

## THE READING HABIT :BOOKS

“Swadeshe poojyate Raja  
Vidyavaan sarvatra poojyate”

“A King is honoured in his kingdom but  
A learned man receives universal acclaim.”  
- A Sanskrit Proverb

“ I do not believe in rebirth. But if I am mistaken, one of my ardent wishes is to be born in a family, which owns a vast library of books covering various subjects. If that appears too ambitious I would settle at being a librarian.” – **Soli Sorabjee.**

“Read not to contradict and confute nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weight and consider.” - **Francis Bacon**

“Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man and writing an exact man.”  
- **Francis Bacon**

“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.” – **Richard Steele**

“ A great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted at the end. You will live several lives while reading it.”- **William Styron**

“...can reading be called work? Wondered Andre Mauroice in his book *Art of Living* and then answered the question himself by quoting Descartes who calls **reading ‘Conversation with most reputable people’.**”

“ If a book leaves me with a couple of thoughts, I feel rewarded.”

“ ... Visit a library... ( *and read books*) to realize the versatility of the Human Mind”

*Hereunder are a list of Books (The Joint Directors Choice). Short reviews are endorsed within brackets. Happy Reading.....*

1. Meaning of India **by Raja Rao**

[ Rao believes India not to be a country(**Desa**) but a perspective (**Darsana**). It is not a climate but a mood or spiritual mode (**Rasa**) in the play of the absolute. He writes that it is not the Indian who makes India but the other way around. This “India” is in all. He adds that it is that centre of awareness wherein one’s self drops again and again into the hearth of **Agni** as the sacrifice is made.]

2. The Idea of India by **Sunil Khilnani**

[A Persuasive, brilliantly argued meditation on how we define ourselves as a nation]

3. Bewildered India by *Rasheeduddin Khan* ( Har-Anand Publications)  
[ “...the portion relating to Islam’s interaction with India’s belief system which is termed as **Sanatana Dharma** and the Muslim perception of India and of Hinduism should be compulsory reading for anyone who wishes to comprehend the mosaic that is today’s India.”]
4. **The Case For India** by *Will Durant* ( Simon & Schuster, New York, 1930)
5. A Matter of Honour by *Philip Mason*.
6. A Study of History(The new one volume) by *Toynbee*
7. A Tiger For Malgudi by *RK Narayanan*
8. Adventures of Ideas by *Andrew Whitehead*.
9. All About H Hatter by *GV Desani*
- 10.Among The Great by *DK Roy*
- 11.Character and self Help by *Dr Samuel Smiles*
- 12.Che Guevara: A Revolutionary life by *John Lee Anderson*.
- 13.Death Be Not Proud by *John Gunther*
- 14.Event, Metaphor, Memory: Chauri Chaura 1922-1992 by *Shahid Amin*
- 15.Good Times, Bad Times by *Harold Evans*
- 16.Growing Up by *Russell Baker*
- 17.History of the Russian Revolution; A Peoples Tragedy by *Orlando Firge*.
- 18.How Green was My Valley
- 19.In Search of Excellence by *Tom Peters & Robert Waterman*
- 20.Life of Dr Johnson by *Boswell*
- 21.Lives of a Cell by *Dr Lewis Thomas*
- 22.Looking Through Glass by *Mukul Kesavan*
- 23.Meditation in Daily Life by *Vimla Patil*
- 24.Medussa and The Snail by *Dr Lewis Thomas*
- 25.Memoirs of Katherine Graham
- 26.More Tramps Abroad by *Mark Twain*
- 27.News of A Kidnapping by *Gabriel Garcia Marquez*.
- 28.Of Love & Other Demons by *Gabriel Garcia Marquez*.
- 29.Officer As A Leader by *Brig Gen SLA Marshal*.
- 30.Pass the Butterworm by *Tim Cahil*
- 31.Pavilion for Women by *Pearl S Buck*
- 32.Prem Chand: A Life by *Harish Trivedy*.
- 33.Railway Man by *Eric Lomax* [Human qualities of resourcefulness, invention & stoicism].
- 34.Reach for the Sky by *Douglas Bader*.
- 35.Symposium by *Plato*
- 36.Talk to Me, Mum and Dad : Permissions for Young People by *Dr Pearl Drego*
- 37.Ten Best Novels Of the World by *Somerset Maugham*
- 38.Testaments Betrayed by *Milan Kundera*.
- 39.The Art Of Understanding Yourself by *Cecil G Osborne*
- 40.The Calcutta Chromosome: A Novel of Fevers, Delirium and Discovery by *Amitav Ghosh*
- 41.The Diary of A Snail by *Gunther Grass*
- 42.The Dog Years by *Gunther Grass*
- 43.The Intelligent Universe by *Fred Hoyle*

44. The Light of Asia by *Erwin Arnold*.
45. The Moral Animal by *Robert Wright*.
46. The Odes of *John Keats*
47. The Pleasures of Life by *Lord Arebusy*
48. The Private life of Chairman Mao by *Zhisui Li*
49. The Reader by *Bernhard Schlink*
50. The Selfish Gene by *Richard Dawkins*
51. The Stories of Vladimir Nabokov-ed., *Dmitri Nabokov*
52. The Tin Drum by *Gunther Grass*.
53. The Untouchable by *John Bauville*
54. The Use of Life by *Lord Arebusy*
55. The Young Science by *Dr Lewis Thomas*
56. Verdict On -Beverly Hills (Jonathan Cape, London)
57. Who Needs God?- *Harold Kushner*
58. Yes Minister
59. Yes Prime Minister
60. Your Book of Hobbies by *Otto De Costa*.
61. Gardens of God - The Water Bird Sanctuary by *Kailash Sankhala*.
62. Return of the TIGER by *Kailash Sankhala*.
63. Snapshots from Hell: The Making of an MBA by *Peter Robinson*  
[Most authentic tell-it-as-it is books on the agony and ecstasy of an MBA Course]
64. Straight from the Gut by *Jack Welch & John A Byrne*  
[Autobiography of one of the most successful CEO's of all time.]
65. Odysey : Pepsi to Apple- A Journey of Adventure, Ideas and the Future by *John Sculley* )  
[Sculley was considered as the heir apparent to the post of CEO of Pepsi.]
66. Beyond the Last Blue Mountain by *RM Lala* [*Authorised autobiography of JRD Tata*]
67. Made in Japan by *Akio Moria* [*Story of Sony Japan Ltd*].
68. Maverick by *Ricardo Semler* [*Story of Semco, the fastest growing Brazilian company where the employees make all the descions*].
69. In Xanadu: A Quest by *William Dalrymple* [*Best travel book of it's genre*].
70. V.V. John Omnibus, edited by *George John*,  
[ "...The book is a treasure trove of ideas on a variety of topics... with perennial contemporaneity and can be called a gift to posterity." ]
71. My Family and other Animals by *Gerald Durrell* [*One of the best Childhood autobiography set in the sun drenched Greek island of Corfu*]
72. The Hobbit by *JRR Tolkien* [*by the author of the Lord of the Rings Trilogy*]
73. Dumb Witness by *Agatha Christie*
74. 4:50 from Paddington by *Agatha Christie*.
75. Three Men in a Boat by *Jerome K Jerome*.
76. Jonathan Livingston Seagull by *Richard Bach*  
[ Bach redefines the parameters of freedom in his remarkable book about a seagull called Jonathan Livingston. Jonathan aims to achieve the best he is capable of.]
77. Gold Nuggets by *Swami Rajneesh*.
78. Oona by *Jasjit Mansingh*

[ For those who are thinking about careers in India and of doing something positive and proactive this book is a must read. For those who have dollar signs stuck in their eyes, hopefully those stickers will fall off].

79. *The Firm* by John Grisham

80. **Ten Short stories** by Jeffrey Archer

81. **Not A Penny More Not A penny Less** by Jeffrey Archer

82. **Straight From the Gut** by Jack Welch

83. **Learning: The Treasure Within** by Jacques Delors.

84. **Modesty Blaise ( set of 13 Bks)**for Rs 1391/= or each @ Rs 250/=.

85. **The Men Who Killed Gandhi** by Manohar Malgaonkar.

86. **Babudom: Catacombs of Indian Bureaucracy**

87. **Babulog: Vignettes of Indian Bureaucrats** } by Sudhansu (*Rupa*, 2004, 05 and 06)

88. **Babuspeak and Other Stories**

89. **A Fine Balance** by Rohinson Mistry **River** by Peter Hessler

90. **When A Crocodile Eats the Sub** by Peter Godwin

91. **A Long Walk to Freedom** by Nelson Mandela

92. **The Alexandria Quartet** by Laurence Durrell

93. **Black Swan** by Nicholas Taleb

94. **Living Versus Getting On: Freedom From Helplessness; Moments with Oneself (Bks 1 to 9 )**

by Swamy Dayananda Saraswaty

95. **The Bases of Indian Culture** edited by SwamiPrajnanananda

96. **www.books.google.com**