

"The Wonders of Reading"

Outline

1. Introduction

2. 'Reading as a healthy Activity.'

3. Wonders of Reading:

a- Provides education to the individuals.

b- Enhances awareness and information in the masses

c- Fosters communication skills

d- Promotes critical thinking and problem-solving abilities

e- Builds connection between the reader and the writer; exchange of ideas.

f- Boosts the stamina and motivation of the readers.

4. The deteriorating reading culture in the present world:

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a- The excessive usage of social media applications.

b- AI inclusive as a hindrance

c- Expensive costs of books

5. Improving reading culture to highlight its wonders:

a- Global community to make efforts through contest and competitions

b- E-book culture to be promoted

c- Academic Institutes to making 'reading' a mandatory activity.

6. Conclusion

Thomas A Kempis once said, "When I pray, I talk to God, but when I read, God talks to me." He emphasized the importance of reading in this single saying. He ~~said~~ claims his God talks to him while reading. In this way, he focused on a powerful act of "reading." It is an activity that can prepare one for a whole life. It is a wonderful activity with multiple benefits. These wonders includes education and awareness being provided to the one's who engage in the act of reading. Along with that, it builds a strong connection between a writer and a reader. Their feelings, emotions and temptations of the writer are experienced by the reader through his tone, words and expressions used in his writing to convey his message. Thus, book reading is also a silent tutoring mechanism. Moreover, reading bolsters

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personality of an individual, enhances communication skills and increases the problem solving abilities of the readers. However, with the inclusion of modern technologies and present-day gadgets, the reading culture is towards its decline. ~~A well~~ To revive it, the global community and the individuals need to join hands by providing opportunities and resources i.e. the libraries, cost-effective books to in order to enhance awareness in on the wonders provided by book reading. In a nutshell, Reading; ^{being} ~~is~~ a blissful activity, is filled with wonders. It educates the individuals, guides them, and nurtures their personality.

Reading is an activity that is often neglected. It is considered a random act to kill one's time or it is just mingled with the academic reading which is meant to learn

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or earn. But reading itself is a quite healthy activity that needs to be regarded and understood in the broader context. It is actually an act of comprehending the text and attaining the meaning or message which the writer wants to convey.

It can be done in various ways as different people opt different reading styles. It thus encompasses reading books manually, digitally, or any other piece of writing to locate particular information or idea. Reading, in short, is a fruitful activity that ^{not only} enhances knowledge and but also builds the character of an individual, depending upon the style one chooses to adopt.

As reading brings many wonders for an individual, society and the world; the foremost benefit of reading is that it provides education. It ~~educates the~~ As books

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are the real guide to a person in any phase of his life, they provide knowledge necessary to lead to a successful life. Book reading to gain education fosters problem-solving and decision making capabilities among leaders and readers, thus making them ready to confront the challenges of the modern day. It. Bookish knowledge tends to prepare one ~~to which he~~ for the life challenges and secures his mental capabilities as one is well-read and apt to handle the circumstances. According to a Chinese saying, "A book is like a garden carried in the pocket. Books, as silent teachers, open windows to unseen worlds and knowledge". Therefore, book reading acts as a teacher, that helps students gain insights of any type of subject and theme that the

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individual wants to explore. Thus, ~~books~~ reading books educates individuals regarding the ~~the~~ subjects they wish to explore.

Besides education, awareness about the current happenings is also a wonder provided by reading. This is due to the fact that ~~the one~~ ^{who} ~~is~~ a reader of any piece of writing; may it be a newspaper, report, book, magazine or any journal, has profound knowledge and awareness about the circumstances.

Such people prove to be an asset for the community as they can provide awareness to others as well. Thus, critiques on various issues and narratives of peublic are also ^{shaped} built based on their understanding of ~~such~~ ^{any} situation. They can better devise agendas and solutions in case of any crisis or urgency. Thus readers have awareness and information not only

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for themselves but also for their societies.

More over, reading is a beneficial activity for individuals as it fosters communication skills among them. We often hear the quotation: Today's reader is tomorrow's leader. This is because reading enhances and enriches the spoken skills of individuals. Leaders tend to ~~gain~~ have the ability to respond immediately and effectively with eloquent expression and gestures.

All these attributes are subjected to the readers as their habit of reading promotes in them the confidence, knowledge, eloquence, expressiveness and responsibility. These characteristics emboldens the communication style of an individual and provides him the courage to face the audience and speak eye-to-eye with others. Thus, communica-

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tive abilities prepare one to be the person he reads in his articles and dares to follow him.

Further more, reading ~~reading~~ promotes ~~great~~ critical thinking among the readers. The readers involved in reading tend to experience the ideals of the world, the great men of wars and other renowned personalities ^{and} ponder over their circumstances and ~~they~~ using the intellect they could gather from learning and reading. As a result, they become more passionate and considerate towards solving their problems and challenges. All the great men, may it be Aristotle or Plato, indulged in extensive reading * and dealt with their problems through critical thinking. It is thus evident that reading promotes critical thinking which in turn makes one ready to solve their miseries.

Additionally, reading builds a connection between the one who writes and the one who reads. The writer, through the use of certain words, tone and symphonies, creates a lasting impression on the reader. The reader gets fully aware of the mood, tone and the circumstances between the two people. Thus, reading serves to built connection or even a soulful interaction between the writer and a readers. The words ^{of the writer} hold the power to shape the narrative and ~~agenda~~ set the agenda of the reader in accordance with the text one has read. This helps to create a strong connection that influences the narratives of individuals. According to Jean Paul, "Books are the longest letters written to a friend." Thus, writers claim readers as their friends to whom they convey their

ideas and shape readers' w: view-points.

By the same token, reading also boosts the stamina of the readers. The constant focus on one idea, the written discourses and their coherence, the motivation to read more to know more, ^{not only} adds to the knowledge and intellect but also strengthens the physical and mental abilities of readers.

This increases their time to stay focussed and motivated which serves to benefit their vision and attention span. Such activities make humans more resilient and focussed towards their goal. This in turn, needs courage which yields success in every walk of life. The Yale University research also concluded that individuals who read more (just 30 minutes a day) live a long life (an average of 2 years longer)

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than non-readers". Thus, reading serves the same purpose as exercise, so it ^{proves to be} serves a great benefit of reading.

However, the present-day situation of reading culture is getting poorer day-by-day. There are many reasons for this downfall, social media applications ^{usage} being the top on this list. The uncontrolled and imbalanced technological advancements and the excessive use of different social media applications fulfill the purpose of gaining knowledge and accessing ~~to~~ information. Now, the search of any piece of knowledge is just a click away with the inclusion of web servers, such as Google, Chrome, Safari and others. Thus, people tend to adopt latest and fastest ways to access information, spend time, explore humor and ~~or~~ any other activity.

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Thus, they are more inclined to the digital world disregarding the reading habit.

Another factor contributing to the death of reading culture is the inclusion of Artificial Intelligence. The recent AI modules and chatbots have made it easier for the people to gather data, locate specific information like quotations or solved questions within no time. This makes it easier for people to gain information within less time and cost. Thus people do not bother to read and locate particular information. They spend more time in the advancement of technology using AI modules to even lessen their efforts to do anything or think critically. A student in a school when asked about his neglect in ^{his} the reading behaviour and was

warned about his existence on Earth, if he ~~did~~ could not read; replied, "~~At th~~ (A)I think, therefore I am." Thus, this behaviour of students and youth, with the inclusion of Artificial Intelligence hinders reading culture across the world.

Correspondingly, the ^{increasing} ~~extra~~ costs of the books is another factor behind the decline of reading culture that has overshadowed its wonders. It is nearly impossible for the people in some parts of the world to access the books manually. ^{Books} They are quite over-priced nowadays; either manually or digitally. People also need to pay in order to purchase them online; with ^{pay} sky rocketting in different currencies. This is an added burden to those who want to read but are

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already facing financial constraints. One such example is the Book Fair in Lahore, Pakistan. According to reports, only 35 books were sold, with over 1200 shawarmas and 800 plates of biryani were purchased. This is how, the reading culture has decline due to expensive costs of books and articles.

In order to promote reading culture and to embolden the wonders paid by reading, the situation needs to be improved. The global community and individuals can join hands to promote the reading culture. This can be done by paving way for more awards like those of Noble Literature, Literature honours and other such steps need to be materialized. Moreover, access to libraries, resources, such as books, notes, newspapers and articles to be distributed

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in less cost or no costs to those holding key interest in reading, ~~the~~ which can be judged by any contests, championships or similar initiatives. This would boost the urge of the individuals to carry the practice and participate in reading activities keeping its wonders in mind.

The e-book culture to be promoted across the world is another fruitful step in this enhancing the reading culture. More and more techniques to learn and read through e-books, which are easily available, is helpful to promote reading habit in the individuals. If they would continue to ~~make the~~ perform their task of bringing change and improvement across the world. This would also motivate individuals to procure

their interests and shape their opinions regarding the present happening in the world.

Under the same argument, academic institutions to make reading a mandatory activity is also a positive move in the way of promoting reading culture. The institutes ~~or~~ need to materialize this step of giving tasks to students and teachers regarding multiple books, other than their course books. Such acts can promote comprehension skills and reading focus ~~every~~ even from a very young age.

In this way, the critical thinking and communicative abilities can become part of a person which will continue to foster ~~in~~ throughout his life. As a result, it would lead to success and development of a person's character.

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In conclusion to all this, Reading is a wonderful activity that helps individuals grow, both physically and mentally. ~~The~~ It brings positive changes in the society and the world. ~~If~~ If pursued as a hobby, it is a great learning habit that provides people with education, awareness, and communication skills. ~~However,~~ It fosters critical thinking and physical exercise tactics that are helpful for development and nourishment. However, the present world is facing the death of reading culture due to the inclusion of social media and artificial intelligence in the present gadgets. The overpriced books are also a burden. To curb this, the inclusivity of reading either through e-books or ~~a~~ in the academic sphere, can benefit the world to propagate the reading culture.

