LIBRARY CULTURE IN SCHOOLS

Bankapur V.M.[1]

ABSTRACT

With passing times from Vedic period to Greek and then to Roman to today's digital era the libraries have remained the central of knowledge, scholarship, learning and imagination. Libraries are the part of the future. With Dr. S R Ranganathan words about education is it is releasing and exercising the creative ability of each member of the community in his own field and his own measure is the purpose of education. Library integral part of the education at all Level. It is a tradition followed to conquer the thirst for knowledge. It is the Librarian's who induce the culture of library and make them library savvy. Involving into a "Library Culture" is a process in learning. It is best to begin with fixing the boundary of this school Library. Library culture is evolved with library literacy programs for young minds. To fix it in respect of the two substantive terms 'School Library ' and 'Culture'. The article reveals the curiosity for resources for the young mind and developing a culture of reading as it is fundamental right. The various examples have been given here to address the issue of promotion of reading and developing library culture.

1. INTRODUCTION

It is seen with the passing times from Vedic period to Greek and then to Roman to today's digital era the libraries have remained the central of knowledge, scholarship, learning to imagination. Reminiscences of Library development since ages can be felt through one important book “the meaning of the library” which sees the trend of shift with wonderful examples of Libraries pondering to the 21st century by Alice Crawford taken from the extracts from varied field of personalities. How reading has made people great a well composed book “Books, Reading and Libraries, by Prof. K. S Desphande to be released shortly to the market. Both books keep the heritage and legacy of past and present. There are quite a good number of examples of pioneers who have come up and been recognized because of reading.

Libraries are the part of the future. “Releasing and exercising the creative ability of each member of the community in his own field and his own measure is the purpose of education. Library culture is evolved with library literacy programs for young minds. It is the Librarian's who induce the culture of library and make them library savvy. The theme of the address is "Library Culture" Culture relates to many known words like tradition, ethics and customs. Library relates to education and educating oneself for using right resources for right use at right time. School libraries are special library for as they have very elementary and fundamental type of resources to grasp the young mind and influence them. It starts with slow mental abilities and developing into a strong mind.

[1]*Associate Professor, School of Applied Sciences, DLISc, Rani Channamma University Belagavi, E-mail: bankapur@rediffmail.com*

The school Library is a capsule for good learning. Curiosity drives the young mind to know the unknown. School Libraries are very important sources of information introduced initially to make a good beginning.

In the words of S R Ranganathan the purpose of education is, "releasing and exercising the creative ability of each member of the community in his own field and his own measure". Library culture has to be developed in the schools, as it is one of the important centers not only to know about the resources but also to make them conversant for the budding learner to use them properly. In fact it is the first choice of all young learners as it leads them to next stage of learning process. Information literacy, library literacy and digital literacy are the three important processes for librarian to teach these skills. Today these skills have become important as the transformation of information forms which are changing the scenario of Libraries along with varied types of the gadgets rolling in the market which have made students more impressive and influensive devices most preferred by young generation. Librarians tend to influence the learners by varieties of tools to reach too many resources like books, newspapers and other sorts of e-media resources. Tools have been developed for locating resources through technology influence. Today libraries have developed into science of resource learning methods and art of resource using methods over the years and conceptualizing into Library Literacy skills. Looking at the statistics of school and library presence it is seen that it almost is nearing 100% importance given to school libraries and collection building. Hence **the library should be an expression of its community's vision and creativity; this can only happen if we involve them actively in decision-making and planning.**

2. LIBRARY CULTURE

Library Culture may be defined as "a tradition developed over time, understanding the perceptions with values, attitudes of the users developed based on the experience of using the Library for an intellectual process of finding information and for a proper use". It may later be extended also looking usage and behavior parameters of the users.

Referring to **Virginia A. Walter** "It is really the children who will claim the future, but we must ensure that they are given the supports and opportunities that will enable them to do so with hope and joy and a sense of their rightful entitlement" Library culture is an art of using intellectual literature by involving into a process of locating, recognizing and using them properly for a gain. The culture of using the resources in library /of library should be developed by:

- **Developing interest of visiting library regularly**: Making it a regular habit, habit die hard, cultivating a good habit of visiting library will further the learning to higher levels;
- **Browsing the books, journals and any forms of collections as a first glance**: First glance kindles hope, browsing books relates to search for you want, but this is a process of search leads you selection and again the process continues, then you get access something which you missed you got it;

- **Selecting the books what you need is choice for depth reading process**: It is very specific requirement for detail study, for reference only or for some other reasons for adding to bibliography;
- **Involving into a library process of borrowing the books** : Finally getting addicted to books, borrowing books for leisure reading, for serious reading and for casual reading makes it way;
- **Continuity of the explorations for books and other materials:** It again is a process that leads to next step of extensive search and strategies for looking for right book or document;
- **Visit to library is with expectation and come out with profit**: Any given time you visit library you feel that you have not read so much, where is the time to read all this, I have wasted time not reading these many books, then feel that at least you have entered to know the luminaries of thoughts sparkling with golden linings of bounded experiences contributed by many and all time greats. Let this be book like panchatantra, comic series, encyclopedia's or any other inspirational biographies of people. Reading of people, places and thoughts are examples of a casual visit to school library. Another good advantage is knowing of books is very good culture.
- **Extension of class room**: Spending time in library after classes is what we know about library hours, normally it is seen fixed schedule in schools they are made adhere to the time and classes. Library hours are a serious class interacting with school Librarian's. Again it is to be stressed here that it is a process of developing listening skills to here the story telling classes, about the book or any other school education media used for learning. Children's should develop this art to spend some time and feel to be library on their as it tends for developing into a "potential readers" not leaving regular sporting activities.

3. SCHOOL LIBRARIES: A HEAVEN ON THE EARTH

Children section is always an attraction for all. It is heaven for children's. The school library plays an important role in preparing students to live and learn in a world of information; the mission of school library has to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information by taking the following steps:

- **Providing intellectual and physical access to materials in all formats**: It is an important function of the library. The children's are made to come to library and associate them with a book which sparks them to read.
    - **Books as an important resource**: Books are opened with expectation and closed with profit a good definition. Bringing closure to books is the important role of the school librarian's. They developed the tools for regular interaction with students to know about and how to find them. Books were early forms of written communicators still ruling the world inspire of digital explosion. Today apart from various forms of books E.g. Amarchitra katha books, twinkle series which have cartoons (*Cartoons along with

media (written or any formats) makes an imagination more real and understanding becomes more live). It is an important source for initial reading. The recent Jungle Books made a box office as it explore beautiful visualization and cartoonic movie. Cartoon is a form of information communication which enables to grasp easily and make us think of creativity and understand language.

- **E-Resources:** Today lot of forms of information formats are available, new are born digital along many new way of accessing these digital information with many good electronic devices. Kindle is the best device which is helping the way children's can borrow books and read it with ease and no problem of returning them.
- **Commercial E-Resources:** Lots of e-resources are available in the market form smart boards to learning kits for different level of classes.
- **Open Sources:** ICDL is the good example for the kids and to all level of schooling, many of resources makes sense in its own way. It is again the preference study of Influence of the children's who can grasp the information easily.
- **Animated Resources:** Many good animated films make a sense. E,g Krishn Shama Central Library is good hope for people organsing library at all level. All school Librarian has to visit such library once in life time or before setting and new library. Here there are many such animated films in CD one can see with a very big color television and watch the film.

- Providing instruction to foster competence and stimulate interest in reading, viewing, and using information and ideas;
  - **Library Rules and regulations**: What is a school library? How it should be used is one important literacy programs the school children should know;
  - **Orienting to Library:** Constant efforts to students to knowing about library;
  - **Book Talk:** About the book involving librarian or any others;
  - **Story telling:** A regular classes for primary school children's by the school Librarian;
  - **Writing reviews:** Reading and writing about they have understood about the book in standard pattern;
  - **Online access to information class:** Kindle reader class, searching OPAC;
  - **Book Exhibitions:** National Book Trust (NBT), Publishers or some unused books or popular books in the Library;
  - **Toy Library:** There are many toy reviews magazines which helps know about types of the programs.

Hence School libraries have a special responsibility to support the process of learning to read and to give children access to all media. They empower children and advocate for their freedom and

safety. They encourage children to become confident and competent people. They give children their first experience of being a citizen in their own right. It is a heaven on earth: Why? "**Like mother give birth to a baby which comes this world in a physical form, School Libraries makes this baby an enlightened soul to live in the world for a purpose**". **Long Live school Libraries**.

4. PARTNERS IN LEARNING: LIFELONG LEARNING

Design learning strategies to meet the needs of students: It is an continuous process as library has been referred as school libraries as "library media" in elsewhere in west, becomes of the rapid development of digital explosion, incorporating all these new developments and involving all stake holders (Students, teachers, Librarian's, management and parents) by:

- Developing learning strategies coordinating with teachers, preachers and administrators;
- Going with time is need of the hours: Latest technologies adoptions in learning and technology resources as planned.
- Always only technologies are not needed see what others are doing
- E.g.: **Lyon Declaration**: The United Nations is negotiating a new development agenda to succeed the Millennium Development Goals. The agenda will guide all countries on approaches to improving people's lives, and outline a new set of goals to be reached during the period 2016-2030.
- Libraries are uniquely situated to promote literacy and reading. It is part of their mission and it is a mission of all types of libraries, from school and public to special, research, university and national. They may do so directly, but especially in partnership with other organizations, through projects, publications and other co-operative endeavors' (Farmer & Stricevic 2011);
- Reading about books on education and psychology e.g Wolf, M. (2008). Proust and the Squid: The story and science of the reading brain. New York: HarperCollins. Will help the librarian and teachers involving in instructions classes;
- Telling about you school library by others: A talk about books collections, media collection, technology used all matters, it is something like " talking about achievements", will add value and bring an awareness to children's and students;

So, School library Literacy empowers the students to develop capacities of reflection, critique and empathy, leading to a sense of self-efficacy, identity and full participation in learning. School Librarian role is more stressed here as they referred as "Teachers to teachers" and "king of knowledge".

5. SCHOOL LIBRARIAN: TEACHER OF TEACHERS

Master of all the arts of resources, making them reach at right time the right type of resources to the

right user(At all levels of users in schools): School librarian's are one very important school faculty, management should seriously think of such values and there no school without library and there no school without Librarian. Involving school librarian's in all activities of the school. The school librarian has varied plans for developing the library culture and inducing it in the total school environment:

- Planning for good library atmosphere: Looking into house in order, selection and acquiring resources time to time and organizing them properly for easy retrieval(Tools and techniques are used);
- Circulating of Books: Making students barrow books is again process for students to know;
- Instructions classes: Widely used and help in students for using all sorts of resources;
- Exhibitions and book talk: Regular programs bringing books closure to users;
- Display of books : Identifying a place in the library (Books) or in corridor (Book covers) of the school where books can be displayed
- Association with publishers : As libraries are going digital there are many digital media learning they are partners in education, tracking them and involving them make sense, they support school always in learning;
- **Library software's and media partners and open sources**: Organizing and managing digital information and libraries. Online resources are remarkably developed
    - **Children's Literature Web Guide:** information about children's book awards, book lists and bibliographies, information about authors of children's books, and links to resources for librarians, parents, teachers, writers, and children. It is the premier Web site for people interested in children's literature;
    - **Children's Book Council (CBC Online;** information for parents, teachers, and librarians, and other people interested in children's books.
    - **CHILDE:** a project, funded under the European Commission's Culture 2000 programme, that uses web technology to allow wider and more open access to images from collections of early children's books in Europe.
    - **Children's Literature Comprehensive Database** has information about children's authors and illustrators (including video clips), teacher guides for using children's books in the classroom, author study materials, a section where questions can be posted for authors and illustrators, and links to other children's literature sites.
- **Resource Linking to library pages:** Many cases it becomes so important that such e-resources are identified and linked to the pages can be useful resources for children's and students, particularly all open sources relevant all levels of schooling.

6. CONCLUSION

It is seen with the times passing from Vedic period to Greek and then to Roman to today's digital era the libraries have remained the centre of knowledge, scholarship, learning to imagination. Reminiscences of Library development since ages can be felt through one important book "the meaning of the library" which sees the trend of shift with wonderful examples of Libraries pondering to the 21st century by Alice Crawford taken from the extracts from varied field of personalities. How reading has made people great a well composed book "Books, Reading and Libraries, by Prof. K. S Desphande to be realized shortly to the market. Both books keep the heritage and legacy of past and present. The explores the many facets of schools Library and impresses on the "Library Culture in schools" as they are the "heaven on earth" as they lead the young mind and learners to understand the "world of literature" and understand the forms of literature (Cartoons, Pictographic magazines, Books, journals, newspapers, digital media and portals) and grow to a new world. The exploration continues with vivid examples covered including the role of the school libraries and librarian in digital age.

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