

Forming 21st Century Leaders: Lessons from 16th Century Jesuits

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Compare today to thirty years ago:

- Faster paced or slower?
- More complex or simpler?
- More change or less?

Do you have a “great deal of confidence” in:

- Our political leaders?
- Our business leaders?
- Our education leaders?
- Our religious leaders?

A leadership crisis:

Percentage of Americans with a “great deal of confidence” in:

Wall St. leaders	=	10%
Congress	=	10%
Business leaders	=	15%
Education leaders	=	20%
Religious leaders	=	20%

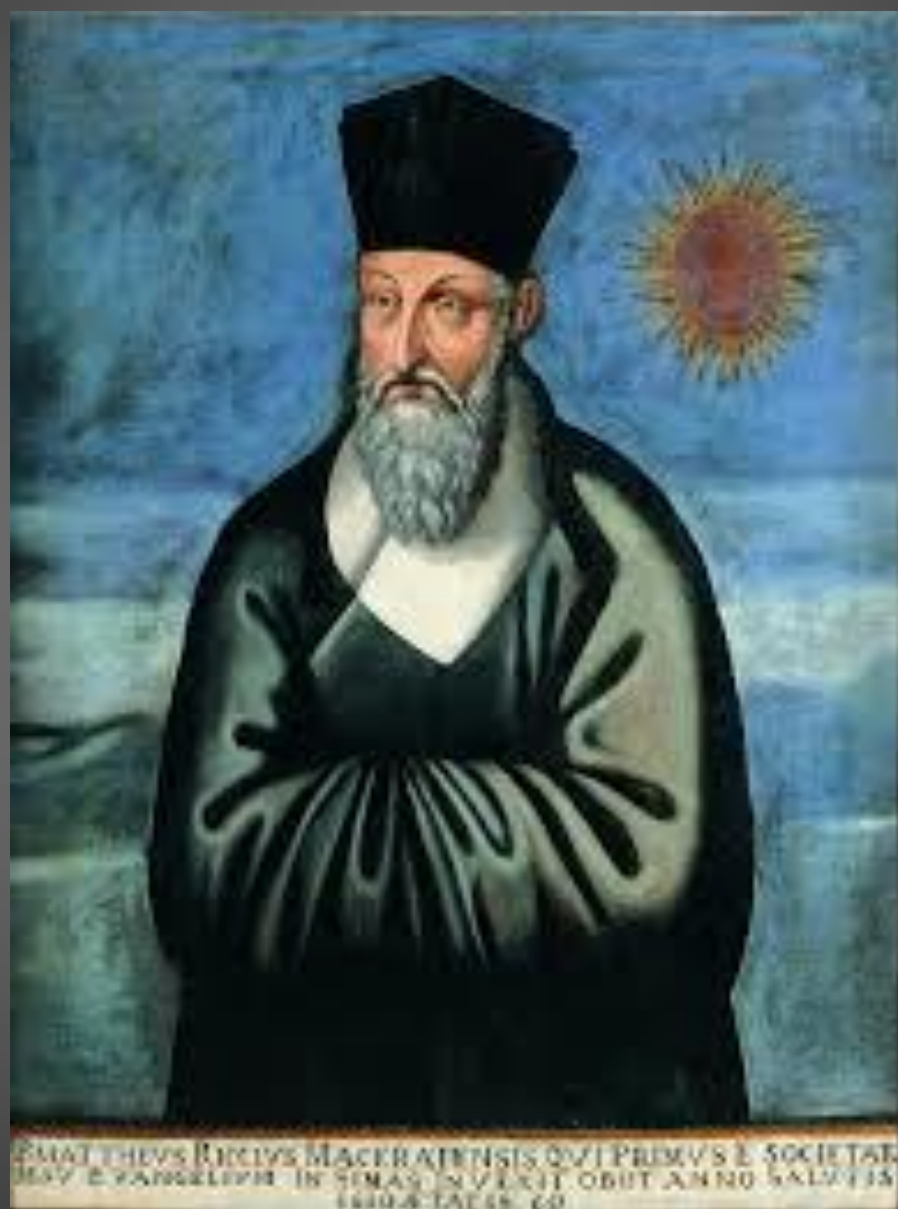
(Yankelovich, Inc Survey; Sept 4-17,2007)

So what kind of leadership do we need?

- Think of the names of one or two living leaders?
- What personal qualities or attributes do you associate with good leadership?



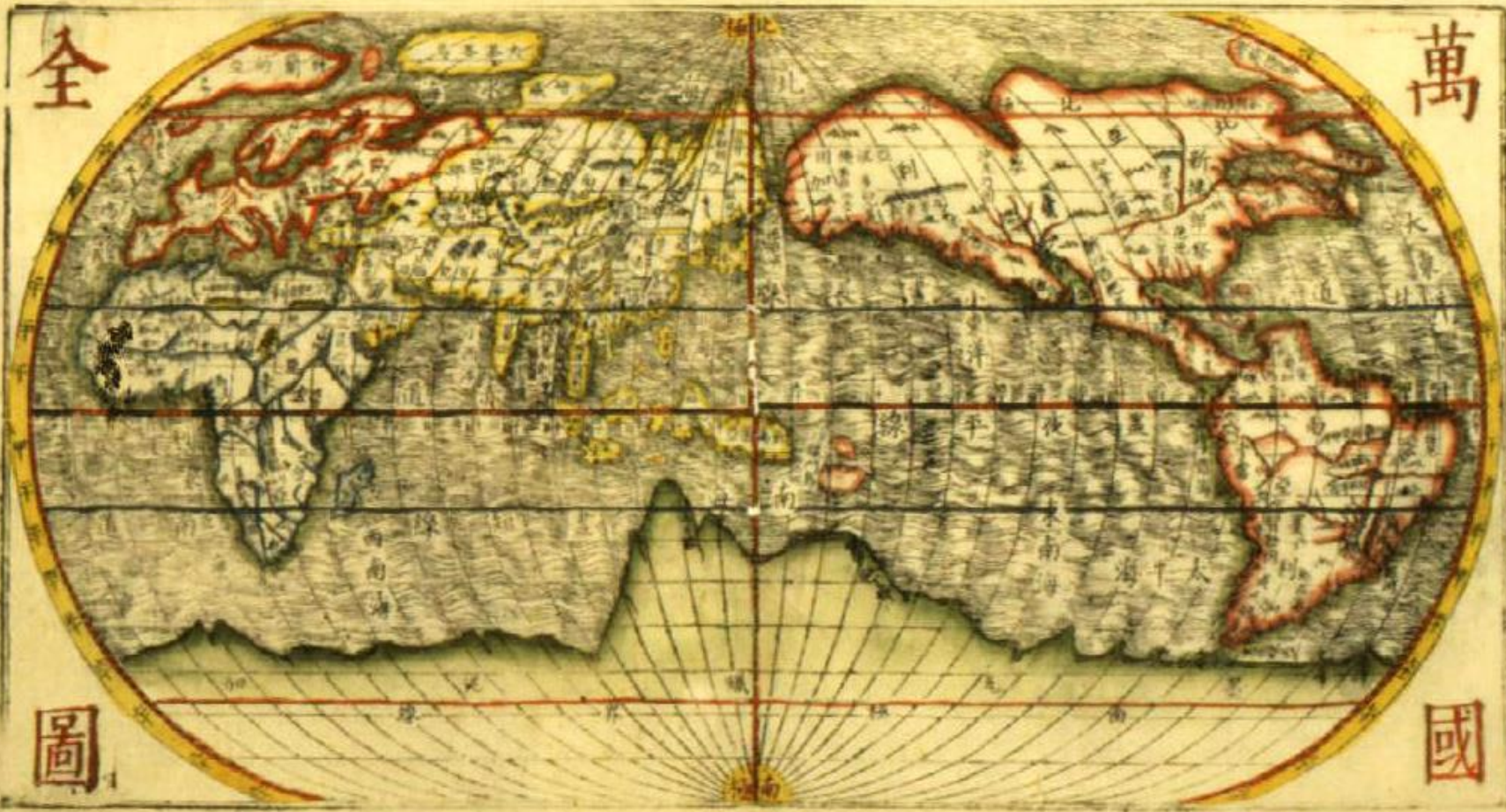




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Free from ego obsession:

“The work that is done in the [Vatican diplomatic corps] requires...a great inner freedom...from ambition or personal aims.”

Free from fear of change

“There is a temptation to say “it is better to stay here” where I’m safe. But this is the slavery of Egypt: “I fear moving forward, I’m afraid of where the Lord will bring me.” Fear, however, “is not a good counselor.”

Pope Francis: be free from “slavery” to evil impulses:

“First of all: be free people!....Always being free to choose goodness is demanding but it will make you into people with a backbone who can face life; people with courage.”

21st century leaders are:

- *Heroic*: Motivate themselves and others with a passion to excel, and with goals that are bigger than any one person's ego (Magis!)
- *Ingenious*: Adapt confidently to a changing world (internally "free")
- *Self Aware*: Know their own strengths, weaknesses, values; and take stock daily of how they are doing

The prayerful journey to self-leadership:



- *Confront your frailty*, “I believe in the pettiness of my own soul, which seeks to take in without giving.”
- *Accept God’s love*, “I believe in God’s patience, welcoming, good like a summer night.”
- *Embrace your role*, “I believe that others are good, and that I ought to love them without fear.”

Step back from the world every day

- Be grateful
- Lift your horizon
- Review the day



*“...getting comfortable with the
reality of being uncomfortable”*



“My greatest enemy was not those who put or kept me in prison. It was myself. I was afraid to be who I am.”
(Nelson Mandela)

Thank you for
listening!

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