

Simply Hard Working

Khurshid Akhter Ansari

Ghayyur Hussain Sabzwari hailed from a remote part of Punjab. He came to Baluchistan for work. He found himself a job at the Islamia High School Library Quetta. He was very diligent but also very simple; that is why he only managed to find a junior position.

As I visited this library along with some colleagues, Sabzwari greatly impressed us. He shared with me his high aspirations that he was unable to realize as he was not qualified enough as yet. I advised him to sit for his BA exam from the Baluchistan University as a private candidate. His career would not progress much farther if he didn't even have a BA degree.

Eager and ambitious, he took my advice and passed the exam in the first attempt. Encouraged by his success, he wanted to study further ahead. The only problem was that he now had to study as a regular candidate and not a private one. How would he continue with his job if he became a regular student?

In those days the Department of Library and Information Sciences, University of Baluchistan used to run in the evenings too. This was an opportunity for Sabzwari to work and study. Not one to miss a good opportunity, he took admission in the Diploma in Library Science. He worked hard and would sometimes come to me for guidance. His course soon came to an end.

Now the FA pass Sabzwari, the high-school graduate, was a graduate and a diploma holder. He achieved all this while working. When the result was announced it turned out that he had not only cleared his exam but had done so with distinction! How

many a budding youth are there like Sabzwari, brimming with talent and committed to their own education, who miss the train just because no one ever pointed the way for them!

Sabzwari took the exam for the Punjab Public Service Commission and he got a 16 grade job.

Not one to be content with mere status, Sabzwari continued with his academic career. A few years later he also did his Masters in Library Science.

Why did I choose to tell this story? Who is the teacher in this narrative? I merely gave information to Sabzwari in a few casual conversations. Does that make me a teacher, or a vehicle of God's Grace whose purpose was to start Sabzwari on his road to success? Or is it Sabzwari who is the teacher? Simple and hard-working, never losing sight of his goal; what better lessons can one human being teach to another.

The author is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Library and Information Sciences, University of Baluchistan, Quetta