

**Presence of Mind**  
**By**  
**Dr. Souren Sarkar**

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As they say, once upon a time in a jungle in the distant land of Timbaktu, a dog lost his way to hide out. While trying to figure out different trails, he saw a fiery lion coming towards him. "Screwed up like a bolt", he said to self. Suddenly, he noticed few pieces of bones disposed near a tree. He applied his grey matter and reclined on the tree trunk. As the lion came closer, he released a big burp and sighed, "one lion is never enough for lunch. Wish I can get another one."

The lion heard this and was shocked to the core. Even in his vague dreams, he never envisaged that a dog can hunt down a predator. Escape route was the one he arrived upon and he traced them back. A monkey saw everything. He realized that if he tells the lion about the dog's game, he will earn life-time loyalty of the beast. This will ensure that he will be safe and respected in the jungle. He ran behind the lion.

Dog noticed this. He saw the rot and realized that monkey is up to something that will not help him. He started thinking.

On the other hand, lion roared when he learnt the truth. He was angry because his stupidity was on display and reputation was on sale. "He is a dead meat now," lion muttered and slowly started walking. Monkey smiled on his little triumph. He started fancying his dominance over other animals and little treats from the king. Can you imagine what dog would have did by then?

Prepared for the worst, dog was waiting for the lion. As he noticed him to be in audible distance, he took a deep breath and barked, "I should never trust a stupid monkey. How much time he needs to trap a dimwit lion and bring him here? Aah... Like I have whole day to wait for that moron." Well, as they say... rest is history. The lion listened the utterance and ran like cat. What happened to monkey... well, he jumped onto tree and never set foot on land.

**Moral of the story** - There are many such monkeys around us, try to identify them and do not get worry in bad circumstances, keep your presence of mind always active.