

## **The Missile Man of India Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam and His Educational Thoughts**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

The great visionary leader,noble personality Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October in a place called Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu.He had a vision of making India a developed country and great knowledge power nation by 2020.His contribution to the development of India's defence is unprecedented.He is called Missile Man of India because of his excellent work in missile technology.He inspired youth to be a enlightened citizens.According to this great educationist Education in its real pursuit of truth,it is an endless journey to knowledge and enlightendness such a journey opens up new start of development of humanism where is neither scope or room for pitiness, disharmony, jealousy, hatred.His recommdations regarding education system are very relevant to the present time.Although he was the President of the country,he considered himself as a teacher.He says, if people remember him as a teacher,that is the greatest honor for him.This present paper attempts to discuss the Educational thoughts of Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam.

**Key words:** Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam, Educational Thoughts,Techer, Student, Curriculum,Method of teaching,Human Resources Cadre

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The great visionary leader,noble personality Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October 1931 in a place called Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu.His full name is Avul Pakir Jainulabedien Abdul Kalam.He was a great educationist, teacher, scientist motivational speaker and former President of India.He had a vision of making India a developed country and great knowledge power nation by 2020.His contribution to the development of India's defence is unprecedented .He successfully led the development of Agni and Prithivi the indigenious guided missile.Dr Kalam had put in over 10 years long hard work as the project director for the development of indigenious Satellite Launch Vehicle at ISRO that ultimately resulted in one of the greatest scientific development of indigenious Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV).Dr Kalam received 7 honorary doctorates from 40 Universities.His notable works are Wings of Fire, India 2020, Ignited Minds, Indomitable Spirit, Transcendence :My Spiritual Experience with Promuk Swamiji. Dr. Kalam led a pivotal role in the 1988 nuclear test known as Pakhran-II ,this was suprising to many because he did not come from the nuclear science pedagogy and his forway was rocket science in both ISRO and

DRDO but he became instrumental as a technology manager because Pokhran campaign was seen as joint venture of DRDO and arm forces and nuclear establishment. Building and leading technology was Kalam's real strength as a technologist and an engineer what is needed for mission oriented programmes. His sincere work and dedication is making India self reliant in defence and space research. His excellent work earned him the title of Missile Man of India. This great personality was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1981, the Padma Vibhushan in 1990 and declared Bharat Ratna in the year 1997 for his excellent contribution in the field of scientific research and modernization of defence technology in India. He was Principal Scientific Advisor of India from 1999 to 2001. He also known as the People's President. He always loved to interact with students and inspired them. India lost the bright star on 27 July 2015. His death was an irreparable loss to India.

### **KALAM'S PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE**

Dr. Kalam's philosophy of life is simple living and high thinking. He inspires children to dream. The dream awakens the interest of the learner. Learning use creativity, creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge and knowledge makes us great. According to him history has proven that those who dare to imagine the impossible are the one who breaks all human limitations. For success in any mission what the need is indomitable spirit. There are two component of indomitable spirit. The first component is that ,there must be ambition leading to higher goals of achievements. If there is a definite determination to achieve a goal man succeeds. The second one second one we should know how to handle success but also how to handle the failures because any task we do we have to come across problem. problem should not became the captain of the individual. Successful leaders can never be defeacted by problems the become the master of the situation and defeat the problem. Growth is life. According to him Enlightened society has three dimensions-

- a) Education with value system
- b) Religion transform into spirituality
- c) Economic development for sociatal.

Dr. Kalam has proved to the world that spirituality and science could exist together. He said , "The Life Divine by Sri Aurobindo was moral support that kept me going when I've worked on the launch of Agni. Though a religious person Abdul Kalam never confined himself to a particular sect. He was equally inspired by Bhagavad Gita as by Quran. He believed, for great people religion is a way of making friends, small people make religion a fighting tool. The link between man and God is faith. Dr. Kalam's philosophy reflects principles of idealism, pragmatism and humanism. He wants to see India where is very righteousness in the heart, there is beauty in the character, harmony in home, an order in nation and peace in the world.

### **PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION**

#### **Conpect of Education:**

According to Dr. Kalam Education in its real sense pursuit of truth, it is an endless journey to knowledge and enlightendness such a journey opens new start of development of humanism where is neither scope or room for pitiness, disharmony, jealousy, hatred. Education should be imparted with a view

to the type of society that we wish to build. The Education system has a tremendous responsibility to transform a child into a leader- the transformation from 'what can you do for me?' to 'what can I do for you?'. The most important part of Education is to imbibe among students the spirit of 'we can do it'. The precious asset of a country is skill, ingenuity and imagination of its people. He believes that the Education system should be able to retain the smiles of children.

**Aims of Education:**

- 1) To create good human beings with skill and expertise
- 2) To create enlightened citizens.
- 3) To inculcate creative mind of the child
- 4) To make learning more effective by the use of technology
- 5) To build self confidence among the students.
- 6) To develop moral leadership in different fields.
- 7) To create entrepreneurs rather than job seekers
- 8) To facilitate innovation, inventions and discovery.
- 9) To make the country energy independent.

**Curriculum:**

According to Dr. Kalam the curriculum should be balanced and equal importance should be given to the development of science and spirituality. Experiences of teachings of good leaders should be included in the curriculum. Construction activities should be included to make the students active participant. Besides the normal curriculum the children should receive special training towards one skill set which will not only help them get a job after school but also make them aware of the how real world industries. Undergraduate syllabus should be research oriented. Universities and other institutions should facilitate research and inquiry.

Five components of creative Education:

- 1) Research and Inquiry
- 2) Creativity and Innovation
- 3) Use of High technology
- 4) Entrepreneur Leadership
- 5) Moral Leadership

**Method of teaching:**

APJ Kalam suggested the use of innovative teaching methods instead of traditional one. He advised on the use of technology in the teaching learning process to make it more interesting and effective. Children should be allowed to learn on their own by participating in various activities and through self study.

**Medium of Instruction:**

Kalam said, "I studied up to tenth standard through vernacular medium and later picked up English". He advised teachers to bring out creativity in children and teach them science in their mother tongue.

**Role of Teacher:**

"Creativity is the key to success in the future and primary education is where teachers can bring creativity in children at that level " he said adding teachers should become facilitators of innovativeness. Dr. Kalam dedicated to teaching and identified himself first as a teacher and then as anything else. About the aim of teacher, he said, "The aim of teacher should be to build character, human values enhance the learning capacity of children through technology and build the confidence among children to be innovative and creative which in turn will make them competitive to face the future". He also said, "Teachers have to realise that they are the builders of the society. The society can be built only when the students are made proficient in their subjects. In addition they have to provide a vision for life to the students and also inculcate the fundamental of value which he should practice in the years to come". According to Kalam, a teacher must have three qualities-

- 1) Teacher loves teaching,
- 2) Teacher encourages question from students
- 3) Create pressure on students to explore own capabilities

**Role of Students:**

APJ Kalam said, All birds find shelter during rain, but Eagle avoids rain by flying over the clouds. Problems are common but attitude make the difference. To be a unique one there are many challenges before youth. Students have to fight the hardest battle which any human being can ever imagine to fight. Don't fear failing in the first attempt because even the successful maths starts with zero.

Addressing the students Kalam said that they should have 4 things for succeed in life

- 1) Great Aim
- 2) Continuously acquire knowledge
- 3) Hard work
- 4) Persevere

One of the most important characteristic of student is questioning.

### **Human Resource Cadre:**

President APJ Abdul Kalam has suggested creation of Global Human Resource Cadre (GHRC) to contribute for National Development and also meet the global requirement for skilled personnel. GHRC should help the agriculture, industrial and service sector growth in the country. He said, there was immense potential in IT, Bio and Nano Technology fields around the world, he said quoting NASSCOM-Mckensy report. According to the report, there will be 90 lakh job openings in IT, ITES and BPO sectors by 2010. Another 60 lakh job would be created in infrastructure, transportation and retail sectors.

He stressed the need for producing quality students who could meet global standards. Now 30 lakh graduates and postgraduates are churned out by the universities. The output from the institutions of higher learning would rise from 10 to 30 percent (2007-15). It should again rise from 30 to 40 percent in 2020 and 60 percent in 2050. He also stressed the need for entrepreneurship courses to motivate students to take up self employment programmes. The banks also should give loan to those coming up with innovative schemes.

### **Conclusion:**

Dr. APJ Kalam is a shining star of India. His contribution to the development of India is incomparable. Although he was the President of the country, he considered himself as a teacher. He says, remembering him as a teacher will be greatest honor for him. He said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." His recommendations regarding education system are very relevant to the present time. His message was not to declare a holiday on his death instead to work an extra day. Hence political leaders of different hues as also the common people worked through the day and paid their tribute by even working extra hours.

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