

Libraries should be shut down as better alternatives are available.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

For centuries, libraries have been regarded as sources to spread knowledge and provide the site for educational gatherings. The emergence of other alternatives has led many to believe the end of the libraries' era has come; I refute it, however.

First, libraries can and do offer more than a place where books can be piled. It seems grossly unfair to ignore the fact that libraries have convincingly adjusted themselves to technology. Providing broadband internet connection, gathering a large number of issues from various magazines and journals, and offering educational tools such as atlases, libraries now have successfully managed to expand their realm in pursuit of modern technology. Now one can take advantage of all these handouts presented by generous libraries which can still attract a wide range of booklovers.

Moreover, for long, libraries have been known to accommodate bibliotaphs and avid readers. These popular rendezvous for booklovers resemble a galaxy filled with shining books written by eminent authors, each of which has revolutionized a different field, and standing at the middle of this "treasure island", you can access all these glittering gems which can capture you and carry you to a new world the moment you touch them. I clearly recall my first day at the National Library when I was only a little boy, gazing at thousands of books. Mesmerized, captivated and speechless, I found myself surrounded by priceless items. The joy of touching books, browsing within them and through them, and listening to the sound of flipping a page is what a bibliophile would not miss for the world.

To conclude, in spite of the fact that technology has given rise to other seemingly equivalent substitutes for libraries, I, as an avid reader, still consider them the irreplaceable heaven for people where they can open the gates to the world of books.