Like Bill Gates, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella Is a Bookworm—Here Are His Top 3 Picks

When Satya Nadella was appointed CEO of Microsoft in 2014, his first action was giving his lieutenants reading assignments. He then encouraged them to share what they learned. Here are three books that shaped the company's culture and helped build its current success.

**Nonviolent Communication**

*By Marshall Rosenberg*

When Nadella was appointed Microsoft CEO in 2014, he made *Nonviolent Communication* a priority, requiring his top executives to read the book written by American psychologist Marshall Rosenberg. The book emphasizes the importance of nonviolent emotional qualities such as empathy and effective communication in managing large organizations.

**Little Gidding**

*By T.S. Eliot*

At a briefing in March 2014, one of his first moves as Microsoft CEO, Nadella quoted a line from *Little Gidding*, a T.S. Eliot poem, to make the point that Microsoft still had a lot for him to explore, even though he'd worked at the company for 22 years.

**Mindset**

*By Carol Dweck*

Mindset is best known for introducing the “fixed mindset v. growth mindset” theory to the management circle. Nadella has said the book deeply influenced his management style. He even consulted with the author when drafting a new employee handbook when he first became CEO. "We needed a culture that allowed us to constantly refresh and renew," Nadella said in a *Fast Company* interview.

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