



## THE ESSENCE OF INNOVATION

Alex Badion

Class of 2001 - Eastern Visayas State University -Tanauan Campus  
Bachelor of Science in Industrial Education

Where does innovation start? There would be myriad answers to this question that would personally trigger us to think the origin of innovation. The fact that we know the meaning of this simple word, yet wide in scope and limitation, which draws different lines of boundaries, points out multiple directions and brings essential concepts and notions to each and everyone all around the globe. If we would look into different angles and dimensions where innovation is concerned, it seems to be a cognate to an invention due to the fact that it is utilizing the idea of something to become better. Something that is usable, something that is more effective and something that is more convenient for the people to have is the significant output of innovating something. But the question is, where did it begin? Did someone innovate something because an expert created something new, something fresh and something unique? It is, partly yes, because that person was motivated to introduce a new product, a new technology, a new device and the like to compare and contrast his enlightened mind of doing so to the other. Likewise, he would like to strive against another to gain an advantage or victory and present the product of his brilliant mind of creating something important to mankind. Clearly, that person is thinking the best that he could create from the moment his brain works. In other words, innovation started to create something new and better from his magnificent mind. It is where the point of innovation began before an invention is skillfully made.

How do innovators begin to create something better? It's hard to conceptualize a certain idea without a definite purpose. Let's say, you're the one. You have to diagnose the need of the people according to its priority and value. You have to be more conscious for a better reception. You have to think the real consequences of innovating something which will be surely benefited by the people and much more, to be practically and profitably used without severe drawbacks in all aspect. Have you ever thought of pros and cons? They are integral when it comes to innovation. Why is it so? It is simply because you have to heartily avoid failure. It is disappointing because your conceptualized idea was not truly accepted by the majority of people who are always looking forward a greater innovation. In other words, there was a poor reception of your innovation. But it doesn't end there for a reason that a line must continue. If you failed this way, do more and do better that way because a mind of innovation has a strong determination which anchors the heart and the mind to go on and on.

What's the real essence of innovation? Perhaps we had summarized all the successful innovators and inventors since the history was written in a certain period of time. They were the people who utilized their minds to function and create innovative products. Until now, we have great and intelligent people who innovate something using their creative minds for our generation. However, it has come to a point that some of these innovators became complacent and satisfied of what they have done for us. They slowed the motion of development and stayed in a place of contentment. It is a freedom that would eat them up to be stagnant. That brings sadness because their spirit of inspiration will gradually perish and would turn dark itself which cannot light up the next generation. Where does a wonderful mind go when this happens? We don't know for sure. But despite all of these, innovation itself is a change into something new to our society. We should not forget its essence which is to continue the chain of creativeness and lead into a new possible development. The meaning and importance of innovation should not stop. It is, indeed, a continuous process.

Questions for discussion:

1. In your own opinion, what is innovation?
2. Why do we need innovation?
3. How does innovation differ from invention?
4. What's the essence of innovation? Elaborate your answer using your own idea.
5. If you could innovate something, what could it be and why?