

# **How Can We Live?**

**an anti-corruption tale  
with a happy ending**



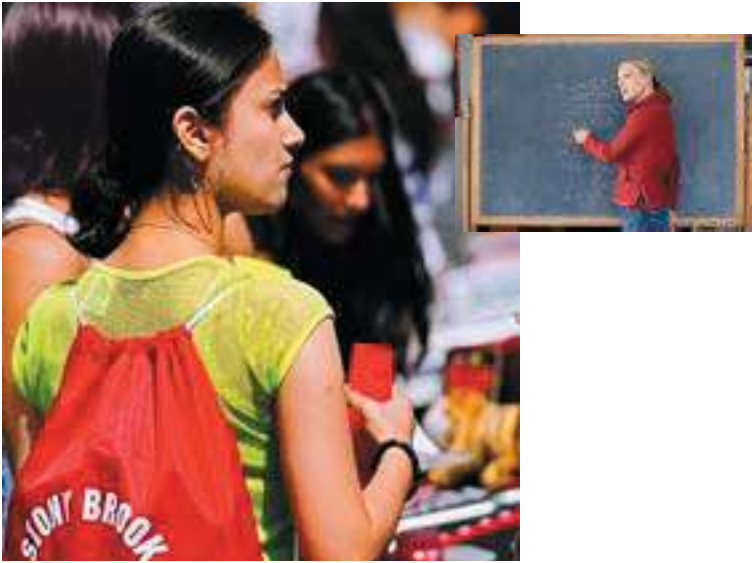
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**Greaseless: How to Thrive without Bribes**

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# A Student



My mother told me to give this money to my teacher. I would rather spend it on something we need at home. My mother worries that the teacher will block my education if there is no gift. The students who don't do their studies give the teacher gifts, I know. But I'm a hard worker. Would the teacher really block my education? How does she expect us to live? I could spend this money on something else. Even a new dress. Or give it back to my mother.

# A Teacher



This policeman is so stupid for stopping me. I was not driving dangerously-- I was just steering around a pothole. Now he'll expect a gift and I hardly have any money left. I can't believe that student kept me waiting after class and didn't give me a gift. How do they expect me to live?

# A Policeman



I have to get the pothole in front of my house fixed. Now that the rainy season is here, you can't see it, and it will surely wreck the car of anyone who visits me. I'll have to come up with a big gift for the Public Works contractor. It's all the money I have, but it will cost more to fix a car if I don't. How can I live on the money I have, with stupid teachers who think they can refuse to us our gifts.

# A Public Works Contractor



My road repair contract for this year is almost over. I must bring the Minister of Public Works his gift to make sure I don't lose the business for next year. I can't give him another Mercedes. Last year there was nothing left to fix the road after I paid for his car and my new house. I have to live. I'll try just giving him a television this year.

# A Minister of Public Works



I can't believe they're bringing charges against me. I don't know how they came up with all that evidence--I was so careful. Now I'll have to waste a lot of money on a gift for the judge. Just when I was ready to get a vacation home. It feels so unfair--I know guys with two vacation homes. Maybe I can find a friendly judge who won't require a huge sum.

# A Judge



What a shock to see your own daughter throw money angrily at her mother. And to hear her refuse to give her teacher a gift because she knows she's a good student. I guess I'm most shocked at my own reaction. Instead of disciplining her for insolence, I just froze. I couldn't say anything because I was too busy thinking. If people value money more than truth, how can we live?

# The Minister of Public Works



Five years in jail. It will ruin my health. I did not need that Mercedes. I could have driven my wife's Lexus. I could have even gotten the BMW back from my girlfriend. What good is a girlfriend in prison? At least I will see many of my friends here in prison. They didn't know how to be satisfied either.



# The Public Works Contrator



I'm glad to be spending my time and money fixing roads. Filling potholes myself makes me feel useful. But soon my contracts will end and I don't have friends in the new government. I could work on making new friends like my wife always tells me to. But I would rather work on learning to do business without making friends. My wife is just angry because I can't employ her brother and cousins anymore. Why doesn't she understand that I must hire someone who knows how to do roadwork.

# The Policeman



I don't stop cars anymore unless they break the traffic rules. Now that we have nice new road surfaces, drivers should respect the lanes they are driving in. Then more cars fit on the road safely. It's like having a lot more roads without spending more money. I don't earn as much money as I used to. When my family asks me for money I tell them I don't have it. But you can live without wasting money on gifts.

# The Teacher



I do not waste money giving gifts anymore. Of course I have less money now since I am not receiving gifts. But I notice that things cost less at the shops. Trucks are bringing more things in now that they can pass easily on the roads. The less I worry about money, the more I enjoy teaching my students. The other teachers aren't happy with me. They say "How does she expect us to live?" Will they understand that I am living better than ever?

# The Student



Some of my teachers have good ideas about how we can become a rich country. We can be like a football team where everyone runs their hardest. If we see that the rules of the game are not enforced, we don't feel like it. Football players like to reach their best so they insist on a fair game. With fair coaches and fair referees, you can keep your mind on your own talent. You can make a great kick if your mind is not on other people's money. I will make great kicks. It's the way to live.