READING HABITS OF LIBRARY USERS : A LITERATURE REVIEW

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Abstract : Reading plays an important role in the field of education. Reading habit is also main perspective of education. Libraries are also responsible component in developing reading habits and reading culture among the users. This paper aims to review latest literature on reading habits of library users.

Keyword : Reading, Reading Habits, Libraries, Reading Culture, Library Users, etc.

Introduction :

We live in 21st century and in the world of information technology**.**Reading is one of the tools in learning and also a source of pleasure and satisfaction, a tool when one utilizes the ability to read and to learn other subjects in a language or use it for reference work (Yatin, Sulaiman, Shuhaimi& et.al, 2014).Readers who utilize libraries are constantly looking for new material.However, there are several entertainment tools available to readers nowadays. The overage of social media tools is also responsible for the reading habits of readers. The college students use libraries for the purpose of examination. The college students only use text books from the libraries. They don't like to read other reading books such as autobiography, novels, magazines, poems, etc.

Review of Literature Reading Habits of Library Users :

Reading is a fundamental tool of education and the art of comprehending written and printed words. A healthy reading habit is a major tool for the growth of personalities and learning ability.A literature review is a comprehensive summary of previous research on a topic. The literature review surveys scholarly articles, books, and other sources relevant to a particular area of research.

Vellaichami and Jeyshankar (2014) presented a case study where they explained libraries should increase more number of latest books, periodicals/magazines added to requirements of the users. Further, they suggested proper user education/library orientation Programmes should be provided for the users.

Ramesh (2012) conducted a survey of the e-reading habits of public library users in Erode Corporation, Tamilnadu, India. The findings of this study, which aimed to understand why people read books and how electronic media like TV, CDs, and DVDs have changed

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people's reading habits, have enabled us to share some insightful discoveries that are presented in the results and discussions section of this paper.

Eluwole, Shorunke & Makinde (2017) provides valuable information on the reading habits and library use of undergraduates in a private university in Nigeria. The survey discovered that undergraduate students read very little and that reading habits had a beneficial impact on respondents' use of libraries.

Dorji (2020) examined the reading habits in general among English major students at Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan. He came to the conclusion that female students read more for enjoyment than male students, who read more for academic purposes. Sadly, it was discovered through informal interviews that those who were reading for academic purposes only read the required materials. Additionally, it was shown that students don't spend enough time reading because they spend too much time on social media (average use time was the same for both boys and girls). Additionally, he advised tutors to make a concentrated effort to encourage their students to read by employing creative methods. Tutors could surely be a key factor in encouraging and motivating the students to develop a reading habit.

Reddy & Narayana (2018) studied newspaper reading habits of college students of RRS College of Engineering and Technology, Hyderabad. Further they explained Newspapers are responsible for creating and generating reading habits among College students.

Sohail & Alvi (2016) conducted a survey to study the reading habits of Delhi Public Library, New Delhi. The analysis of the data reveals that quite number of people go to the public libraries even in the digital environment where technology has taken up a large slice of the available time of the people. But still they have healthy reading habits and have a positive attitude toward reading. Furthermore the authors found that more males than females go to the library and the working class and the college students visit the library more since it fulfils their information needs. Adolescents, housewives and old or retired people also go to the library and enjoy reading.

Malipatil (2021) focuses on how the public libraries of Karnataka can aid in inculcating the reading habits among children at the school level and how technology can be incorporated to make reading more pleasurable. Further the author suggested that reading culture should therefore be inculcated among the citizens especially the children.

Samsuddin & Aspura (2021) investigated the reading habit and reading attitudes among students in the research university library in Malaysia. The authors found that the changes in the behaviour of academic library users in terms of usage pattern, attitudes and selection of reading materials.

Dhiman and Kumar (2019) made an attempt to evaluate the reading habits of University of Jammu, Jammu faculty members, postgraduate students, and research scholars who use the library. They demonstrated that University of Jammu library users used to have a passion for reading. This study found that 69.2% of postgraduates use libraries to study for exams. Research scholars (70.9%) and faculty members (52.2%) visit libraries most frequently to consult research materials.

Sharma & Singh (2005) described reading habits of faculty members in natural sciences of University of Delhi, Delhi. The majority of faculty members seem to visit the library once a week, and the distance is a serious obstacle to visiting more regularly. The survey also demonstrates that faculty members read mostly to meet their responsibilities in terms of teaching and research.

Balasubramanian, Dora & Veerachamy (2013) examined reading habits of users in ManonmaniamSundaranarUniversity, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. According to the study, 88 respondents visited libraries to consult general books. 16 of the respondents or so had read newspapers in the library. The majority of visitors to the library spend less than an hour there, according to the study.

Onuoha, Unegbu & Umahi (2013) described the reading habits and library use patterns of students in the department of Information Resources Management, Babcock University, Nigeria. Even though most reading activities take place outside of the university library's walls, the authors of the paper looked into how IRM students use reading for both enjoyment and education.

Shimray, Keerti & Ramaiah (2015)discussed mobile reading habits in the article. Mobiles and smartphones are transforming human lives at fast pace. Furthermore, they discussed for reference purposes, mobile reading is frequently utilized. In metropolitan places, mobile reading is more prevalent. Reading tools enable both focused reading of a single text and broad text-scanning.

Parikh, Vyas & Parikh (2020) conducted a survey on reading habits of library users during COVID-19 lockdown. The main finding of the survey was that the users had taken keen interest to switch over to reading eBooks and 70% of student users and 53% of faculty users are reading more e-content especially books/magazines/research papers. Along with the extensive reading habit, the survey reveals that users are more engaged in learning, leisure, and hobby activities at home.Users who are students have also mentioned having more time with their families at home.

Yasir & Balasubramanian (2019) focused the reading habit and literacy attitude ofthe college students who use the Tirunelveli district central library. There were 407 respondents chosen for this study. As a result of the data analysis, it has been determined that decent libraries are very necessary in every location, and that people are motivated to utilise them, especially college students.

Loan (2011) described that the subject background plays significant role in reading habits of students like gender, age, income, social status,qualification, academic performance, employment status and professional growth etc.

Ogunbodede & Sawyerr-George (2023) stated that the students mostly used the Internet resources; students had positive perceptions of the impacts of Digital Resources usage on their reading habits; and there was a significant relationship between Digital Resources usage and the reading habits of university students in Nigeria. Based on their findings, the researchers advised the university administration to keep offering computer systems and Internet connection so that students could always access a range of DRs to improve their reading habits.

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Shimray, Keerti&Ramaiah (2015) described mobile reading habits of the users. Additionally, they mentioned that reading involves books, which are inaccessible to millions of people worldwide, who choose not to read. Today, though, cellular networks and mobile phones are bridging that divide and aiding others who were previously out of reach. Almost 6 billion individuals are estimated to presently have access to a functional mobile phone, which is still mostly used for basic communication.In developing nations like Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe, UNESCO carried out an extensive study on mobile reading and discovered that people read more when they have access to text on their mobile devices, they enjoy reading more, and people frequently read books and stories to children from their mobile devices.

Conclusion :

In this way from the above literature review we can conclude that, in college libraries, most students do not spend much time in the library andalso they read onlytext books during the exams. On the other hand, university students make good use of the library and do all kinds of reading. Therefore, college students must regularly read both print and digital resources. College students should use libraries frequently and make use of all the resources that are offered there and also they should make maximum use of the library if they want to develop reading culture and reading habit.

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