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Point Exercise in Methodological Study of Sustainable Development of Primary School Libraries

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The Islamic countries had and still do have a tradition that promotes convergence of prayers with scholastic pursuit. This study traces the historical roots of scholastic libraries in Iran for 11th centuries (2 –12 A.H.). At that time Mosques were not merely a place of worship but education as well and the small libraries there in effect served as the first school libraries. It is a tradition that has endured even today. Yet according to a survey taken in 2002, 85% of Iranian primary schools do not have a library. Based on the historical antecedents, a model for sustainable school library operation was drawn. The model was applied to a primary school environment. The model relied heavily on the fact that the pupils enjoy non-required activities like story telling. First and second graders used the library setting as a place to pick up new stories, or developing stories of their own. From the third graders onward, the library is gradually incorporated into their program of study. In fact, the school librarian plays an important role in sustaining the school library on the basis of student attendance. Apart from physical servicescape there are symbolic serviscape considerations, especially among the ethnic minorities.

Results:

- There is a positive and meaningful correlation between teachers understanding of library collection and the student research projects.
- There is a positive and meaningful correlation between parent's education and first and second graders in cultural and mental as well as reading ability development.
- There is a positive and meaningful correlation between personal touch with libraries and third graders behaviour in information seeking and searching through school library.

• The first priority of the fourth and fifth graders are Reference- books followed by fictions and prehistorical creatures.

Suggested Model:

