



READING AND INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL

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Intellectual development is one of the most important points of general culture of an individual. Reading is the best way of intellectual development. Teachers and parents can help children and young people to form and support the interest for reading, but in majority of cases it is the result of self-education.

Modern civilization does not give the chance for people to read slowly, because of squeezed time. People always in hurry and sometimes they cannot understand the reading material deeply. Oriental tradition of reading taught us to sit in comfortable place, take the book, and read slowly, trying to understand all the “veils” (levels) of author’s idea. “Speed reading” does not help the person to get the deep knowledge and leads to the disease focus.

Literature gives the person a wonderful chance to get the life experience. It helps to develop not just human intellect, but also individual’s feeling of beauty, deeper understanding of life with all its complexities. It provides people to other epochs and nations, opens human hearts. It makes reading person wiser. Interest is a compulsory point of reading. Masterpieces of classical literature can give the answers for the majority of questions, but we should take into account that contemporary authors also can help person in self-perfection.

Society has to help children in the development of their intellectual abilities. May be because of that the wife of the president Sūzān Mubārak organized a lot of conferences and competitions for reading youth. She encouraged young people to read a qualitative useful literature and use the libraries book funds for that.

Egypt is a country with deep traditions in education. There is a university in Cairo. It has a very specific name “the (honorable) Azhar University”. It is the Egypt’s oldest degree-granting university. Its library is considered second importance in Egypt only to the Egyptian National Library and Archives. In May 2005, Al-Azhar in partnership with a Dubai information technology enterprise, IT Education Project (ITEP) launched the H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Project to Preserve Al Azhar Scripts and Publish Them Online (the “Al-Azhar Online Project”) with the mission of eventually providing online access to the library’s entire rare manuscripts collection (comprising about seven million pages). It is a wonderful source of information and wisdom for all the generations.

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