

I Have Never Had Any Loan / A Loan Free Life

Hi everyone, this is Nancy. Today is Aug 28th, 2021. How are you doing? In this modern western country, having loans is normal, however I have never had any kinds of loans. This is partly due to my growing up background, and partly due to my personal way of living a life and my view of having loans. Today, I would like to share with you my thoughts on loans. These are just my thoughts, and it does not mean it's right for you. Just a reference.

First, I am used to living a free and simple life. Having a loan takes away some of my freedom of the mind, and may bring worries to me, "What if I lose my job and cannot pay the loan in time? If that happens, where will I live?"

Second, I do not want to work for the bank. In the summer of 2019, I purchased my first condo house and used pretty much all the money I had saved. I just had that much money, so I looked for a house within the budget. A person I knew also bought a house at the same time. He borrowed money from the bank. I calculated how much he needed to pay the bank, by the way, I am good at math, and found out that his house was 160K and he also needed to pay the bank about 160K. It means that in the following 30 years, part of his hard work is for the bank. I couldn't understand why people would do that. With that money, I would be able to do other meaning things.

Third, I believe that the most important thing about the place we live is not how beautiful or luxury it is, but the people in the house live their life. There is a saying: the mountains are famous not because of how high they are, but because of the gods who live in the mountains; the waters are famous not because of how deep they are, but because of the dragons who live in the waters. Some people may live in luxury houses, but drink wines, smoke cigarettes or even take drugs. Some people may live in plain houses, but live a clean life with positive attitudes. Of course, the environment does matter. People put different weights on these factors, the freedom of the mind, the comfort of life, and so on. Also, It's not that everyone should not borrow money from the bank, but how much and for what reasons. Everyone has their own situations, and I just share my view here.

Talking about loans, this reminds me of a story I read some days ago, and I would like to share it with you.

In India, there is a vegetable market. Every morning, the vendors in the market would ask local rich people to borrow one thousand rupees to purchase vegetables so they can sell. If the day goes well, they will receive about one thousand and one hundred rupees. The interest is 50 rupees, so they return one thousand and fifty rupees to the lender, and last fifty rupees are the profits they make. They do this every day.

If we calculate, we know that if they could save five rupees each day, after some time, about two months maybe, they will no longer need to borrow money anymore and their profits will double, then triple... However, the researchers found that no vendors do that. They do the same each day. Borrow money, buy and sell vegetables, return money, and then buy things they need. It seems that they do not think.

Amitabha! This is today's share. Cultivation is just these words: forsake the five desires and cultivate the minds in the manner of the sages. It's good to have some free time every day to

think about what is going on around us. Meditation is a good way to look over our life and make decisions. Thank you everyone for being here. I will see you next time. Bye.