**Experience is the best teacher**

Books are considered to be the source of all knowledge, but all that one learns

through a book is only of theoretical nature in the form of ideas and concepts. It

is essential to utilize them in a real environment and experience the knowledge

that is learned from books.

Learning is nothing but understanding the world around us. Books, no doubt

are a great source of knowledge as it gives us an idea about a particular subject

in detail. But all that one could learn from it is limited to the level of knowing

how a certain phenomenon occurs, or how a certain concept works. The

knowledge gained through books alone cannot help anyone, because what one

learns through the books should be put in to use to harvest the benefits. For

instance, a person who wants to learn driving can go through various manuals

and guides that teach people how to drive, but all this knowledge is useful only

when you are actually driving the car on the roads. It would be an utter waste of

time if one just reads the books and does not use them for practical purpose.

Learning through experience is always a lot different from learning through

books. Let us consider the same example of a person wanting to learn to drive:

even if he goes through every book that is available on driving, still it cannot

qualify him as an expert driver. This is because of the fact that books about

driving can only teach people traffic rules and provide solutions on how to

handle certain situations. The situations faced by a driver could be totally

different from what he had learnt from a book. Sometimes we find that the real

environment is quite different from the one perceived by us through reading

books. This is the very reason why, even in educational institutions, all

theoretical classes are followed by practical sessions.

Learning through experience can also be more effective than learning through

books because one does not envision everything on his own, but is given a

chance to experience the reality. The art of driving can be enjoyed only when

we are behind the wheels and not when reading it in books. Moreover, any

book is actually an account of past experiences, i.e. it is based on the

experiences of people who tried to develop a new idea. The books are their

experiences, telling us what they already have tried. Thus from their

experiences we can correct ourselves and thus save valuable time and resources.

It helps us to concentrate on their failures and to correct them, but they alone

cannot teach us everything we need to know. The knowledge learned through

books alone cannot help us to face all the exigencies that we would face in real

life situations; we have to practice on our own.

Books are like a guiding light in one's pursuit for knowledge. But it is left to

everyone of us to experience it first hand and learn new things for the

betterment of their lives. So the notion "experience is the best teacher" is

perfectly true.