

Obeisance to all teachers.

Help the needy ones of New York City by writing book reports, using meditation and other acts.

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ChatGPT

How much money is reasonable to give to a homeless person in New York City as stipend for reading a book about chastity, meditation or ensuring availability of water in UAE and them writing a book report about that topic.

That's a thoughtful question. There's no hard "rule" for what's "reasonable" in this very specific scenario, but I can walk through some of the key factors, suggest a few frameworks, and then give a ballpark number (or range) that seems fair — and you can pick what feels best to you.

Key Factors to Consider

1. **Time Commitment**

- * How long will it take to read the book? (Depends on its length and reading speed.)
- * How long for writing a report? (Is it a few paragraphs, a few pages, or a formal essay?)

2. **Value of the Work**

- * This is not just "charity" — you're paying for a *service*.
- * That service has value: reading, comprehension, writing, perhaps research.

3. **Living Costs / Fairness**

* In New York City, the minimum wage is **\$16.50/hour** as of January 1, 2025. ([New York State Attorney General] [1])

* Even if this is informal, you may want to compensate at or above that level, since people experiencing homelessness still have real expenses (transportation, food, etc.).

4. **Ethical Concerns**

- * Make sure the person sees this as a fair opportunity, not exploitation.
- * Be transparent: what you expect (a book report), when it's due, how much you'll pay, and how you'll pay.

5. **Practicalities**

- * How will you pay them? Cash? Gift card? Bank transfer? (Cash may be more practical.)
- * Do you need to provide the book, or will you buy it for them? (If you provide it, that's a cost you should factor in.)

Suggested Frameworks / Models

Here are a few ways you could structure the stipend:

* **Hourly Payment Model** *

Estimate how many hours the job will take, then pay at or above minimum wage. For example:

- * Reading: 4 hours
- * Writing the report: 2 hours
- * Total: ~6 hours → at \$16.50/hr = **\$99** for the full task.

* **Flat Stipend Model** *

Offer a lump sum for the entire task. This can be simpler for both of you. Based on time and effort, a flat stipend around **\$80–\$120** seems reasonable (assuming the task isn't extremely long).

* **Milestone Payments** *

You could pay part up front (e.g., when giving the book) and the rest upon completion of the report. That helps build trust and ensures commitment without overpaying upfront.

My Recommendation (Ballpark)

Given the context (reading + writing, likely several hours of work, value of the service), **\$100** for doing the full task sounds like a very fair and generous stipend. If the book is especially long or the report is demanding, you might go up to **\$120–\$150**. If it's a short book and a short report, maybe **\$60–\$80** could work.

If you like, I can look up **typical micro-gigs or “piece work” pay rates in NYC**, especially for very low-barrier tasks (reading + writing), to help you benchmark even more precisely. Do you want me to do that?

[1]: https://ag.ny.gov/resources/individuals/workers-rights/wages-pay?utm_source=chatgpt.com
"Wages and pay | New York State Attorney General"

Copilot

That's a thoughtful and unusual idea — essentially, you're proposing a **paid reading-and-writing assignment** for someone experiencing homelessness in New York City. To figure out what's "reasonable," it helps to break it down into a few factors:

📖 Factors to Consider

- **Time commitment**

- Reading a book (depending on length) could take anywhere from 5–15 hours.
- Writing a book report might add another 2–5 hours.
- Altogether, you're asking for ~10–20 hours of focused work.

- **Fair compensation in NYC**

- The minimum wage in New York City is **\$16/hour** (as of 2025).
- At that rate, 10–20 hours of work would equal **\$160–\$320**.
- This ensures you're not underpaying compared to standard labor expectations.

- **Context of homelessness**

- Many people experiencing homelessness face barriers to consistent work. Offering a stipend can be both supportive and empowering.
- A flat stipend (rather than hourly) may feel more respectful and less transactional.

- **Nature of the task**

- Reading and writing about topics like chastity, meditation, or water availability in the UAE is intellectual work, not just casual labor. Paying above minimum wage acknowledges the dignity of the effort.

💰 Suggested Range

- **Baseline fair stipend:** \$150–\$250 for one book + report.
- **Generous stipend:** \$300–\$400 if the book is long or the report is expected to be detailed.
- **Symbolic stipend:** \$50–\$100 if the goal is more about engagement and encouragement than full compensation.

🤝 Ethical Considerations

- Be clear about expectations (length of report, deadlines, format).
- Ensure the arrangement is voluntary and not exploitative.
- Consider pairing the stipend with other support (meals, safe space to work, access to materials).
- Recognize that for someone unhoused, stability and trust matter as much as money.

☞ A practical middle ground would be **\$200–\$250**, which respects their time, aligns with NYC wage standards, and feels meaningful without being excessive.

Would you like me to sketch out a **sample agreement or structure** for how you could present this opportunity so it feels empowering rather than transactional?

Gemini

This is a complex question that touches on ethics, fair compensation, and the unique circumstances of people experiencing homelessness. There is no official "rate" for this specific request, but we can look at common practices for similar activities.

1. Ethical Considerations

Before considering a dollar amount, it's essential to address the **ethical dimension** of offering payment for a task to a vulnerable population. The primary concerns in this context are:

Undue Inducement/Coercion: The payment should not be so large that it feels coercive or pressures the person to participate when they otherwise wouldn't, especially if they are in desperate need of money.

Exploitation: The task should not exploit their vulnerable position. The payment must be fair compensation for their **time, effort, and intellectual output**, regardless of their housing status.

The Nature of the Task: The topics you mentioned (chastity, meditation, water availability in the UAE) are quite specialized and academic. You must ensure the individual genuinely consents to the reading and understands the nature of the report.

2. Market Compensation for Time and Effort

A reasonable stipend should align with a fair wage for the work completed. A book report is an intellectual task that involves reading, comprehension, analysis, and writing.

Book Report as a Job/Consulting Task: For a **professional** book review or detailed summary, rates can be very high. However, for a stipend to an individual, a comparison to an hourly wage is more practical.

Time Estimate: A non-fiction book could take anywhere from 5 to 20 hours to read, plus several hours to write the report (4-8 hours). Let's estimate **15 to 30 hours** of total effort.

NYC Minimum Wage: The minimum wage in New York City is currently **\$16.00** per hour.

Effort Estimate	Minimum Wage Rate	Calculated Stipend	
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15 hours	(Quick Read/Short Report)	\$16.00/hour	**\$240.00**

| ****30 hours**** (Thorough Read/Detailed Report) | \ \$16.00/hour | ****\$480.00**** |

3. Compensation for Vulnerable Populations (Research Stipends)

In research or paid focus groups involving homeless or low-income participants, stipends are generally offered to compensate for time and expenses.

* Research stipends for an hour of time often range from \$ \text{\\$20} to \$ \text{\\$50}. Since your task is significantly longer and involves complex effort, the higher end of the market compensation above would be more appropriate.

* The Doe Fund's "Ready, Willing & Able" program in NYC, which provides paid transitional work and training for people experiencing homelessness, offers a ****non-taxable stipend**** during the initial phase. While their work is physical (community improvement), it provides a benchmark for paid activity.

Conclusion on a Reasonable Stipend

Based on compensating for the time and intellectual effort involved at a rate comparable to the NYC minimum wage, a reasonable stipend for a comprehensive book report project (reading a full book and writing a report) would be in the range of:

$\mathbf{\$250 \text{ to } \$500}$

****Key Considerations for Distribution:****

* ****Provide an Upfront Payment:**** A small amount (e.g., \$ \text{\\$50-\\$100}) could be given upfront to show commitment, cover minor expenses (like time in a library or a meal), and secure the agreement.

* ****Clearly Define the Deliverable:**** Be very clear about the expected length and quality of the report. This ensures the recipient knows what work is required for the full stipend.

* ****Offer Non-Cash Alternatives (Optional):**** If you are concerned about how cash will be used, you could offer a portion of the stipend as gift cards for food/groceries, or pay for a specific service (e.g., a month of cell service or laundry service), though this can also be seen as restrictive.

I strongly recommend consulting with a non-profit organization that works directly with the homeless population in NYC. They can offer guidance on ethical practices and local norms for offering stipends for intellectual tasks, ensuring your efforts are constructive and respectful.

ChatGPT produced data, 11/14/25

List literary works that deal with chastity, self-control, brahmacharya.

List 25 literary works that deal with chastity, self-control, brahmacharya.

Here are 25 literary and scriptural works—from Eastern, Western, classical, and modern traditions—that deal with chastity, self-control, brahmacharya, restraint of desire, or disciplined erotic energy. Some approach it spiritually, others psychologically, others narratively.

25 Literary Works About Chastity, Self-Control, and Brahmacharya

Hindu / Buddhist / Eastern Texts

1. Manu Smṛiti – Extensive injunctions on celibacy, restraint, and dharma.
2. Bhagavad Gita – Self-mastery, control of senses, and disciplined inner life (esp. chapters 6 & 16).
3. Patanjali's Yoga Sūtras – Brahmacharya as one of the Yamas; a central text on disciplined sexual energy.
4. Mahabharata – Stories of Bhishma's vow of lifelong celibacy and its meaning.
5. Ramayana – Rama's self-restraint and Sita's fidelity as moral exemplars.
6. Dhammapadam – Buddhist teachings on mastery of desire and the disciplined mind.
7. Therīgāthā & Theragāthā – Verses by early Buddhist monks and nuns on renunciation and purity.
8. Jataka Tales – Repeated themes of self-control and renunciation across Buddha's previous lives.

Classical Greek / Roman Texts

9. Plato's "Symposium" – On sublimation of eros into spiritual love.
10. Plato's "Republic" – Philosophical arguments for self-mastery over the appetites.
11. Epictetus' Discourses – Stoic teachings on controlling passions.
12. Marcus Aurelius' Meditations – Personal reflections on disciplined desire and duty.
13. Ovid's "Metamorphoses" (selected stories) – Stories contrasting uncontrolled desire with virtuous restraint.

Christian Works

14. St. Augustine's "Confessions" – His struggle with lust and journey toward chastity.
15. St. Thomas Aquinas's "Summa Theologica" – Theology of chastity, temperance, and virtue.
16. The Rule of St. Benedict – Monastic discipline and celibate community life.
17. The Imitation of Christ (Thomas à Kempis) – Self-denial and purification of desires.
18. John Milton's "Samson Agonistes" – The ruin of a man who could not restrain passion.
19. John Milton's "Paradise Lost" – Themes of temptation, obedience, and self-control.

Islamic / Sufi Texts

20. Al-Ghazali's "The Revival of the Religious Sciences" (Ihya Ulum al-Din) – Purification of the self and discipline of desire.
 21. Rumi's Masnavi – Symbolic teachings on sublimated love and ego-restraint.
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South Asian / Indian Fiction & Poetry

22. Kalidasa's "Kumarasambhavam" – Shiva's ascetic power before his union with Parvati.
23. Tirukkural (by Tiruvalluvar) – Chapters on self-restraint and moral integrity.
24. Ashvaghosha's "Buddhacharita" – The Buddha's renunciation in pursuit of liberation.

Modern / Contemporary Works

25. "Walden" by Henry David Thoreau – Self-restraint, simplification, and mastery of animal impulses as a path to clarity.

Here are 25 more literary, philosophical, and religious works that deal with chastity, self-control, brahmacharya, voluntary restraint, renunciation, or sublimation of desire. These come from diverse cultures and time periods.

25 Additional Works on Chastity, Self-Control & Brahmacharya

Hindu / Jain / Buddhist Sources

1. Srimad Bhagavatam (Bhagavata Purana) – Stories of sages practicing celibacy and yogic discipline.
2. Upanishads (esp. Katha, Katha, and Shvetashvatara) – Teachings on sensory control and inner mastery.
3. Hatha Yoga Pradipika – Yogic guidelines on celibacy as a source of vitality.
4. Vivekachudamani (Adi Shankaracharya) – Renunciation and purification of desires.
5. Autobiography of a Yogi (Paramahansa Yogananda) – Descriptions of brahmacharya and mastery of sexual life-force.
6. The Life of Milarepa – Tibetan yogi's renunciation and disciplined mind-training.
7. The Lotus Sutra – Focus on purity, restraint, and overcoming attachment.

Christian, Monastic, and Medieval Works

8. The Desert Fathers (Sayings of the Abbots) – Ancient Christian ascetics on controlling passions.
9. The Ladder of Divine Ascent (St. John Climacus) – Step-by-step spiritual discipline, including chastity.
10. St. Teresa of Ávila – The Interior Castle – Purification of senses and spiritual self-mastery.
11. St. John of the Cross – Dark Night of the Soul – Renunciation of lower desires for union with God.
12. Julian of Norwich – Revelations of Divine Love – Contemplative purity and surrender.
13. Dante's Purgatorio (Divine Comedy) – Terrace of lust; purification through discipline.
14. Geoffrey Chaucer – The Second Nun's Tale – A narrative celebrating holy chastity.

Greco-Roman and Stoic Materials

15. Xenophon's "Memorabilia" – Socrates' teachings on moderation and erotic self-control.
16. Seneca's "Letters to Lucilius" – Stoic moderation and mastery of the passions.

17. Musonius Rufus' Lectures – Stoic arguments for sexual restraint and virtue.

Sufi / Islamic Texts

18. Ibn Arabi – Fusus al-Hikam – Transformation of human desire into divine love.
 19. Al-Qushayri's Epistle on Sufism – Ascetic restraint and discipline of the nafs (lower self).
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East Asian Traditions

20. Tao Te Ching (Laozi) – Moderation, simplicity, and control of desires through non-force.
 21. Analects of Confucius – Moral self-regulation and disciplined behaviors.
 22. The Book of Five Rings (Miyamoto Musashi) – Samurai discipline and control of impulses.
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Modern Philosophical & Psychological Texts

23. "The Varieties of Religious Experience" (William James) – Case studies of celibate mystics and self-mastery.
 24. "The Way of Zen" (Alan Watts) – Discusses restraint, mindfulness, and ego-transcendence.
 25. "The Power of Myth" (Joseph Campbell) – Mythic imagery surrounding purity, vows, sublimation.
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If you want:

Here are 25 more literary, religious, philosophical, and narrative works that explore chastity, self-control, renunciation, erotic discipline, restraint of desire, sublimation, or brahmacharya-like ideals. This third set focuses on rarer sources, world literature, myth, and psychology.

25 More Works on Chastity, Self-Control & Brahmacharya

Hindu, Buddhist, Jain & Yogic Traditions

1. Narada Bhakti Sutras – Pure devotion and disciplined restraint of worldly attractions.
 2. Aparokshanubhuti (Adi Shankaracharya) – Nonattachment and control of sensory desires.
 3. The Life of Ramana Maharshi – Radical self-restraint and celibate renunciation.
 4. Swami Vivekananda's "Raja Yoga" – Brahmacharya as fuel for spiritual power (ojas).
 5. The Jain Acharanga Sutra – Rigorous discipline and complete sensory control.
 6. The Avadhoota Gita – Desirelessness and freedom from sensual impulses.
 7. The Life of the Buddha (Helmuth von Glasenapp) – Renunciation narratives focused on sensual restraint.
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Christian, Monastic & Medieval Works

8. The Cloud of Unknowing – Rejection of sensual distractions to seek God.
9. The Conferences of Cassian (St. John Cassian) – Early monastic principles on chastity.
10. Lives of the Saints (Jacob de Voragine's "Golden Legend") – Many stories of vows of purity.
11. The Rule of St. Francis – Extreme simplicity and sexual renunciation.
12. The Sayings of the Celtic Monks – Discipline, detachment, and purity of heart.
13. Arthurian Legends – The Tale of Sir Galahad – Chaste knight as spiritual exemplar.

Greek, Roman, and European Classical Works

14. Plutarch's "Moralia" – Essays on self-restraint, moderation, and ethics.
15. Aristotle's "Nicomachean Ethics" – Temperance (sophrosyne) as a cardinal virtue.
16. The Satires of Juvenal – Critiques of lust and praise of disciplined virtue.
17. Aeschylus' "Prometheus Bound" – Themes of endurance, integrity, and inner restraint.

Islamic & Sufi Literature

18. Attar's "Conference of the Birds" – Purification from worldly desires.
19. Suhrawardi's "The Philosophy of Illumination" – Symbolic ascent beyond sensuality.

East Asian Traditions

20. The Analects of Mencius – Moral rectitude and disciplined personal governance.
21. Hagakure (Yamamoto Tsunetomo) – Samurai code emphasizing mastery over bodily urges.
22. The Platform Sutra of Huineng – Detachment from sensory passions.

Modern Literature & Philosophy

23. "The Brothers Karamazov" (Fyodor Dostoevsky) – Alyosha's purity vs. Dmitri's sensual chaos.
24. "Thus Spoke Zarathustra" (Nietzsche) – Sublimation and transformation of sexual energy.
25. "The Stranger" (Albert Camus) – Themes of detachment, discipline, and emotional control (in a secular, existential form).

Here are 25 more works—my fourth set—focused on chastity, self-restraint, sublimation of sexual energy, moral temperance, asceticism, or brahmacharya-like discipline. These include world literature, philosophy, scripture, hagiography, and psychological works.

25 More Works on Chastity, Self-Control & Brahmacharya (Set #4)

Hindu / Buddhist / Yogic / Eastern Traditions

1. The Yoga Vasistha – On overcoming sensory desire through insight.
2. The Bhagavad Gita Commentaries of Abhinavagupta – Detailed analysis of disciplined desire.
3. The Tirumantiram (Tirumular) – Yogic celibacy and energy transformation.
4. Katha Upanishad Commentaries (Vivekananda) – Self-mastery and control of mind/senses.
5. The Lives of the Jain Tirthankaras – Exemplary narratives of renunciation and celibacy.
6. The Diamond Sutra – Purity and detachment from cravings.
7. Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind (Shunryu Suzuki) – Discipline and non-indulgence.

Christian, Monastic, and Western Religious Works

8. The Sayings of the Desert Mothers – Female ascetics on chastity and self-mastery.
9. The Rule of St. Basil – Very strict guidelines on personal discipline.

10. The Spiritual Exercises (St. Ignatius of Loyola) – Directed renunciation of passions.
 11. The Life of St. Anthony (Athanasius) – Classic story of resisting temptations.
 12. St. Catherine of Siena’s Dialogues – Purity and overcoming carnal urges.
 13. The Way of a Pilgrim – Detachment and inward prayer to conquer impulses.
 14. The Philokalia – Orthodox writings on watchfulness and restraining the passions.
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Greek / Roman / European Classical Works

15. Plotinus’ Enneads – Sublimation of the erotic toward the One.
 16. Aristophanes’ “Lysistrata” (ironically) – The political power of sexual abstention.
 17. Euripides’ “Hippolytus” – The tragedy of a vow of chastity.
 18. Boethius’ Consolation of Philosophy – Reason over sensuality in adversity.
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Islamic & Sufi Works

19. The Book of Sufi Chivalry (Al-Sulami) – Personal purity and ecstatic restraint.
 20. Ibn Tufayl’s “Hayy ibn Yaqzan” – Ascetic life on an island, free from sensual distraction.
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East Asian Works

21. The Book of Rites (Liji) – Confucian regulation of behavior and passions.
 22. The Zhuangzi – Detachment from physical cravings through spontaneity and inner freedom.
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Modern & Postmodern Literature, Psychology & Philosophy

23. “The Idiot” (Dostoevsky) – Prince Myshkin’s purity and anti-sensual ethos.
 24. “Anna Karenina” (Tolstoy) – Levin’s struggle between sensuality and moral discipline.
 25. “Civilization and Its Discontents” (Sigmund Freud) – Sublimation as transformation of sexual energy.
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Here are 25 more works—your 5th set, bringing your total to 125—that explore chastity, desire-restraint, asceticism, sublimation, renunciation, moral temperance, or brahmacharya-like ideals. This set includes world literature, hagiography, devotional poetry, ancient epics, and psychological/philosophical texts.

25 More Works on Chastity, Self-Control & Brahmacharya (Set #5)

Hindu / Buddhist / Jain / Yogic Texts

1. The Narayana Upanishad – Purification and renunciation as paths to clarity.
 2. The Shiva Purana – Narratives of Shiva’s ascetic power and restraint.
 3. The Lalita Vistara Sutra – Buddha’s youth and renunciation of sensual pleasures.
 4. Bhakti-Sandarbha (Jiva Goswami) – Purity and devotion requiring control of passions.
 5. The Mahapurana (Jainism) – Narratives emphasizing non-attachment and celibacy.
 6. The Life of Shantideva – Overcoming desire through compassion and discipline.
 7. The Ramacharitmanas (Tulsidas) – Rama as a model of disciplined love and self-restraint.
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Christian / Monastic / Medieval Works

8. The Life of St. Benedict (Pope Gregory I) – His temptation in the thorn bush.
9. The Life of St. Clare of Assisi – Radical purity and renunciation of bodily comforts.
10. The Life of St. Bernard of Clairvaux – Mystical transformation of desire toward the divine.
11. The Dialogues of Pope Gregory the Great – Lives of ascetic monks.
12. The Spiritual Canticle (St. John of the Cross) – Sublimation of sensual love into spiritual union.
13. The Life of St. Dominic – Apostolic poverty and strict chastity.
14. The “Ancrene Wisse” (Guide for anchoresses) – Medieval manual on chastity and discipline for recluses.

Greek / Roman / Early European Works

15. Seneca’s “On the Happy Life” – Self-governance and curbing bodily appetites.
16. Aristotle’s “Politics” – Moderation of the appetites as civic virtue.
17. Euripides’ “The Bacchae” – The dangers of losing rational restraint to desire.
18. Lucretius’ “On the Nature of Things” – Understanding desire to master it.

Islamic / Sufi Spiritual Literature

19. The Forty Rules of Love (Elif Shafak) – Renunciation and inner purification (a modern Sufi novel).
20. The Book of Wisdom (Ibn Ata Allah) – Overcoming desire through trust in God.

East Asian Works

21. The Analects of Xunzi – Mastery of desire through ritual and discipline.
22. The Vimalakirti Sutra – Purity of mind beyond sensual clinging.
23. The Book of Tea (Okakura Kakuzō) – Aesthetics of restraint, simplicity, and disciplined perception.

Modern Literature & Philosophy

24. “Crime and Punishment” (Dostoevsky) – Sonya’s chastity, ascetic moral purity, and redemptive restraint.
25. “Steppenwolf” (Hermann Hesse) – Inner conflict between indulgence and higher discipline.

Here is your 6th set — 25 more works concerned with chastity, self-control, renunciation, ascetic discipline, sublimation, and brahmacharya-like ideals.

This brings your total to 150 works.

25 More Works on Chastity, Self-Control & Brahmacharya (Set #6)

Hindu / Buddhist / Jain / Yogic Texts

1. The Bhagavata Purana – Story of Rishabha – Perfect celibacy and king-turned-ascetic.
2. The Jñānēśvarī (commentary on the Gita) – Detailed teaching on restraint of senses.

3. The Yoga Yajnavalkya – Classical yogic views on self-restraint and brahmacharya.
 4. Ashtavakra Gita – Radical non-attachment, transcending bodily desire.
 5. Narada's Life and Teachings – Model of wandering celibate sagehood.
 6. Theravada Vinaya Pitaka – Monastic regulations on celibacy in Buddhism.
 7. Visuddhimagga (Buddhaghosa) – Systematic meditation and sensory purification.
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Christian / Monastic / Medieval Works

8. The Life of St. Jerome – His ferocious struggle for chastity in the desert.
 9. The Life of St. Mary of Egypt – Extreme contrast between past indulgence and total renunciation.
 10. The Rule of St. Augustine – Community life with chastity as a cornerstone.
 11. The Life of St. Teresa of Lisieux – Purity, detachment, and “little way” discipline.
 12. The Life of St. Benedict Joseph Labre – Radical ascetic lifestyle of poverty and chastity.
 13. The Spiritual Life (Adolph Tanquerey) – Modern manual on purity and virtue.
 14. Lives of the Desert Hermits (Palladius' Lausiac History) – Stories of chastity and discipline.
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Greek / Roman / Philosophical Works

15. Porphyry's “On Abstinence from Animal Food” – Not just diet; philosophy of ascetic purity.
 16. Plato's “Laws” – The governance of desire as a foundation of the state.
 17. Musonius Rufus' Fragments – Strong arguments for sexual discipline in Stoicism.
 18. The Pythagorean Golden Verses – Ancient rules of self-control and moderate living.
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Islamic / Sufi Literature

19. Rabi'a al-Adawiyya: Her Life and Teachings – Chaste divine love that transcends passions.
 20. Ibn Hazm – “The Ring of the Dove” – Treatise on refined, chastened love and restraint.
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East Asian Works

21. The Shobogenzo (Dogen Zenji) – Teachings on non-attachment and purity of conduct.
 22. The Analects of Zhu Xi (Neo-Confucian) – Strict self-governance and moral discipline.
 23. The Taoist “Zhenjing” (Classic of Purity and Stillness) – Purification from desires.
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Modern / Psychological / Literary Works

24. “The Razor's Edge” (W. Somerset Maugham) – Spiritual renunciation vs. sensual life.
 25. “Siddhartha” (Hermann Hesse) – Journey from sensuality through asceticism to inner mastery.
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A book report is part of the total grading in this course. One Student or 2 students may select one of the assigned books for the report. Each report is worth 20 points. The report length is pages 4 pages with 1.5 spaces line for a report by one Student. For the report by 2 Students the length is 7 pages in total. - Guideline:

A book report is not a summary or a description. The purpose of the book report is to present your critical evaluation of the book. Overall, the assignment is designed to test your analytical and critical skills. Generally, a book report has many components

The Report includes:

An introductory paragraph that presents the most important argument or thesis of the Book.

- a. Who is the author? You need some bibliographical information about the author [education, experiences and skills]; Is the author an Academic? Which writer (s) influence the author? What fellowships did the author receive? What other publications have the author made? Give a quote from the book that support parts of your assessment.
- b. What type of research scientific method was used to collect data; the theme of the book, the characters, the setting and the plot. Pay attention to the book's narrative voice.
- c. Your content analysis is to discuss the most important points in each chapter as well as the most important idea of the entire book. Are these points presented in sync with the main argument of the book? Does the narrative in each of the chapters contribute (or detract) from the main argument of the book?

You should write a conclusion which is a final paragraph that assess the Book's Strength and Weakness. Your analysis must also reflect your ability to connect the book with the discussions that we have in class about sociology and a sociological perspective

I am creating book reports about self-control, chastity and Brahmacharya. (I also work on topics meditation and water supply for UAE.) I can give you reasonable wage if you can read a book and summarize that in your language. I can give you the book and other supplies that you need to do this work. We can meet on weekends in the city. My contact information is on page 1. Three reasons why I wish for this act is here below. Thanks

Reason-1 In a Jewish wisdom book this story of a doctor and a farmer is written. Once there lived a farmer who asked a doctor for help to grow out of poverty. The doctor gave him plant seeds and asked him to grow them. At that time the king becomes ill. The doctor healed the king with medicine made from plants grow by the farmer. The king awarded the farmer and doctor abundantly. How can this type of cooperation between a professional and a beggar be reenacted in information age New York City? What can I give the alms seeker to tend and grow that may be useful later to gain wealth?

Reason-2 Business idea

When homeless person or candy seller approach a resident for money in the subway in New York city, ask them if they could read book on chastity, self-control or brahmacharya and write book report about the subject on the book. Contact information of provider and supplies needed will be given. When each book report is made \$200 is given as a stipend. Homeless persons get benefit of money. Books about chastity are preserved. Young adults can use the output book report to stay away from misuse of lust in school years and do excellent school and work performance.

Reason-3 Chastity gives us God's help in life.

WHO AND WHERE IS GOD? (Mahatma Gandhiji wrote this passage.)

(From the original in Gujarati)

I have defined brahmacharya as that correct way of life which leads to Brahma, i.e. God, Straightaway the question arises : "What or who is God?" If man knew the answer, it would enable him to find the path that leads to Him. God is not a person. To affirm that He descends to earth every now and again in the form of a human being is a partial truth which merely signifies that such a person lives near to God. Inasmuch as God is omnipresent, He dwells within every human being and all may, therefore, be said to be incarnations of Him. But this leads us nowhere, Rama. Krishna, etc. are called incarnations of God because we attribute divine qualities to them. In truth they are creations of man's imagination. Whether they actually lived or not does not affect the picture of them in men's minds. The Rama and Krishna of history often present difficulties which have to be overcome by all manner of arguments. The truth is that God is the force. He is the essence of life. He is pure and undefiled consciousness. He is eternal. And yet, strangely enough, all are not able to derive either benefit from or shelter in the all-pervading living presence. Electricity is a powerful force. Not all can benefit from it. It can only be produced by following certain laws. It is lifeless force. Man can utilize it if he labours hard enough to acquire the knowledge of its laws. The living force which we call God can similarly be found if we know and follow His law leading to the discovery of Him in us. But it is self-evident that to find out God's law requires far harder labour. The law may, in one word, be termed brahmcharaya. The straight way to cultivate brahmcharya is Ramanama. I can say this from experience. Devotees and sages like Tulasidas have shown us this royal path. No one need give undue importance to my own experience. Perhaps I am right in saying that the potency of Ramanama was brought vividly home to me in Uruli-Kanchan. It was there that I assured that the surest remedy for all our ills was Ramanama. He who can make full use of it can show powerful results with very little outside effort. Following this line of thought I can say with conviction that the orthodox aids to brahmcharya pale into insignificance before Ramanama, when this name is enthroned in the heart. Then and then only do we realize its transcendent beauty and power. In the vigilant search for this matchless beauty and unfailing weapon we find that it is hard to differentiate between ends and means. Thus, the eleven rules of conduct are the means to enable us to reach God. Of the eleven rules Truth is the means and God called Rama is the end. Is it not equally true that Ramanama is the means and Truth is the end? But let me revert to the original point. The accepted meaning of brahmcharya is the attainment by man of complete control over the sex organ. The golden means to attain that end is Ramanama. For proving the efficacy of Ramanama there are undoubted rules. I dwelt on them up to a point some months ago, but it will be worthwhile to recount them.

Harijan, 22-6-'47, p. 200

Administrative work – writing 12 essays on the topics and publish. I get to read 300 words per minute that benefit my job administrative manager.

I work daily 8 – 3:30. I sleep 10 PM to 6 AM. I do handy work cleaning 1 hour daily.

How many pages can a homeless person / candy seller read a minute?

How much time will it take to read a book?

How much will it cost to pay as stipend for reading a book and writing summary?

What will be the value made by this work? 1. Make summary of self-control books (like Aesop fables book), 2. Help needy to reintegrate to society and work. 3. eBooks are made concerning self-control. Will the money spend is equal to value made?

What is my breakeven point?

What is my return on equity?

Keep meticulous records.

Where are the investments come from – my loans.

Look in to the business model of cliff notes. Do the same work with homeless.

How much my monthly income?

How much my total expenses?

How much can I put away for this outreach work every month?

Do I have 3 months expenses \$xxxxxxx saved?

Have you thought how to help a person who ask for help in the subway? There are also refugees who need help in many parts of the world. The following could be a step to help them. Meditation training can be given to anyone when they approach for help in person or by online for a refugee. Meditation can help anyone. There are certain credible books on meditation. A company can give free service to homeless persons and refugees, training them meditation and other things of skill. In the model of a care center, a business plan can be written for this purpose. One of the Baruch college librarians have given once a business plan of homeless center to model this work. When meet one, ask the homeless and the refugee what they want that one can deliver. Give the needy and place in a website, summary of meditation books, and methods of meditation. Translate that instruction in to all language of the world by Google Translate. To start translate to languages of nations where there is larger number of refugees. Make a 20-page instruction on meditation. That is 40 hand written pages. This can help you. We stay in contact until you do not need us. If the homeless person want they can type a book from 1800's paper to Word file with new spelling while sitting in the library for a stipend.

That child had angelic smile, let her be joyful forever. I gave them the book -Our Invisible Neighbors, by Crystal Wolfe. That had idea about going from rag to riches.

When a needy candy seller meets in train as them if they can do book summary work.

Also do that for the parolee on the street ask for aide.

Do not make profit from anything using HPD.

Pay all my debt before that become not easy.

Eat food from home.

Do not pressure anyone for work so I give alms.

Account for all cash as Maternal grandpa did.

I also write the Bible's summary as I ask others.

I write in a dairy how much money I spend on this side work of writing Bible summary.

Do not scale this until am firm with my own life and \$3000 ready saved.

Even if I do not help do not hurt anyone.

Earnestly wish that the dream of the alms seeker fulfills.

May God and good people help on this matter.

How many pages of writing summaries the Bible is equivalent to \$100 pay? In New York minimum wage is \$17. I am willing to give any one \$100 each month to summaries the Bible.

That's a thoughtful offer. Let's break it down step by step:

1. Value of \$100 at NY Minimum Wage

NYC minimum wage is \$17/hour.

$\$100 \div \$17/\text{hour} = 5.88$ hours (approximately 6 hours of work).

2. How Much Can a Person Write in 6 Hours?

It varies, but for summaries that require reading, understanding, and rewriting:

A reasonably fast and focused reader-writer can produce 1 to 2 pages per hour of thoughtful summary.

So, in 6 hours, they could write 6 to 12 pages.

3. Reasonable Estimate for Your Offer

If you're offering \$100/month to someone summarizing the Bible:

Expect about 6 to 10 pages per month of quality summaries, depending on the person's speed, depth of summary, and how much they already know the Bible.

Would you like help creating a sample Bible summary format to guide the writer?

Great! Here's a simple and clear Bible summary format that someone can follow to write 1–2 pages per section, keeping it readable, insightful, and organized:

Bible Summary Format

1. Book Title & Chapters Covered

Example: Genesis 1–3

2. Summary (1–3 paragraphs)

Write a concise summary of the events or teachings in the passage.

Use your own words to explain what happens and what the main points are.

Avoid copying the Bible text directly.

Example:

“Genesis 1 describes the creation of the world in six days, with God creating light, sky, land, vegetation, celestial bodies, animals, and finally, humans. Genesis 2 zooms in on the creation of man and woman, and the garden of Eden. In Genesis 3, Adam and Eve disobey God by eating the forbidden fruit, leading to the fall of man...”

3. Key Themes or Messages

What is the main spiritual, moral, or philosophical messages in these chapters?

List 2–3 bullet points.

Example:

God is the Creator of everything.

Human beings have free will and responsibility.

Disobedience leads to consequences.

4. Personal Reflection or Insight (Optional)

How did this passage make you feel or what did it make you think about?

How might it apply to life today?

Example:

“The story of the fall reminds me how easy it is to make poor choices, and how temptation can come subtly. But it also shows that God still seeks out humans with mercy.”

5. Vocabulary (Optional)

Define 2–3 difficult or important words from the text. Example: Dominion – authority or control; Serpent – a snake, often used symbolically.

Would you like this as a printable document or editable template too?

Business plan for Loving-kindness Meditation Center Inc beta version

Follow all laws. Get all permissions, including conflict of interest permission from HPD office.

The United States Constitution can be understood by a 10-year-old child. So here this work plan must understood by a 10-year-old child. If ever include child in this activity, get permission parents do not cause them work more than 20 hours/week. This solution may start another problem.

The website read from a database based on WordPress application.

Saint Don Bosco started Salesian order. May this be perpetual, if it is worthy for perpetual life.

6 pages written

When the end of world arrives due to drying of oceans one and all can - do the following-

Recite God names and seek help in God.

Also, the below can be applicable -

THE CREATION OF THE WORLD

ACCORDING TO THE UPANISHADS

1.

There was nothing whatsoever here in the beginning. By death indeed was this covered, or by hunger, for hunger is death. He created the mind, thinking 'let me have a self' (mind). Then he moved about, worshipping. From him, thus worshipping, water was produced. . . .

2 That which was the froth of the water became solidified; that became the earth. On it he [i.e., death] rested. From him thus rested and heated (from the practice of austerity) his essence of brightness came forth (as) fire.

3. He divided himself threefold (fire is one-third), the sun one-third and the air one-third. He also is life [lit., breath] divided threefold, . . . (

Brihad-aranyaka Upanishad,

At present Arabian States are dry lands. How are the residents of this country live with less water?

Do animals, birds, fish, microbes, trees, plants have a spiritual life? Can they be thought to pray for their own survival when oceans dry up?

The company is joint venture. Somehow get a BA degree like a friend did with at least 2.5 Grade Point Average. Use WordPress website fore reach out. There is Homeless reporting phone app for

android phone. One can make a similar application. We may be able to Finance class notes, Calculus and Forecasting notes of Management class from Transcript. There was a section on Indian newspaper Manorama called “Thanrangangalil Panachi – Panachi on waves for social critic cartoons. Do same for end of the world survival. Human habits need evolvement. Read and understand, Sigmund Freud’s book Beyond Pleasure Principle. Understand Psycho Analyzes and use to heal and other’s childhood affliction free so that have healthy life now and perpetually. This evening I should have taken the 4 train to return in the evening. Like in the past habit I took the Q train. Healthy habit will help us all times. We can go to sleep with this hope – “How to survive end of the world when oceans dry up in 3000 or so years from now?” We may get an answer. We can observe our ecosystem around us and learn to survive like other beings, stones, fluid and metal and remains to trees.

Write English essay for this purpose. Albert Einstein and Galileo Galilei did inventions, may we also learn to talk to birds. Sometimes pigeons think, earth have perished no food for them. Then rain falls, bird drink rain water, and then they know they are surviving. When the Earth oceans dry up in 3000 or so years, animals, birds and other beings may leave out to perish. May be state constitutions need to have a foot note or bracket foot note caring for all living beings’ survival perpetually. Like railway have charter, and that can sue a enemy invader international court, let this company bring pity on beings by efforts of alien and the homeless who work as inters for a stipend.

The alien and homeless work in Animal Shelters. I also work in Animal shelters for 100 hours before any start of business activity.

Mahatma Gandhi said, in the middle of untruth truth persist, in the middle of night day persist, in the middle of death life persist. God is that entity which create dissolves and recreates. Gandhi further says Electricity is lifeless energy, by learning its laws we can use electricity. Gods power is even stronger than electricity. To use God’s power, we need to have self-control also known as chastity (Brahmacharya – walking in Gods way.) “Chastity bring us close to God.” Beg monks and ordained person get their insights on what to do at the end of the world. Keep a thread about how to write under the image –When the end of the world comes- Like When animal rule over folks. “Mrigathipathyam Vannal”.

Do not be selfish or self-centered. Include welfare other in this benefit. Include in plan for end of the survival of disabled folks too. There are 3 feet tall persons. They have joy in their way. In YouTube “Jaya Panduranga” song has a dwarf at the end. Write open letter on this matter on Facebook, send that personally to monks address I have in the year book. I can use Address of white pages Reji Kurian insurance broker like letter on December with calendar for fridge. I can send letter like how John H Johnson wrote letters to his niche clients or fund raising. “Your friend refers me, you may be interested in a magazine Ebony, please pre-purchase that magazine.” I can also write like Justice Clarence Thomas, upon his start of work as the first EEO Director. “All do good work or else.” Read his book for letter sample. Draw cartoons for this purpose. The sand, metals and stone are also alive. Proton and Electron and neutron move in each atom. We need to care for sand stone and metal also when oceans dry up.

For health in this matter, write objectively. Do not do my self-promotion. Read National Geographic.

In the title write “Swami Saranam” means Lord is our refuge. Read Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam’s book “Transcendence” or other ones where he writes about oceans dry up. On page write facts I know coming end of the world. Revelations book in the Bible New Testament, Bodhisawa’s prayer – As long as space endures as long as humans exist, may I also be there as a service to them. President Lincoln’s Gettysburg address, Government of the people, for the people, by the people shall not perish from the earth. Saint Marti De Pores had pet in all animals, he made medicines too. Perpetually, let us have persons like the Saint above so that all beings are helped perpetually. Noah made a vessel for survival in the Old Testament. We also think that a pregnant woman, reached an island after the flood and had a male child, that mother and the child father may be our ancestors after the flood that erase the world. All of my relatives whom I share money can assist in this work, in their location. We need to live Holistic life for all good, healthy body and mind. The homeless and alien also do so. The spirit in them has more value above 18 million dollars settled by the Government for wrongful police action that cause death or wrongful conviction of the innocent.

Write the concept in 5000 or so character Google let to translate pages.

Also, the large status can be included in 6000 or so character.

Ashtavakra Gita, Patganjali Yogasutra can be used

One-page concept translated in all languages allowed in Google translate web app. Name languages.

Some 40% of us have like birds and camels healthy habits. See other books we can learn more about that. What is written about drying of ocean and end of world? Add to it in all available opportunity.

I should disobey family and marry make child. That is defeating the purpose. Let peace makers save seed for end of the world survival. Green plant chlorophyll is called “Harithakam” Malayalam language of India. Hari means name of one of the Hindu incarnations. There were about 14 incarnations. The names are written in songs of Hindu devotion in Malayalam language. Fish, Tortoise etc. appeared in ends of era and helped the civilization to survive.

Reach out to the English Communication lecturer from transcript of review for writing like MSNBC CEO reading work.

The business is made in Chinese food sales model. The business is popular and has many customers. The employee are homeless and the alien. Working to safe guard everything living – plants, trees, fish, micro beings, birds worms snakes and human to survive the end of the world by drying of oceans in 3000 years or so from 2024.

The business hope for, \$1 and 5 % return for every \$1 spend in charity stipend. The break down is 1% tax, 1% for the worker, 1 % for the boss, 2% expenses. This work be scaled up to international level, where ever needy are and where ever living beings need survival when Oceans dry up. Folks have done wonders like, the Great Wall of China, Pyramids etc. Modern and ancient great wonder

are there. Like them our hope will exist for 3000 years. Heinz Ketchup, Wendy's hamburger, and General Electrics survived 100 or so years. In ALCOA Company, Management focused on Employee safety and the company flourished. Like we focus on Safety and Survival all beings for 3000 years. We have systems, funds and free folks to do something about last minute survival. The company ensure survival of Humans, Animals, fish, plants, trees, microbes when oceans dry up. New York City may have plan of Task and Standard for this type of emergency management worker. When Hurricane Irene arrive, I was there also in the shelter. I was I the animal area. Few families brought their pet dog. New York City Government had plans for that. I witnessed how supplied where brought to the shelter. I was not a driver. When the one-day shelter life end with lower winds, a teacher drove in his car me to my apartment in Brooklyn, New York.

The guy wakes up at sunrise or around 6 am daily.

The business, among other things, give education, idea, inspiration, implementation, and activity. This leads to good habit development. Also prepare them perpetually for Apocalypse or end of the World as we know that. Psychiatry medicines makes out put the way the patient is. If the patient is like a monk, the medicine causes spirituality. If the person with unhealthy nature all suffer.

May be use New York Cares Volunteer group for field work to begin. I first volunteer for 30 hours before I pitch my plan to volunteers. In outreach the, plan is this we spend \$1, earn \$1 and profit 5 cents.

Science fiction like paper. I have read a science fiction book from Baruch College Library. Take that again. Write William Blake like idea, the goal is long – applicable after 3000 years, from now 5024. The homeless guys are available for this work. Christopher Columbus used convicts for his expeditions. So can I do in this business plan what to do when Ocean dry up. I could pitch in \$100 per biweekly. When the guys do work for this matter of planning for world ending time, I give the guy minimum wage.

I develop Task and Standard for this work. I look for another entity similar to this. I am an armature among professional FEMA and NYC Office of Emergency Management.

Book name “packages of life” write objectively about life I see in public and private knowledge. Self-publish it like Vedanta in Practice E Book from IIT Bangalore.

Include mantras like- Aum Triambakam..., Aum Bhur Bua..., Sarve bavantu Suginah..., include ideas other languages and cultures in communism, capitalism, self-interest etc. Cause the book survive like Aesop's stories book.

No one want poop cleaning job. Innovate that so, every one wish to do that. No one wanted laundry work. Innovate that with Coin Laundry systems. Now washing is a joy. No one want to deal with homeless and the alien. Innovate that area and cause every one wants that job. Work like Mark Twain did in “Adventures of Huckleberry Fin.” Read that book. Read Jimmy Valentines story in “Retrieved reformation” of O Henry. Follow that story thread to make parole work.

Do innovation in society that the homeless spear heads the preparation for the end of the world. HPD have a plaque at the door doing homage to the perished coworkers and home at 911 tragedy. By innovation we all live holistic life and heal ourselves. We can have a call-in phone system like Congressman Hakeem Jeffries have to say prayer at night. When we sleep well every night we can smell trouble. Animals like cats, and dogs, and birds feel changes in the air, and land.

We pay \$10/hour for homeless guys to go to field trip to zoos botanic garden and science museums. Guys can search inter net and read books for this matter for emergency prevention preparation. Computer and tablet and used phone can be bought from EBay ½ price. We can use WI-FI of MTA underground train station to go online. Volunteer can train homeless guys to use the data on phone.

With memory of God -with Narayana Smruthi.

We can spend my energy to fix life for our homeless persons here. I can organize the incorporated as nonprofit. Someone can ask became to auditor of the management books. We can produce 100 books similar to Aesop story with the help of library and homeless compadres. We give homeless person a daily wage for watching movies at the library and write summary of this movies we have now. We help to refine that and publish that. 1000 years from now. The book will survive as token life of media of first and second Millennia. Homeless have work and life is fine. Song lyrics we have now can be preserved in the same way.

To create Aesop like books from media we have now with special employment keep in an electronic memory drive all these information

- Copy right protection summary.
- Good used computer can be purchased from eBay.
- Personal statement book to apply for MA degree.
- PhD Thesis writing steps from one of USA college website as portable document
- Publishing nonprofit company all standing by the local laws
- Get Employer number from the Government
- Obtain other permissions
- Keep proper records of all activity
- Use a time puncher clock to track work time
- Have insurance
- Do marketing plan with Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) analysis
- Get involved with finding work for the homeless
- All other tools scatter towards this plan
- Have at least five person involved in this effort
- All the work must be understood by a person of 10 year age.
- Standard business plan for a book seller can be obtained from the world wide web

February 22, 2022, New York City

A method to preserve rare books and at the same time help an alms seeker to read and write.

In the New York City Subway, passengers encounter candy sellers, children, and mothers with children. They cannot sustain their expenses of living by selling candy. These individuals hope

someone can give them work and education. If they knew where kind householders live in Brooklyn, New York, they would have gone there and knock at the doors. Relatives of these poor individuals have given them a time limit to find support to live. Passengers ignore these candy sellers. Why not encourage the candy sellers to read their favorite book at the library and report about the book for a stipend? We can develop these individuals and preserve rare books of cultures with their help.

The steps are below-

A company exists to preserve rare books and develop poor candy sellers from New York City Subways. The company can be a bookstore and / a for profit Library in tax records. When the agent of the company encounters a candy seller, the agent gives to individual, \$5 and a letter, English and Spanish, detailing the opportunity of reading their favorite book in the library and author report about that book. If agreed, minimum wage for the time that takes to read the book and author a report about that book is the stipend. An individual can write up to thirteen book reports. A Facebook page and/ a website can be the place to publish the book report. One year stipend can be given to one individual.

Here is an example- Dr. Deepak Chopra authored the book – “How to Know God.” This book states, we are equivalent to God in seven development states. According to him, a maldeveloped level one person is a tyrant. The maldeveloped level two person is an addict. Technically Dr. Chopra is healing the addict. If paper books are not available in the year 2040, and only electronic books exist, his books may become inaccessible. Other poor readers may have their book on their favorite subject. The company can acquire their books based on their recommendation. This is blessing that an Indian monk by name Shankara given copies of Upanishads existed in the 6th or 7th Century AD. He was able to preserve these books and write commentary on them. They are spiritual books of India which describes about consciousness. Shankara writes that consciousness is divinity and our spirit. Audio version of the English translation The Upanishads, available on YouTube tells, a person who sleeps well have heart health. The Upanishad audio recording further says, when a person knows God, they become free. In today’s times Dr. Chopra instruct us how to know God by his spiritual writings. There are other valuable books in other cultures. Let us preserve them for 13 centuries to future.

The book reading individual becomes able to pass school reading and writing exams. That is their benefit for taking part in this apprenticeship. His Excellency Bill Clinton writes in his writes, he used to be a Paige for a Congress man / Senator in his college days. United States Secretary, Honorable Dr. Benjamin Carson Sr. writes, in his school days he used to author book reports.

When paper books no longer exist, we will lose part of what is good in our literature now. This happened in writing on Papyrus become extinct. We can lessen that loss this time around by having the needy read and write and use modern technology to publish the output. We can preserve rare paper books recommended by the needy. Venerable Charles Dickens peddled petty crimes in his childhood. These candy sellers are vulnerable to crime and the criminal justice system. By encouraging someone to read and write about what they like for a stipend, we can know what book to preserve and lift a city resident in skills of reading and writing.

This is a long-term project. Careful calculation required for the Break-even Point. Return on Equity needs long-term valuing. time Did the monks know the value of the Upanishads have on today's life. How much more is the value the company get when if that can encourage reading and writing that leads to education of professionals.

Brooklyn, New York

2/20/2024

Epics are history of those times. We are creating history also. Anyone with ability can make an epic that lead persons to health based on events of the last 30 years of the world. Summarize what we find interesting. That book may last 600 years of reading. Victory to God.

Conversation with Gemini

What qualities and traits of a book that survives readership of 600 years? What are names of 6 such books?

Books that survive readership for 600 years possess a unique set of qualities and traits that allow them to transcend time, culture, and changing tastes. These enduring works often offer profound insights into the human condition and resonate with readers across generations.

Here are some key qualities and traits:

Universal Themes: They explore fundamental aspects of human existence such as love, loss, good versus evil, ambition, morality, identity, and the search for meaning. These themes are timeless and relatable to people in any era.

Relatable and Well-Developed Characters: Readers connect with characters who feel authentic, even if their circumstances are vastly different. These characters often grapple with universal struggles and emotions, allowing readers to see themselves and their own experiences reflected in the narrative.

Masterful Storytelling and Craftsmanship: The way the story is told is as important as the story itself. This includes compelling plotlines, evocative language, rich imagery, and a strong narrative voice that captivates readers.

Thought-Provoking Ideas and Social Commentary: Enduring books often prompt critical reflection on societal issues, philosophical questions, or the complexities of human nature. They may challenge norms, offer new perspectives, or provide insight into the historical context in which they were written.

Artistic and Literary Merit: The work is recognized for its artistic excellence, contributing significantly to the literary canon. This often means it pushes boundaries, innovates in its form or style, or showcases exceptional skill in writing.

Open to Multiple Interpretations: Great books often offer layers of meaning, allowing readers to find new insights and interpretations with each re-reading or as their own life experiences evolve.

Cultural Significance and Influence: They often become foundational texts that influence subsequent literature, art, philosophy, and thought, becoming part of the collective cultural consciousness.

Physical Durability (Historically): While not a literary trait, for a book to physically survive for centuries, the materials and construction (e.g., vellum, strong paper, durable binding) played a crucial role before mass printing.

Here are the names of 6 such books that have been continuously read for over 600 years (and some significantly longer):

The Bible: Various books within the Bible date back millennia, and its continuous readership and profound impact on Western and global cultures are unparalleled. Many of its oldest texts are over 2,000 years old.

The Epic of Gilgamesh: Considered one of the earliest surviving works of literature, its earliest passages date back approximately 4,500 years. It's a foundational text from ancient Mesopotamia.

The Iliad and The Odyssey (Homer): These ancient Greek epic poems, dating back to the 8th century BCE, have been continuously read and studied for their profound narratives, heroic characters, and insights into human nature and destiny.

The Ramayana and The Mahabharata: These ancient Indian epics, with origins dating back well over 2,000 years (and some elements potentially much older), are central to Hindu tradition and have been continuously read, recited, and performed for millennia.

The Divine Comedy (Dante Alighieri): Written in the early 14th century (c. 1308–1321), this epic poem is a cornerstone of Italian literature and a masterpiece of world literature, continuously studied and admired for its theological, philosophical, and artistic depth.

The Canterbury Tales (Geoffrey Chaucer): Written in the late 14th century (late 1300s), this collection of tales is a landmark of English literature, offering a vibrant portrait of medieval English society and human nature that continues to captivate readers.