

## Of Ambition by Francis Bacon

*Of Ambition* is an argumentative essay by Francis Bacon, in which he argues about the benefits and outbursts of being ambitious. He demonstrates various situations in which ambition is highly useful and one can appoint a highly ambitious person. While he also makes the audience aware of the positions on which appointing an ambitious person might invite problems for them.

Brevity, directness, wit, and to the point arguments are one of the qualities that Bacon's essay contain. The systematic way of writing makes Bacon's essay to move from one point to another logically. Moreover, the subject matters he discusses in his writing style are all based on the real life and the reader found an epigrammatic wisdom in it. With the use of metaphors, similes referring to various historical stories makes his essay comprehensible and agreeable.

Bacon starts the essay by using the simile of cholera for ambition. Ambition is something that induces in a man a spirit to achieve something in his life. Such ambitiousness can be benefitting as well as harmful. Bacon deals with the topic purely on political merits and demerits. He mentions the various positions on which ambitiousness is highly required. These include a post of a soldier, a post of security guard etc. on such posts, an ordinary person cannot survive as requires a life-threatening risk.

For the post like administration etc. an ambitious man is highly restricted as they involve dependency on other posts which highly challenging for them.

This essay is not only for the guidance of the emperors of his time, however, it proves to be persistence throughout the ages. Even his arguments are valid for the present time as well. This essay contains some guiding principles for the head of the state when they are about to hire the ministers. He mentions various criteria for the ministers. If these criteria are filled in a candidate he should hire him. They should hire the people who are sensitive to their duty, love their work and are ambitious, people who are driven by their conscience and love to work more with a willing mind.