

NEW THINKER AND SCIENCE EDUCATIONIST DR. A.P.J ABDUL KALAM. (1932-2015)

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ABSTRACT:

Abul Pakir Jainulabudeen Abdul Kalam is a great man of India. He was the 11th President of India. He worked as the President from 2002 to 2007. He is well known as A.P.J Abdul Kalam to all Indians. He was born on 15th October 1931, in a poor fisher man family at Rammeswaram in the district of Ramnathpuram in Tamilnaru. His father Jainalabadeen was as boatman and a fisherman by profession. His mother Asiannma was a home maker. He received secondary education at the Schwartz school, a missionary institute in Ramanathapuram. He passed B. Sc Physics honours from Saint Josephs' college Tiruchellapally and there after he studied in Aeronautical engineering at Madras Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1960 regarded as the crown jewel of technical education in South India at that time. An outstanding Saint scientist, prominent humanist philosopher and captivating author and orator. The glorification of his life was –

*“Thinking is the Capital
Enterprise is the way
Hard work is the solution”*

Keywords: *Prayer, Faith in good, Glory of god, Spiritual wisdom, Spirituality.*

INTRODUCTION:

An outstanding saint scientist, humanist, philosopher, captivating author and orator – A.P.J Abdul Kalam was an outstanding educationist in modern India. He was a great scientist, eminent professor and also a great scientist in modern responsible great India. A P J Kalam is responsible for the development of India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle, the SLV-III development and operationalisation of strategic missiles and there

weaponisation and for building indigenous capability in critical technologies. A P J joined the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in 1958. He achieved many milestones in his forty year career. He later joined the ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) where he succeeded in putting the 35kg Rohini - I satellite on a low earth orbit with the help of SLV – III (satellite launch vehicle). After spending 19th fruitful years in ISRO, he returned to DRDO to head the country's Integrated Missile Development Programme, which culminated in the successful launch of the AGNI PRITHIVI missiles. Perhaps he was the only educational philosopher who has interacted with nearly a lakh children in interactive question answer session.

DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY:

The present study will be limited only to study the contributions of A.P.J Abdul Kalam in the development of science education in India. The present study will be limited to only study the socio-political environment related to A.P.J Abdul Kalam. The present study will be limited to find out only the life philosophy as well as educational philosophy of A.P.J Abdul Kalam.

METHODS OF THE STUDY:

For the present study historical survey method will be followed along with analytical method .Data will be collected from various primary and secondary sources. Data will also be collected by interview with the renounced persons and experts in the field. After collection of data those will be analysed by various analytical methods like internal criticism and external criticism and the thesis will be developed and facts will be established.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- What is the contribution of A.P.J Abdul Kalam in science education in India?
- What is the educational philosophy of A.P.J Abdul Kalam?
- What is the educational concept of A.P.J Abdul Kalam?
- What is the inspiration of the society from A.P.J Abdul Kalam?

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

- To know the contribution of A.P.J Abdul Kalam in science education in India.
- To know the educational philosophy of A.P.J Abdul Kalam.
- To know the educational concept of A.P.J Abdul Kalam.

- To know how A.P.J Abdul Kalam inspired students of that social situation.

DISCUSSION OF THE OBJECTIVES:

Science was not built up on a bed of roses. Science has a number of martyrs. Such as Galileo, Bruno, Ticobra, Abdul Latif, Charbak – they are all martyrs. Unfortunately three great personality of Bengal left this world with deep sorrow and pain that India was not independent. Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose left us in 1937 when Hitler and Musolinee were talking for preparation for second World War, Rabindranath Tagore died on 1941 when there was extreme cruelty of second World War, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy died on 16th June 1944, And A.P.J Abdul Kalam died on 27th July 2015. A.P.J Abdul Kalam think that without science we cannot live a moment, we cannot spent a moment and we cannot built up a thinking of any work. From this thinks he try to encourage people to think about science. He wrote science journals and science essays because he knows that if science importance is wrote in English language then it is unable to reach the common people, so he want to touch all common minds by his simple language that is oscular languages. He is perhaps the educational philosopher who has interacted with the children by ‘Question Answer Session’. Here an attempt is made to provide the essence of his philosophy of his life in brief and its impact on education. It is felt that a comprehensive account of his contribution to education is needed at the hands of a competent person.

In our daily life we cannot live or imagine a moment without science. The great scientist made us to think so by their great deals with science. Now a day in every corner of our social life there is unrest. So to overcome this situation we must have to direct our life though the light of various great men of our previous generations. As science is the only way to make our life more comfortable. So to understanding of the past developmental steps taken intellectuals like A.P.J Abdul Kalam. The philosophy of his education is Glory of God, Faith in God, Efficiency of prayer, Spiritual Wisdom, Education and Spirituality. Dr. Kalam is a very sentimental person who has strong emotional bonds with his family members especially with his parents. He believes that if a family has a satisfied woman or satisfied wife or satisfied mother or any other satisfied role played by a woman in a family, that family definitely has peace and prosperity inside the family and among its family members. He said that India has a long tradition of giving equal opportunity to women to excel in every field. He gives equal importance to both boys as well as girls in every aspect of life. He believes that Women empowerment leads to society with stability and peace.

A.P.J Abdul Kalam think that only text book oriented knowledge is not the way to reach the goal, he knows that practical job must be done by the people. If people do something, if they engage various works, they

creative much more knowledge. From this thinks he encourage people to provide suitable educational opportunities borne out from his writings. He had three visions for India, 1st was Freedom. 2nd was Development. 3rd was India must Stand up to the world.

The contribution of A.P.J Abdul Kalam for the development of science education in the 19th and 20th century India is the great importance for better understanding of the contemporary development of science education in India with light on socio-political situation of the time. Class room learning is as important as learning by self-observation outside the class room .Beside this, the teacher in the school has great responsibility in shaping the character of the student especially during the high school age or at the age of adolescence. Since this is the age of stress and storms for every child, school must provide needed and correct guidance to cope up with this situation by providing moral science classes and friendly environment to the students to share their problems and by satisfying their curiosities. Any academic performance variation in the student must be noticed and the counselling session must immediately commence. The school should have constant interaction with the parents of the student and give and take regular feedback about the behaviour of the student. Thus the school plays an important role in healthy personality development of a child and contributes in shaping an emotionally stable and balanced citizen to the country. Beside this aspect a school must have morally good and competent teachers to impart practical and worthy education to provide purposeful education along with well equipped environment for effective learning. Dr. Kalam always remembers his school teachers as well as college teachers. He gives full credit of his life achievements to his teachers who played a significant role in Kalam's life and in his career planning. So, Kalam believes in a healthy and facilitated teacher-student relationship, in which teacher gives full freedom to students to explore, create and innovate. On the other hand, student also has full faith in guidance of teacher and follows the instructions obediently. In this aspect, Kalam believes in self-discipline. He visualizes that a teacher and a student both should be maintain their dignity by self-control and there should not be any need for external forces to control the behaviours of both. Thus, according to kalam teacher-student relationship should be based on mutual understanding by holding their positions firmly. Dr. Kalam's life is itself is a great live illustration of being an autonomous teacher who always tried to gain more and more knowledge through reading various great books and his scholarly performances throughout the journey of his life. He believes that teacher should be competent enough to satisfy the knowledge hunger of the student of modern age. And it can be possible only through update knowledge. And to fulfill it, a teacher should be educated and has a learner approach towards knowing new technology to compete the world. Dr. Kalam is a great scientist who has a technical approach for the development of India. He is known as 'Missile Man', a Man of Technology. According to him science and technology is the only medium to grow and compete in modern world. Dr. Kalam suggests

that we have to allow children to ask questions to develop scientific aptitude in our children and we should have the patience to answer them satisfactorily. We should not stop them for asking questions because curiosity is the foundation for creativity and that along with a questioning mind will lead to the creation of scientific temperament. Youngsters should be motivated to enquire into science. He connects science with spirituality to feel its depth. The researcher felt that education without values is meaningless. Only value based education can produce civilized countrymen who have concern for the growth and welfare of the family, society and nation. According to Kalam, value based education is the basic need of democratic nation. He gave importance to individuality but he believed that nation is bigger than individual.

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