



Saving Face

By <Billy> Eduard Albert Meier





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Saving Face

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Very many human beings try only to save face. To this end, they attempt going on many kinds of paths, but the undertaking is, as a rule, doomed to failure. But how important this is for all these many human beings who live in this delusion of having to save face. To save face, however, is not easy, and all the many who attempt this forget it again and again. Ruthlessly they use their elbows, they hit the neighbor in the back or on the body, if they can therewith reach their goals and indulge their satisfaction. Equally ruthlessly they trample all over the fellow human being's thoughts and feelings if they thereby can get their way. And so very many are proud when they can lay their finger on the neighbor and hurl threats at him, and how despicable they are when they maintain no dignity and do things that offend against every compliment and tactfulness, against civility, culture, and way of life as well as against good upbringing, only because they have not learned the high virtues and therefore kick them. Not to have intended that the actions offend against the high compliments and nobleness as well as against the self-control, uncorruption and excellence is really the cheapest excuse that can be conceived.

How shameful it is indeed to reprimand children and adults in the presence of others without considering how the reprimand thereby harms the self-esteem, and for them, the shame is impressed on the face in such a way that they would like most of all to sink to the ground. If the people who show guilt must be given a justifiable reprimand, then this should happen in private and to the exclusion of those not involved. Nonetheless, however, it is necessary to reprimand with directness and in the presence of others if the neighbors are included among those affected, if, for example, collectively agreed-upon laws are violated or community-endangering degenerations take place, which demands a community-open penalty.

Good thoughts create good feelings, and good feelings should and must, in fact, be shown to the neighbor, who is, in fact, any fellow human being regardless of skin color, race, social class or whichever religion he belongs to. And as a matter of fact, occupation and title also play no role in this because regarding the association from human being to human being, these are hollow words (sound and smoke). To understand and live this needs only clear thoughts and feelings. And to form a little consideration and positive feelings can work wonders because respectful words and a little understanding for the circumstances of the neighbor - of the fellow human being - thereby emerge. And it is a fact that something positive and good thoughts and feelings seize the severity of any negative or bad situation, which nurtures interpersonal relations and makes life more bearable for every human being.



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