

A
BRIEF
HISTORY
OF
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&
INNOVATION:
FROM
ANTIQUITY
TO
ALGORITHM
AGE

A BRIEF HISTORY OF iDEAS & INNOVATION: FROM ANTIQUITY TO ALGORITHM AGE

A brief historical account of the human iDEAS & innovations
that impacted human civilization as well as lessons for the
future based on our past knowledge.

TANVIR HOSSAIN



KOBİ PROKASHANI

A Brief History of iDEAS & innovation:
From Antiquity to Algorithm Age

Tanvir Hossain

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To my loving parents Amir Hossain & Lutfa Hossain, who
planted the seed of knowledge in my mind and nurtured it.
To my sisters Afrin Hossain & Lubna Hossain, who believed
in me and inspired me to change the world.
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in a mediocre student and ignited the spark into a flame.
To my daughters who continuously inspired me to tell
stories that matters.
To all my nephews and nieces, who considers me
as a Lighthouse.
To my dear readers, who breathe life into these pages and
Those who love storytelling.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Major Tanvir Hossain, psch has an extensive background in military training, Counter Insurgency Operations, risk management and human resource management. He is also a start-up founder, educator, revolutionary writer and researcher. He has held many executive management roles in Bangladesh Army. He was an Assistant Professor in Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP). In BUP he was also involved in Faculty Development Program and worked as an active member of the Innovation team. He holds two master's degree in Defense Studies and Peace, Conflict & Human Rights Studies. He is an alumni of Dhaka University, BUP, Notre Dame, Malaysian Peace Keeping Academy and Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM) of USA. He is a regular contributor of English daily Newspapers in Bangladesh. He has also published a number of research papers on Military History and Peace-Conflict issues. This is his fifth published book. Previously he published two English books titled "The Algorithm Age", "Hydro-Politics & Conflict Between Neighbors" as well as two Bangla poetry books.



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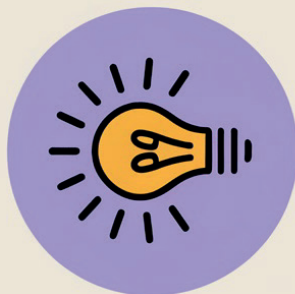
Prologue

LEARNING HOW TO LEARN IS THE KEY SKILL FOR 21st CENTURY

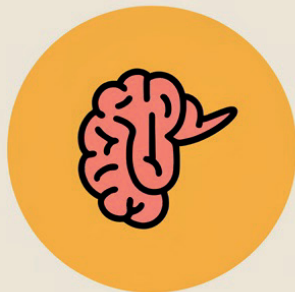
In 1800 if someone had the skill only to read and write, then he or she would be considered as the top 1% intellectual people of that century. During 1900 the same skill set and a university degree would take someone to top 10% of the intellectual class. If we fast forward to 21st Century then we can see knowledge in abundance and only reading-writing skills would not be sufficient to convert someone as an intellectual being. So, what actually happened during these decades? As our civilization has seen lots of modernization due to advancement in knowledge and skills, so we have also acquired and upgraded our knowledge, requirements and skill levels. Now modern human society has transformed into knowledge-based society where only knowledge and skill can make someone thrive in life.

I would like to recall an old adage “Knowledge is power”. In fact, knowledge is a latent force which creates power once it is applied. That means if knowledge is not applied fully then it will not be converted into power. In order to demonstrate this fact let me give you an example from the history books. We know that French General Napoleon was a great military leader who is considered as a military genius also. He won 86 battles and physically participated in 77 battles and engagements. This statistics shows that Napoleon’s battle winning ratio was 90%.

4 C S OF 21ST-CENTURY LEARNING SKILLS



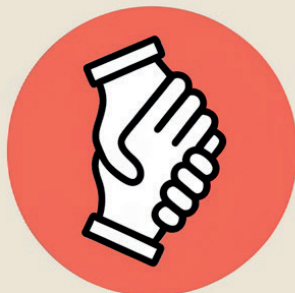
CRITICAL THINKING



COMMUNICATION



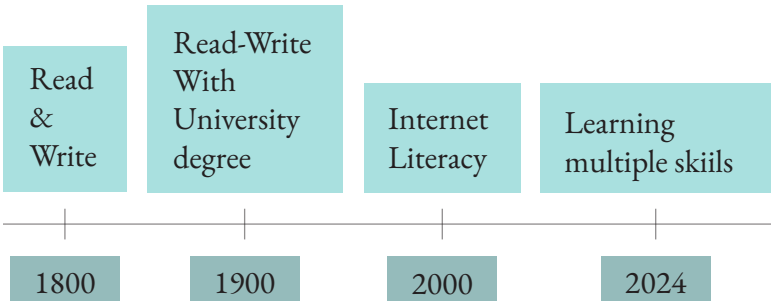
COLLABORATION



CREATIVITY

That's a great percentage if we consider the state of Napoleon's military equipment and technologies. But we often do not realize that Napoleon was a great learner who learned Strategies and Tactics by reading books of Clausewitz, Machiavelli and other contemporary military thinkers. He also learned from his tactical moves and let his under commands to learn from those lessons. Same goes with Alexander the Great, Hannibal and Khalid bin Walid. All of them were great generals and visionary leaders of their era who showed greatness in the battle field. And all of them were great learners and knowledge seekers, did not rely fully on their luck and chance only.

If we talk about great leaders like African National Congress (ANC)'s great leader Nelson Mandela, then we can see the same was happening with him. Once Mandela was arrested on an arson case and jailed for long 27 years in prison then he used to read a lot of books during his prison time. He also inspired his fellow inmates to read and learn during their prison life. If we read from the life of Malcom X then we can see Malcom was a great learner and his learning spirit led him to question his faith, political beliefs etc. Ultimately Malcom changed his faith as well as his political belief which led him to the path of becoming the legendary leader Malcom X.



Graph showing humans learning curve timeline

If we observe the life of Warren Buffet, one of the most successful entrepreneurs of 21st Century, then we find his unwavering quest of knowledge led him to succeed. Still now he reads six hours daily and this has become his daily habit. Same goes with Bill Gates who is also an avid reader and a life long learner who was a university dropout in his early career. But his learning new skills made him to discover computer soft-wares like Microsoft. Bill Gates established “The Gates Foundation” which patronizes learners from all over the world. Same things can be told in case of Steve Jobs, Opera Winfrey, Jeff Bejos, Mark Zucker Berg etc. They all have mastered the art of mastering new skills and knowledge quickly. Not only that 21st Century has seen the application of knowledge in exponential rate. For this reason presently CEO’s living in USA, read 65-70 books annually on an average.

What makes 21st Century unique is the invention of ubiquitous technologies like computers, internet, smart phones and smart watches. Before invention of these gadgets knowledge was mainly concentrated in books and university was the hub of knowledge distribution. But as on today, the modern digital gadgets have democratized knowledge and unlocked the potential of knowledge for everyone. Now people may not choose to go to universities and colleges but still can acquire the same knowledge from an open source and use that knowledge to up-skill their existing knowledge-base. These all can be seen as the gifts of modern age and information has become transformation tool rather being informative only.

In order to remain in the Knowledge loop and for creating new knowledge Millennial, Gen Z, Gen A and Gen Beta, Gen Alpha should re-think about knowledge in order to harness the benefits from 21st Century technologies. But modern technologies are not free from vices as those are accompanied by various nefarious distractions and entertainment apps for procrastination in the