



# THE HABIT OF READING BOOKS

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## Abstract:

Reading is one of the important habit and lifestyle that should be developed by academic community in specific and the public in general. Reading has many advantages. Reading is like exercise to mind. This particular article investigates the major advantages and significance of reading.

## Introduction:

Books are one of the best tools for training and development. A good book always has a salutary effect on the mind of a reader. It will elevate spirit and thoughts. It will quantify his store of knowledge. Books help in correcting moral ineptitude. Particularly in these days of mechanical existence, when people have hardly any time to attend meetings and symposia, the best source of acquiring religious and general knowledge are books that can be browsed whenever a person finds some time to spare. It is possible that the reading of book might have a deeper impact on the minds of the readers than the other sources of acquiring knowledge. Sometimes, reading brings about a revolutionary change in the outlook of a person.

The measure for the progress and civilization of any nation is the quality and the number of books and the number of persons habituated of reading them. Formal education of a person is no criterion of judging a person's learning. A really learned person is one who is engaged in meaningful reading and research. We unfortunately have lots of persons with school diplomas and university degrees but very few learned scholars and researchers. Most students, when they complete their formal education, keep aside the books and get busy with other activities of life. The growth of knowledge of these persons gets stagnant from that time. Their criterion of acquiring education for finding a job has been achieved. They feel that there is no further use for any more knowledge. In fact, education should be for achieving

excellence in the chosen field of knowledge. Education is a continuous process and goes on till the last breath of a person. The Religion of Islam too has exhorted its followers to pursue the path of learning from the cradle to the grave.

The habit of reading is not just a pastime. The main purpose of reading is to acquire knowledge and understand the contents of the books and deriving advantage from them. It is not very important how many books the student reads, but the important thing is how he has read them. Is he just making a cursory rapid reading? Has he read a book with absorbed interest and understood its contents? The teachers should give full attention to this aspect.

Occasionally, they must ask the student to give the gist of a book he has read. They should derive their conclusion if the student has understood the contents correctly or not. They should correct the student, if his understanding of the contents is not correct

Students generally like books with imaginary stories. Some intellectuals encourage reading of such books. They feel that such book will encourage the imaginative faculties of the student. But the author feels that the reading of imaginary and fictitious stories can promote the habit of lying in the student. His mind will become the storehouse of false thoughts. When he grows up, he might allude to falsehoods to fulfill his needs and wishes

It is true that a student prefers to read stories than other reading matter. But care must be taken that he is given a carefully selected mix of books on various subjects and not just the story- books. The student must slowly develop interest in reading and understanding intricate Subject matter of serious literature.

It is not true that the Students are fond of only fictitious stories. They will definitely show keen interest in reading the stories of great Personalities, their lives and achievements. They can have their role models in these personages and aim to model their own lives on the lives of the great personages.

### Conclusion:

In conclusion, teachers and instructors of academic community should encourage students to build a pre- reading habit in order to inculcate a taste and interest in reading books. It will be a herculean task to start this most wanted skill that should be developed by students. Utmost care should be given to build this reading habit.