

STUDY WITH PASSION
not pain

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EMESCO

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Don't study with pain

“I studied in the medium of my mother tongue.”

“I should have studied in some corporate high school.”

“I cannot read fast.”

“These bulky textbooks frighten me.”

“I get unnerved the moment I hear about exams.”

“I am forgetting whatever I have read.”

“I am unable to plan my study schedule.”

“Mine is very sensitive mentality.”

“My friends are heckling me.”

“Nobody in our family is educated.”

“I am scared of talking to people who are well-educated.”

“I cannot acquire any qualifications if I have to study all of these books.”

“I doze off the moment I open a textbook.”

“I don't understand how to read this syllabus?”

“Ours is a poor family.”

“Our teachers do not understand me.”

Irrespective of the kind of school or college I visited in south India, most of the students shared their innermost concerns and posed queries that reflected a pattern presented in the foregoing statements.

Central to their understandable concerns are: “Why are we not able to study? Why we alone are suffering like this? We are scared of our future! What can we tell our parents who have reposed confidence in our success?”

To me, such queries sound surprising. For, in most of these cases, the underlying problems are those that the students created themselves. No outsider has planted those fears and apprehensions. Some of these issues can be addressed. Some have no answers as they are part of the past.

We can't change the past. Most of the students in rural areas are still worried about their past, which is irreversible. At best, they need proper counselling. They need right direction to forge ahead in life. Many students, studying Intermediate (+2) in Telugu States, are simultaneously taking coaching for **EAMCET (Engineering, Agriculture and Medicine Common Entrance Test)**. They are on the threshold of higher education, but are yet to fully comprehend the positive impact that higher education can have on one's life. All they require is some motivation, some confidence and some guidance.

How can I counsel them with lasting impact? This overriding question consumed my mind. My only thought then was: What if they were concerns of my own sons and daughters? How would I counsel them?

This explains the tone and tenor of '*Study with passion, not pain.*'

My dear students, don't sweat it out, day and night, to succeed in exams. Just study with passion. You will rise to unimaginable heights.

This book will hand-hold you in your wonderful journey.

Good luck!

Dr. BV Pattabhiram

Chapter 1

Success formula in studies

I was presenting magic shows during 1965-95 in various cities in India and abroad, from Chennai to Chicago. In the process, I happened to interact with a good number of intellectuals, politicians, housewives, industrialists, students and so on. Most of them turned out to be my fans, though some used to make negative comments at times. There were also those who wanted me to give up my practice, which they perceived as ‘Black Magic’.

As a professional magician, I should respect and take in my stride everyone’s views. On the whole, receiving positive feedback at the end of each of my magic shows became the norm.

However, I cannot forget the unusual feedback I got from a school going boy when, as part of a series of my shows in USA, I performed at Washington, D.C. in 1983 under the auspices of the Telugu Association led by Mr. Gummaluri Sastry. It was one of the best shows that gave me complete satisfaction and proved to be a defining moment. Towards the end of the show, a school going boy came to me and said: “Uncle, you created doves, currency, ornaments etc. from air. You could also cut a man into pieces and rejoin all his parts intact. You have read blindfolded whatever we wrote on the board. You could also read human mind. Excellent. I have a small question. Will you please answer?”

“Why not?”, I responded patronizingly and oozing confidence.

“Uncle, I can also perform some of the magic tricks that you did. But, do you have any magic trick or formula to enable us excel in studies?”