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Agile Leadership vs. Conventional Leadership

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Agenda

- 1. Introductions and Expectations
- 2. Overview of Leadership
- 3. Agile Leadership
- 4. Transforming from Conventional to Agile Leadership
- 5. Quiz
- 6. Summary / Q&A



Your Expectations

What are your expectations from this webinar?

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Helping organizations turn their project management capability into a *competitive advantage*



NK Shrivastava PMP, RMP, ACP, CSP, SPC4

CEO/Consultant since Dec 2011

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 - Coached/mentored hundreds of PMs and executives
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2021 Project Management and Agile Year in Review	Dec 01
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What Is Leadership?



- Your Thoughts
 - Definitions of Leadership
 - Leadership vs. Management







What is leadership?

Go to menti.com to answer





What is Leadership?

- Difficult to define because of varying expectations
 - ✓ "The only definition of a leader is someone who has followers."

–Peter Drucker

✓ "Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality."
 –Warren Bennis

• Wikipedia: "the ability of an individual . . . to 'lead' or guide other individuals, teams, or entire organizations".

Sources:

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1. Wikipedia (2016). "Leadership." Wikipedia. Accessed 10 July 2016 from <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leadership</u> 2. http://www.forbes.com/sites/kevinkruse/2013/04/09/what-is-leadership/2/#44437d77e825



What Do Leaders Do?

- Get results
 - If leaders don't get results, why have leaders?
- Provide inspiration and motivation

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• Align team to a vision

What else?

Source: Goleman, Daniel (2000, March-April). "Leadership that gets results." Harvard Business Review.





Who is a Leader? Who is a Manager?

A Leader:

- 1. Sets vision
- 2. Aligns people to that vision, and
- 3. Inspires and energize people

A Manager:

- 1. Plans work
- 2. Organizes people
- 3. Solves problems







Managers vs. Leaders

Managers	Leaders
Help teams cope with complexity	Help teams cope with change
Set plan and budget	Set vision and direction
Organize and staff team	Align team to vision
Solve problems	Inspire team

What else?

Refine March-April). "Leadership that gets results." Harvard Business Review. 11





What Is Agile Leadership?



- Your Thoughts
- Definitions of Agile Leadership
- Context of Agile Leadership
- Agile Leadership Behaviors



Agile Leadership

What does "Agile Leadership" mean to you?

Use menti.com to answer



Agile Leadership - Definitions

- 1. *"True Agile Leaders . . . are inclusive, democratic leaders who exhibit a greater openness to ideas and innovations."* –Center for Agile Leadership
- 2. "An <u>agile leader</u> is a person who fosters agile ways of thinking and working, creates an environment where teams can do their best work, and champions agile throughout their organization." – Vitality Chicago
- 3. *"The Agile Leader is one who adapts." AgileBusiness.org*



- 1. <u>https://centerforagileleadership.com/what-is-agile-leadership/</u>
- 2. <u>https://vitalitychicago.com/blog/what-leaders-role-agile-transformation/</u>
- 3. <u>https://www.agilebusiness.org/page/Resource_paper_nineprinciples</u>

Agile Leadership Context



JIRA, GitHub, Jenkins, Puppet) Veirics (Velocity, delays, Defects, rework)

Process/Methods

(Scrum, XP, Lean, Kanban)

90%

10%

Culture

(Team empowerment, continuous learning, transparency, fast failure)

Team Structure

(Squads, governance, roles/responsibilities,

distributed teams)

Safe Environment

(Team empowerment, welcoming changes, allowing for failure)

Agile Mindset

Continuous delivery, working iteratively, prioritization)

Servant Leadership

(Resolving issues/barriers, shifting away from command/control)

Continuous Learning

(Retrospectives, continuous improvement, constant feedback)

This is where Agile Leadership is crucial



Making Customer Satisfaction as #1 Priority

- 1. Ensure customer needs are at the top of the list
- 2. Empower customer to engage with team
- 3. Make customer feel like a partner





Leading With Agile Prioritization

- 1. Make sure prioritization is done in Agile manner, backlog items ranked 1 to "n" (not high, medium low)
- 2. Make sure highest-value items are delivered first
- 3. Make sure customer validates priority
- 4. Make sure team has clarity on priority
- 5. Make sure product owners for each team are skilled and trained to prioritize in the right manner





Creating Self-Managed Empowered Teams

- 1. Let the "control" go
- 2. Servant leadership remove barriers
- 3. Encourage team to solve problems– don't take the ball away
- Manage the work, not them prioritize it and let the team figure out how to deliver it





Creating a Safe Environment

- 1. Create an environment where people can talk freely
- 2. Embrace facilitator role let team lead
- 3. Make sure everyone's voice is heard in standups, reviews and retros





Welcoming Changes

- 1. Ensure team has a mindset of welcoming changes, all the time
- 2. Make sure customers agree with updated priorities based on the new changes





Fostering a Culture of Transparency

- 1. Create a culture of "everyone knows what's going on"
- Make sure everyone feels empowered to share concerns
- 3. Encourage use of information radiators to communicate progress





Cultivating Servant Leadership

- 1. Be a leader with no "control"
- 2. Facilitate not manage
- Help team solve problems but don't take the ball
- 4. Make sure you are helping, not hindering, the team





Transforming from Conventional to Agile Leadership

Conventional Leadership	Agile Leadership
Prioritize as High, Medium, Low	Prioritize as 1, 2,n
Command and control	Empower teams to be self-managing
Managing People	Managing work
Shared resources	Fully dedicated end-2-end teams
Focus on higher utilization	Focus on higher throughput



What Conventional Leaders Should Unlearn to Be Agile Leaders



- Controlling behaviors
- Managing Teams/people
- Conventional prioritization
- 100% Utilization/shared resources



Anti-Agile Leadership Behaviors

What anti-Agile leadership behaviors have you observed in your organization?

Use menti.com to answer



Conclusion

- 1. Going from conventional to Agile leadership requires shifts in thinking and doing
- 2. You need to start with yourself and work out to your teams and the organization
- 3. The reward is Agile leadership that helps produce value faster and helps teams grow faster.

Start your Agile Leadership journey today





Quiz

Go to menti.com to answer



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Questions?

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Project Management Courses	Over the Web
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