

Personal Futuring

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For all of the members and who are interested in Futures Studies
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Editorial

A general review is given on personal foresight...



Step by step method of personal futuring

A useful method of personal futuring is introduced in this section...



31 Habits of highly effective futurists

31 habits are determined for a futurist to make him highly effective...



Key Future Trends

Key future trends in different areas are discussed briefly...



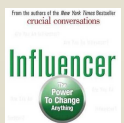
Future Casting

A new model of strategic planning is offered within future casting...



A Futurist

Verne Wheelwright is introduced to our readers as a futurist...



Book Review

Influencer is the book that is reviewed in this issue...



Web Surfing

Some useful links on futures studies are given in this section...



Virtual World

20 Forecasts is mentioned from WFS for next 15 years...

Editorial

Those who become familiar with science and art of futures studies and related techniques and methods, gradually learn that in addition to applications this field of study has in knowledge and technology-based organizations, it may be also used in personal lives of individuals and help them in creating better futures. The foundation of such thought shapes in people's minds when they think about this question: "How futures studies can be applied in an individual's life?". They want to create a new version of foresight that is usually mentioned as personal foresight. Certainly you've heard from many people that a man should be a forecaster, but a few of them may teach you the scientific way of becoming a forecaster. The only thing that they may have to offer is their personal experience usually full of failures and errors in capturing a true understanding of the future and performing appropriate actions!



From a general perspective, to be a forecaster is usually interpreted as to be a provident making wise decision for the future, while personal foresight has a special approach and a scientific method as well.

Perhaps such shallow interpretations make an individual study the matter in a scientific manner. If you search scientific resources especially the Internet, you will find articles and e-books that may help you realize your vision in applying futures studies in your personal life. Understanding the growing need of becoming aware of personal foresight basics and principles, the Iranian Society of Futures Studies (ISFS) has dedicated this issue of e-monthly to this important topic by selecting and translating a set of items and has shaped initial foundations of applying futures studies rules and techniques in surface and deep layers of the society. It should be remembered that Verne Wheelwright's works were a useful resource in doing so, as he is a graduate of futures studies at the University of Houston, devoting his thesis to personal futures. The main article of this e-monthly is written on the basis of the approach he has offered in his thesis and articles around personal futures and we appreciate his efforts. His method is founded on twelve steps, each embracing a set of details discussed in the article as far as possible.

Performing personal foresight may have many benefits for everyone and the most important of them is leading the life in a meaningful and desired direction. In addition, formulating the goals and making them realizable is the most significant outcome of this approach in the field of foresight. In fact, you may be able to control sensitive and vital periods of your life through personal foresight and this can be very important for the youth.

What is before you now, is the result of an effort made as the first Persian work in the field of personal foresight. Certainly this is not a comprehensive work, but it may serve as an epilogue and appropriate guide for everyone who is interested in applying futures studies techniques and methods in personal aspects of life. It is hoped that in the near future other books, articles and journals may address the topic in more complete ways. This issue of our e-monthly can be regarded as the corner stone of future works in this regard in Iran.

Step by Step Method of Personal Futuring



The future can't be predicted, but it can be processed better than what is usually thought. Futuring or the process of future means becoming aware of personal current and future conditions and making an effort to realize desired futures. Knowing the future is important for everyone, especially when we understand that the coming future can be processed through using a set of methods and techniques. It may seem amazing, but the reality is that many things can be learned from the future. Many ways have been suggested for managing personal affairs by different experts and commentators, but a few has been offered for personal foresight or managing personal futures. What is offered in this article is a step by step method for personal futuring by which processing personal futures may be taught in a simple and practical manner.

You can define shaping your preferred future as a project and manage it personally. You may design alternative scenarios for yourself and plan and run effective strategic plans based on them in this method. The method has a proven efficiency and takes further steps against other methods that remain only at surface of recommendation. It provides a context for the implication of effective measures and helps you in shaping your desired future. It is easy to understand and learn and importantly; it's a feasible practice. Concentrating on each step you take in this method, you will be accompanied by the future in a rational manner. Instead of being concerned about the future, you will process it tangibly and enjoyably in this method. In addition to making you free from confusion over the future, the method makes a sensation of living hope inside you to realize your preferred futures. By gaining results in each step, you will find a feeling of personal satisfaction and become more interested in pacing the road of future. Join us in taking 12 steps of personal futuring.

Step 1: Determine goals, values and drivers

Those people who have used the step by step method of personal futuring and have seen its tangible results in their lives, know that making the most use of this method requires a clear definition of personal values and goals. In other words, we should determine what we expect to happen in our lives. The final outcome of using this method should be individually specified in advance. In this way, we may be able to know what will be exactly attainable after taking required steps of this method.

We should admit that our lives are shaped by goals, hopes and ambitions we have in mind. Our goals guide essential actions that should be made. Considering the goals subjectively do not help alone, rather they should be jugged down on the paper. By writing our goals on a piece of paper, we may be able to quantify and measure them. You can decide on them in this way. Trough writing the goals you may even find out which ones are realistic and which ones are not. Unrealistic goals are those that can't be realized easily considering your current and probable conditions in the coming future. They may be even impossible (with no chance of occurrence).