

Some thoughts on  
education

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Education is a lifelong experience. From the moments after birth when one is directed towards one's mothers nipple, to the day or hour one has to take leave of this human existence. Who educates us plays a profound part in our lives. To live amongst skilled educators is a sublime gift enjoyed by few. For many, education is acquired by that tough task-master, experience.

Some of us have had the good fortune to become acquainted with literature, that greatest of all teachers. To me, reading a book is comparable to being in the company of the author. The authors are talking to me directly, they are my guests, and I endeavour to listen and digest what they have to say. Sometimes one regrets the invitation, your guest bores you or tells stories or facts you have no interest in whatsoever. The great advantage with books is that one can close the book and your guest leaves unoffended.

The human species is without doubt the most inquisitive of all the world's living creatures. This inquisitiveness could well be the reason for *Homo sapiens*' rise to such a supreme position in this planet's hierarchy. One of the most profound maxims that I have come across is, "The more one knows, the more one realises one does not know".

Man's early concentration on Theology was, I suppose, essential for his future exploration into Anthropology, Biology, Psychology and finally Cosmology. Books have in the past been the predominant method of handing on to future generations the accumulated knowledge of the past. New technology will see the printed book superceded by electronic contrivances now beginning to appear. Education is a desire to inform the new generations of what has taken place previously, what lessons we have learnt, giving them the maps and useful tools for their onward journey. "To where?" and 'why?' are the great questions.