Followership and Servant Leadership Fundamentals

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Complex organizations and institutions are run by the exceptional chain of command. Same is equally true for the institution of army which is complex and intricate in its nature and substance. It has certain code of conduct to run the affairs of military men. The two working models that are followed in army are followership and servant-leadership. Both theories are duly compared and contrasted. Servant leadership reflects the humane side of military generals, and followership revolves around the potential of soldier. Nevertheless, both are really effective when it comes to the effectiveness of the organization such as army.

To begin with, servant-leadership model of leadership explains the importance of such privileged who put other people first in the decision-making process. It is about those military leaders that focus on serving others first, before serving themselves. Military men are usually taken as absolute leaders that do not prefer listening to anyone below them. Nevertheless, these servant-leaders in army respond positively to their soldier’s wishes and try to meet them. They do not abuse their superior status, and primarily exist to serve others (Earnhardt, 2008). This is the good leadership theory that aligns well with the modern ideas of management.

On the other hand, the model of followership is one which illuminates the importance of being a follower. This theory works on the principle that followers are authorized to share their opinions in the army but their primary purpose is to follow their military high command. Moreover, followers in army need to focus on being more vigilant, alert and self-reliant in their official duties if they encounter any risk. In that case, soldiers are expected to be more attentive towards the immediate necessity of the situation (“EBSCOhost | 100417223 | Followership: Exercising Discretion.,” n.d). This followership entails that soldiers must be fully equipped to carry orders all the time, however, they are allowed to use their own discretion at the time of necessity.

Thus, both followership and servant-leadership vary in their substance but not in their goal which is the efficiency of army.

 **References**

Earnhardt, M. (2008). Testing a Servant Leadership Theory Among United States Military Members. *Emerging Leadership Journeys*, 14–24.

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