.

References

No reference, since the present article is an outcome of Creative Writing