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Building Smart Libraries: Challenges and Discovery Tools

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**BOOK TALKS AS A BEST PRACTICE TO PROMOTE
READING HABITS: A CASE OF ATMIYA UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTRE**

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ABSTRACT

The paper presents a case study of Book Talks as a best practice in a University Library – the context that initiated the practice; the objectives; the details of the practice; its impact and the outcome. The Atmiya University Library and Learning centre has been conducting book talks with the help of their own faculty to begin with and now the students. It has been a regular practice on Saturday's which begins with a platform for talent show and ends with a high tea and discussion on the Book. This practice has attracted many students and faculties on regular basis to develop the reading habit which has been found beneficial in developing many skills, most essentially – presentation and comprehension skills. The paper also provides a comprehensive literature review for further reading on practices in book talks and reading programmes globally.

KEYWORDS: *Book Talks; Best Practices; Reading Habits; Book Reviews; Library Promoting Reading Habits.*

INTRODUCTION

Book Talks one of the best ways to promote reading habits and skills to enhance reading skills namely comprehension; vocabulary; increasing the speed of reading; skimming and similar important aspects which are equally important for academic purpose. Reading is a met cognitive process as it involves understanding the language; imagination; comprehending; drawing the contextual meaning; retaining for further reference and similar activities depending upon the purpose of reading. There are numerous works which reflect on this important aspect that every Parent; teacher and researcher should understand about reading and cognition. (Gourgey, 1999), (Shih, 1992), (Camahalan, 2006), (Cubukcu, 2008) have provided some strategies for reading as a meta-cognitive exercise.