

## Talents and Hobbies

It is my conviction that every person has particular talents that distinguish him and her from most other people; and that everyone has more than one hobby to make him and her feel happy practicing and spending their free time busy enjoying themselves. However, it is unfortunate that not everyone is able to discover his talents and has the financial means and the time to develop them to the point of distinguishing himself from most other people; the same rule applies to hobbies because hobbies need time, while free time needs hobbies to fill doing something productive and enjoyable. People who are born in poverty where the parents are illiterates are often unable to discover either their talents or hobbies and therefore, their unique practical and mental capacities related to talents and hobbies are wasted. In fact, I believe that if everyone were to use his talents and hobbies doing what he does best, the majority of us will be happy, and bad habits like smoking and gambling will be less harmful to us and the environment. In addition, the economies will be more productive, and societies more peaceful and less obsessed with consumption and waste of resources.

On the other hand, I believe that the most fortunate people in history are those who love reading and have the talent to write; reading in this case would be the hobby to fill your free time enjoying what you do; and writing would be utilizing the talent you have to produce books and poetry and ideas and novels that inform others, spread knowledge in society and reduce cultural and scientific illiteracy. Books are an inexhaustible spring that nourishes the mind and refreshes the soul that does not stop giving. People that have the talent to write love reading; but not all people who love reading have the talent to write. People who love to read and have the talent to write never age or feel lonely. Whenever a writer or a thinker feels bored or lonely, he finds a faithful friend hiding on a shelf somewhere in his home, fully prepared to challenge him and enrich his life. And this causes writers' minds to be constantly active, producing new works of literature and thought. Books often convince people to reconsider their convictions and positions towards most things in life, which makes people more open-minded; and that makes society more hospitable to new ideas and unconventional ways of living.

As the history of science and philosophy and literature indicates, distinguished intellectuals that committed their lives to defend the rights of the poor and weak and promoting peace and justice were turned into monuments after their death. While some of their works lived for decades, other works lived thousands of years after their death. So while some people die prematurely due to ignoring their talents and hobbies and health, most people who develop their talents and practice their hobbies live long, healthy lives, while a minority live immortal lives.

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