

We are the last generation
to touch a book

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Outline

I. Introduction

Affection with books will be dwindled a lot after the current generation. This is because of digital revolution which has changed the habits and lifestyle of humans altogether. This seismic shift has impacted the natural way of living, and made people so much robotic in nature. However, by taking curative measures, it is possible to come out from the trap of the technological world.

II. Importance of reading books in the life of humans

III. Factors behind the divorce between humans and books

(a) Lack of reading culture at the grassroot level

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- (b) Excessive use of digital gadgets
 - (c) Unavailability of quality books in the far-flung areas
 - (d) Addiction with social media
 - (e) Conventional libraries instead of modern reading spots
 - (f) Sky-rocketing inflation has made the people to limit themselves to just bread earners.
 - (g) Monotonous busy routine - Instant gratification is preferred over long term satisfaction nowadays

IV. Implications of breaking ties with books by the modern generation

- (a) Creativity through books is replaced by social media's addiction
- (b) Lack of peace of mind
- (c) Increasing eye and skin impairment due to long screen time
- (d) Empathetic behavior is replaced with

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robotic nature

V. Way forward to make the next generation books' lover.

(a) The state should fulfill the basic needs of people to make them spare to feel the taste of reading books

(b) Conduct book reading festivals in schools, colleges and universities

(c) Make the availability of quality books at a low cost.

(d) Incentivize the book writers and readers to motivate other people to read and write

VI. Conclusion

Essay

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To start with the words of Neil Gaiman who says, "A book is a dream that you hold in your hand". His words clearly indicated the importance of reading books. The reason is that books provide you a path on which you can travel, and can achieve your destination. But unfortunately, the affection for books is declining. And there are prospects that the next generation may not even touch the books. There are many reasons behind the divorce between books and humans. They include the lack of reading culture, excessive use of digital gadgets, unavailability of quality books, addiction with social media, conventional reading avenues, sky-rocketing inflation and monotonous routine. This distance

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from books has certain impacts. These are declining creativity, distorting peace of mind, increasing physical impairments and emerging robotic nature in humans. However, there are certain ways through the affection between humans and books can be developed. These encompass following things; the state intervention in fulfilling the basic needs of people to spare them to read books, the relevant authorities will to conduct the book reading festivals, the arrangements for the availability of quality books at low cost and the incentivization of books readers and writers. Sum and substance of the whole discussion is that affection with books will be declined a lot after the present generation. This is due to digital revolution.

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which has changed the habits and lifestyle of humans altogether. This seismic shift has effected the natural course of living, and made people so much robotic in nature. However, by taking proactive measures, it is possible to come out from the trap of the technological world.

Reading books is an essential and enriching activity that plays a crucial role in shaping the lives of individuals. It is an excellent way to broaden one's horizons. It is useful in improving language and vocabulary skills. Moreover, it enhances cognitive abilities. It also reduces stress and improve mental health. It develops empathy and compassion. It also improves academic and

professional success. In a nutshell, it is useful in the enhancement of human skills and abilities.

Many factors are behind the divorce between human beings and books, the foremost among them is the lack of reading culture at the grassroots level. Love for books and pride in reading is dwindling very rapidly. In developing and maintaining a vibrant reading, two institutions play a vital, i.e. family and school. The main reason for the sorry state of reading culture is the failure of both family and school in the promotion of reading habits in children. Similarly, as collecting books and maintaining libraries at home is no longer 'fashionable', people tend to

stuff their homes with expensive gadgets and fancy automobiles in their purchases and take pride in such possessions.

The second most important factor behind less affection for books is the excessive use of digital gadgets. Reading books focuses on attention and isolates any distractions, which is the opposite when reading online as technology intends to scatter intention. For example, while using digital gadgets, it is difficult to maintain the attention span due to different kinds of distractions like notification, advertisement and many more. While while reading books, there are less chances of distraction. But unfortunately, digital gadgets

are more penetrated in our society because of their attractiveness. Therefore, they are slowly and gradually replacing the paper books.

Another cause of detachment with books is unavailability of quality books in the farflung areas of Pakistan. Quality books not only attract the attention of a reader but also make him enriched with knowledge. But unfortunately, the marginal areas have not the luxury of reading quality books. For instance, in Pakistan, the southern Punjab, Balochistan, FATA and other marginal areas have very few libraries where the quality books are available. Otherwise, these areas are even deprived of the basic

right of education. Due to this gap, people living in these areas are less inclined towards book reading.

Another menace which is hampering the way towards reading books is the addiction of the current generation with social media. Social media is spreading just like virus in the body. Due to this reason, people prefer to spend time on social media instead of reading books. For example, social media apps like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, whatsapp and many more are created in such a way to hypnotise the attention of a person through their features. Consequently, the love for reading books is

depreciating with time. And people give less time to book reading.

Furthermore, the conventional libraries are unable to facilitate the readers, this thing is taking books' affection away from the current generation.

Everything needs upgradation. The things which evolved with time are still relevant while the stagnant brands collapse badly. Same is the case with libraries, unfortunately, in Pakistan they are old and less equipped. Resultantly, readers do not like to sit there and read books. However, the modern spots of reading have magnetic effect. They provide a conducive environment for a book reader. So the old way of things is making

readers averse, and they do not allocate time for such reading spots.

Moreover, sky-rocketing inflation has made the people to limit themselves to just survive. People have no time to sit and read books. The reason is the increasing competition due to ballooning population. For instance, Pakistan is at the verge of economic default, the state of citizens is worse. Unemployment rate is very high. People have to work more than the duty slot in order to fulfill the needs of their families. Resultantly, they can not spare time for reading books. Therefore, they are going far away from the luxury of reading books.

Last but not the least, factor which is taking people away from reading books is the monotonous busy routine. In this fast world, people are indulged in different kind of activities day and night. They have to work for maximum hours of a day in order to satiate the hunger of their bellies. Moreover, they prefer instant gratification instead of a long lasting happiness in their monotonous working routine. For example, people like to watch short funny or viral clips instead of allocating this time for reading. The reason is these short clips generate a short wave of happiness immediately. Resultantly, they slipped into the addiction of social media in order to watch more and more

videos. This thing spares no
time for reading books.

However, the distance from
books have adverse implications, the
most prominent among them is
the paucity of creativity. It
is because of social media
addiction which has replaced
the books. For example, when
a person reads a book. He
learns new ideas which make
him creative. It gives him different
lenses to see an issue. But
this luxury is taken away
by the social media. Social media
presents different things at a
time. This multi way influx
of information makes a
person confused instead of
focused and dedicated towards
a certain objective. In this
way, creativity is dwindling.

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due to divorce between the readers
and books.

Another impact of less affection for books is the lack of peace of mind. As a body needs food for its maintenance and growth, similarly, mind also wants its food in the form of new knowledge and information. These new things come through reading books. Unfortunately, the modern generation is far from reading books. Resultantly, peace of mind cannot be achieved. For instance, those people who spend more time on screens are disturbed and psychologically unbalanced. Due to continuous exposure of rays, not only the body feels discomfort but also the brain becomes chaotic. So the peace of mind is clubbed with

reading books.

Moreover, the eyes and the skin impairments are increasing due to long screen time. Before the digital revolution, people were less or not exposed to harmful radiations. They spend most of their time in reading books and other physical activities. But after the cyber revolution, the seismic shift came in the lives of people. They started shifting on the gadgets from manual tasks. For instance, recently due to COVID-19, people have to work online. Their screen time increased to a phenomenal level. On one side it proved useful. But on the other side, it increased the number of eye and skin impairments.

Same was the case with books. People instead of reading them in libraries started reading them on mobile phones, tabs and other digital gadgets. Resultantly, eye and skin related problems increased.

Furthermore, robotic nature has replaced the empathetic nature due to distance from reading good books. In this world of competition, people are more mechanical and robotic in nature instead of kind behavior. In the earlier times, people used to sit together in libraries and other reading spots in order to learn from one another. In this way, they not only used to communicate educational ideas but also their problems. They were very close to one another. But unfortunately, they

are just like cogs in the machine as said by Max Weber.

But the next generation can be saved by making them book lovers adopting certain ways, the most important among them is the state should fulfill the basic needs of people in order to make them spare to feel the taste of reading books. In the contemporary world, inflation is the biggest problem. There is a situation of 'survival of the fittest'. People do work day and night to fulfill the basic needs of their families. They have left no money to purchase the quality books. However, the state should take proactive steps to provide its citizens with basic needs. In this

way, the way for reading books will be widened. And people will enjoy the treasure of knowledge through reading a variety of books.

Another way to build the relation between books and the next generation is to conduct book festivals in schools, colleges and universities. This is the best way to attract young minds towards reading books.

For example, book festivals provide opportunities for readers to meet and network with authors, publishers, and other like minded readers. Moreover, book festivals bring together a community of book lovers and create a shared experience that promotes reading and literacy. In this way, affection between the incoming generation and books can be

created.

Furthermore, book reading can be promoted by the provision of quality books at low cost. This can be done by establishing public libraries that allow people to borrow books for free or at a low cost. Likewise, the books availability can be ensured by encouraging book donations from individuals, organisations and influential people. By doing all these activities book reading will be promoted. And people will love to spare time and read quality books.

Last but not the least way to promote reading is the incentivization of the books readers and writers. By doing this, other people will also be motivated towards

reading and writing books. The incentivization can be performed through different ways like provide exclusive access to early releases, offer discounts on future books, run writing contests, create online writing communities, organize book tours and create reading challenges. In this way, the reading and writing habits will be developed.

Sum and substance of the whole discussion is that the affection for books will be declined in the next generation. There are different factors behind this distance from books ~~are~~ like lack of reading culture, digital gadgets, addiction with social media, conventional libraries, inflation and monotonous routine. It has adverse implications in the form

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So the beautiful bond between
books and humans can be saved
by following all the mentioned steps.