

TO WHOM IS OUR LOYALTY & AFFILIATION AT WORK?!

As children, we were taught to side up with our class first, then with our school. This does not prevent us from being loyal and affiliated to one teacher, more than the other or one headmaster more than the other.

Today, as grownups, at our work sites, each is running his business in a different way, but with the same importance. The vital question is still there: To whom is our loyalty at work?

Is our loyalty to the employer, or to the establishment? Is it to the department to which we are affiliated, or to the head of department? Is it to the head of personnel affairs, in charge of remunerations, raises, and performance assessments?

My experience as a student and employee abroad for some time, particularly in the German labour market, was the real touchstone that matured my concept. Being loyal or affiliated to any of the above-mentioned would eventually confine me to an emotional concept, away from objectivity.

I saw my young colleagues from German engineers giving priority to their profession, where loyalty and affiliation were concerned.

In turn, they instilled such a concept within technicians and labourers working under their leadership. Hence, each technician would be seeking to prove his aptitude through his technical performance as a welder, turner, carpenter, driver or electronic technician. Here, whenever a disorder would arise, it would be fixed, once and for all.

At that time, I was greatly pleased with this concept. I returned to my homeland with the urge to apply it in my professional life and to instill it within my collaborators. In fact, our loyalty and affiliation should be for our profession. This would lead us to enjoy a sense of professional pride that would make us always in search of perfection, quality and innovation.