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'Collection mania' can cause pyschological disorders

London, March 16 (IANS) The tendency to collect items in moderation bolsters certain skills but, if unchecked, the habit can lead to psychological disorders, says a researcher.

For instance, porcelain dolls, precious stones, world thimbles, watches, fans, dino replicas, and tanks and ships are some of the collections that often crowd our stands.

In principle, 'as long as this hobby is performed under control', collecting items is good from the psychological point of view, as it helps in developing positive skills and attitudes such as perseverance, order, patience and memory.

However, addiction expert Professor Francisca Lopez Torrecillas at the University of Granada, Spain warns that 'a very significant increase has been observed of cases where uncontrolled collecting has caused obsessive-compulsive disorder and shopping addiction', according to a Granada statement.

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