



Movie Screening of “African Cats”

Date: June 5, 2023	Venue: Seminar Hall, RVIM, Bangalore.
Time: 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm	Event : Movie Club, Movie Screening
No. of Participants: 100	Event Coordinators: Dr. Rashmi Shetty, Prof. NNS Reddy, Prof. Uma Sharma

The screening of *African Cats*, a documentary film, was organized for fourth semester students as part of their subject Strategic Management and Corporate Governance. This was an educational initiative to highlight the importance of leadership, teamwork, and resilience through real-world analogies from nature. The documentary follows the lives of two iconic African predators, a lioness and a cheetah, as they navigate the challenges of survival in the African savanna. The event aimed to use the film's narrative to stimulate discussions on leadership, strategy, and organizational behavior, drawing parallels between the animal kingdom and the corporate world.

Objectives

- **To enhance leadership skills and strategies:** The documentary illustrates the leadership qualities required to lead a pride or a family in the wild, offering parallels to managerial and leadership qualities in the business world.
- **To foster teamwork and collaboration:** The film emphasizes the importance of cooperation within a group or team, showcasing the roles of individuals in collective success.
- **To highlight resilience in the face of adversity:** The animals in the documentary demonstrate resilience, determination, and overcoming challenges, which are crucial lessons for aspiring business leaders.

Key Themes and Lessons

Several key business and leadership lessons can be derived from the film:

1. Leadership and Decision-Making
 - **Sita the Cheetah's Leadership:** As a mother and leader, Sita is tasked with making critical decisions for her cubs' survival. Her strategy involves patience, calculated risks, and understanding when to act and when to wait. For MBA students, this reflects the importance of strategic thinking, making timely decisions, and understanding the environment.
 - **Lioness Layla's Role:** Layla's leadership as the lioness of the pride demonstrates how a leader must be decisive, strong, and protective. Layla's ability to make quick decisions in times of danger is crucial for her pride's survival, mirroring how managers must lead teams through crisis and adversity.
2. Teamwork and Collaboration
 - **The Importance of Cooperation:** Both Sita and Layla rely on their team members—whether it's her cubs or the pride of lions—to succeed in their respective environments. MBA students can reflect on how, in the business world, collaboration and the collective efforts of individuals towards a common goal are essential for success.
 - **Role of Support Systems:** In the animal kingdom, individuals within a pride or family often play complementary roles to ensure the survival of the group. For example, the pride of lions



works together to hunt, and the cheetah cubs support each other in learning essential survival skills. In business, diverse teams often bring varied perspectives that contribute to a shared goal.

Discussion After the Screening

After the screening, a facilitated discussion was held to engage the students in deeper reflections on the lessons of leadership, strategy, and team dynamics portrayed in the documentary. The key discussion points included:

- Parallels between animal leadership and business leadership: Students discussed how Sita and Layla's approaches to leadership could inform their management styles and decision-making processes in business.
- The role of a leader in a crisis: Students examined how both the cheetah and the lioness handle critical moments, drawing parallels with business leaders who must stay calm and make crucial decisions during challenging times.
- Team dynamics: Students reflected on the teamwork displayed by the animals in the film, discussing how effective collaboration, clear roles, and mutual trust lead to success in both nature and business environments.

Conclusion

The screening of *African Cats* was an enriching experience for the MBA students, providing a unique perspective on leadership, teamwork, and resilience. By watching the struggles and triumphs of the animal families, students were able to make meaningful connections to their studies in business management and leadership. The film served as a powerful reminder of the importance of strategic thinking, adaptability, and collaboration, all of which are essential for success in both the corporate world and in life.

Overall, the event successfully combined entertainment with valuable lessons, allowing students to reflect on nature's wisdom while preparing them for their future roles as leaders in the business world.



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