

## MASTERCLASS 02 | NAVIGATING STRATEGY DURING A CRISIS





Prof. Dwarika Prasad Uniyal Dean - School of Business, FLAME University





Prof. Niraj Mankad Assistant Dean - Programs, FLAME University

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# Navigating Strategy During a Crisis

Dr. Niraj Mankad

Assistant Dean (Programs) Associate Professor FLAME School of Business





## Lessons from History

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## THE GREAT DEPRESSION 1929





Photos by photographer Dorothee Large

Image source: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/ashishih/1929-ppt</u> https://www.britannica.com/event/Great-Depression/Causes-of-the-decline



## Dot comm bubble 2000





Image sources:

https://ideas.ted.com/an-eye-opening-look-at-the-dot-com-bubble-of-2000-and-how-it-shapes-our-lives-today/ https://moneymorning.com/2015/06/12/the-dot-com-crash-of-2000-2002/



## Financial crisis 2008





## ...and a host of others

Image sources:

https://www.quora.com/In-layman's-terms-what-caused-the-2008-financial-crisis https://www.cnbc.com/2018/09/11/financial-crisis-of-2008-still-taking-bite-out-of-your-paycheck-report.html

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# What's a recession?

Signification reductions in economic activity spread across the economy, lasting for more than a few months normally visible in GDP, real income, employment, industrial production, and wholesale/retail sales

(as defined by National Bureau of Economic Research, US)

Image sources:



## Are we seeing that happening now?

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What are typical reactions?

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# Reactions to crisis - 1

Reduce cost

Realign the workforce, eliminate non-performing assets, reduce investment, stop "non-value-adding" activities

# SONY

2000 crisis



# Reactions to crisis - 2

Invest more – we will be better off than competition once it ends Increase capacity – diversify



2000 crisis

**Igniting Minds.** 

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# Reactions to crisis 3

Wait-n-watch

Something will emerge

OR

Follow the herd

Let's do what others are doing - that way we can't be too wrong

An excellent read to understand this *Roaring out of Recession'*, by Professors Ranjay Gulati, Nitin Nohira and Franz Wohlgezogen Harvard Business Review



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So how do we navigate strategy?

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# Keep your strategy alive

## • Focus-in

- Cut costs, not muscle
- Scale-up capabilities human, market and technology
- Focus on operational efficiency
- Realign resource allocation
- Customer-centric
  - Keep them informed stay close

## • Societal focus

Create commitment to community



# BigBasket

#### Situation

- Faced 5x demand
- However drivers / delivery personnel moved back home lost over 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of it's employees
- Disruption of supply-chain

### Response

- Increased Team size partnered with UBER over 57 partnerships in a few weeks!
- Increased Pay by 50% plus insurance package
- Formed Farmer contracts for supply chain
- Community-model



For more insights on BigBasket's strategy

https://www.cdcgroup.com/en/emerging-markets-investment/economic-development-india/





Find your "connected purpose"

- What keeps you together as an organization?
- Use this as your lighthouse!





## Resources

- Rev up your growth engine: Lessons from through-cycle outperformers https://mck.co/2MaroK1 via @McKinsey
- Roaring out of Recession, Ranjay Gulati, Nitin Nohria and Franz Wohlgezogen, HBR, <u>https://hbr.org/2010/03/roaring-out-of-recession</u>
- <u>https://www.britannica.com/event/Great-Depression/Causes-of-the-decline</u>

## Thank you.

Website – www.flame.edu.in Email – enquiry@flame.edu.in Tel – 1 800 209 4567





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Prof. Anirudh Agrawal Faculty, Entrepreneurship FLAME University

