

To study relevance of APJ Abdul Kalam Azad's Educational Ideology about Women Education and Science & Technology in present scenario

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Biography of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Azad

Abdul Kalam was born on **October 15, 1931** into a middle class family of Tamil, in the island town of Rameswaram. His father Jainulabdeen was an Imam of local Mosque. He was a boat owner. He was not much educated. He had not much wealth. His mother Ashiamma was a housewife. He was the youngest in the family. He had four elder brothers and one sister. His parents were widely regarded as an ideal couple.

"Wings of Fire" and "India 2020" have motivated millions of Indians. His books envision his dream of India as a Superpower.. His speeches, books, works-all are gift of a man. He spent all his life trying to make the world a better place. In his book India 2020, Kalam strongly advocated an action plan to develop India into a **"Knowledge Superpower."** He regarded his work on India's nuclear weapons program as a way to self reliant India's place as a future superpower. In 2007; He was honored by the Royal Society of U.K. and received the degree of Doctorate in Science.

He received the **Doctor of Engineering** from Singapore's *Nanyang Technological University*. He received the Hoover Medal for his outstanding public service from ASME Foundation, U.S.A. The California Institute of Technology, U.S.A. honored him with the international von Karman Wings Award in 2009.

In 2010, the University of Waterloo honored him with the *Doctor of Engineering*. Kalam was known for his motivational speeches and interaction with the students community in India. In May 2011, He launched his mission for the youth of the nation called 'What Can I Give Movement' with a central theme to overcome corruption in India. He Launched this movement along with his advisor Mr. Srijan Pal Singh.

In 2013, he received the Von Braun Award from National Space Society in recognition of his excellence projects. Beside the above mentioned awards; Dr. Kalam also received the following awards-

- Dr. Biren Roy Space Award
- Om Prakash Basin Award
- National Nehru Award
- Arya Bhatt Award

In 2014, he received an honorary degree. While lecturing at the Indian Institute of Management ;He suffered a massive heart attack. He died **at the age of 83**. Dr. Kalam is still remembered as the 'People's President' for his works. He was the 11th President of India from July 2002-July 2007. He is also known as the 'Missile Man of India' for his contribution in the field of aerospace research. **2015- The United Nations**

recognized Dr. Kalam's birthday as "World Student's Day" in Doctor of Science.

General Philosophy of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Azad

21st century is century of knowledge. The world accept that knowledge is the highest and most precious thing that can remake the world. Dr. A.P.J. belongs to that generation of talented intellectuals who dream of building a powerful India by 2020 by utilizing the strength of knowledge." Wings of fire" is essentially the "knowledge manifesto" in this sense.

In the Epistemology, Kalam described the knowledge that he earned at Madras Institute of Technology (MIT), as "the composite knowledge". He impute the extraordinary way of demonstration of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) technicians to their **"Intuitive feel for the work"**. According to him most people possess a strong inner urge for growth and self-actualization. Lack of appropriate environment deprives them of this desired growth and development.

In Axiology, Dr. Kalam has strong faith in individuality and its unique identity. He says that right to dream for dignity. Distinction is the privilege of every citizen in democracy. **A true democrat is always dynamic in his/her ways and means.** He/she believes that change means progress. Hence he/she is always busy in the query of new truths and realities. **"The education system should recognize itself at the earliest to meet present day challenges and be fully vesture to participate in the transformation of society"**. A true democrat certainly believes in change, but brings change by force.

In Metaphysics, It is myth that scientists does not believe in God. Dr. Kalam is the most famous example to prove this. Kalam was also known as a "visionary scientist".. It was clear from his work and poems. He believed in service to humanity as a service to God. He also believed in God as a single power above all religion, wealth, caste and society. Abdul Kalam is one of those intellectuals who have crossed the boundary of religions and have entered the zone where one recognize and respect the laws and principles of nature by feeling oneself from the bonds of traditions. He used to read **Bhagavad Gita and Quran**. He was truly secular unlike most of the politicians today. Dr. Kalam has read the book "The God Delusion" written by Richard Dawkins the great atheist.

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Azad's Educational Ideology

Dr. Kalam was a practical Educational Thinker and Visionary who stand for integrating ancient and modern educational ideals for the development of a balanced Indian

society. **The aim of education system** should also be to build character, human values, enhance learning capacity through technologies and build confidence among children to face the future.

Kalam was a hug advocate of education as the primary driving force of personal growth. He believed that only knowledge can make a person great. Despite the range of titles he had earned in his life time, the visionary preferred to call himself a teacher. In a recent event at the Delhi secretariat, in the presence of Delhi's Chief Minister, Dr. Kalam claimed to be a teacher right from the start of his carrier.

Creativity And Innovation

Creativity is a process to work hard. It improves ideas and solutions by making gradual refinements. It leads to innovation and wealth. It is through the process of innovation that knowledge is converted into wealth.

According to APJ Abdul Kalam, "The inherent creative capabilities of children should be identified to have a new breed of innovative thinkers." Children have hard wired ability to be creative, imaginative and innovative that often diminishes along the way. These inborn capabilities have to be identified and encouraged to have a new breed of innovative thinkers who are prepared to solve future challenges of our world. Kalam said that it is important to be innovative and children are best at it.

Statement of The Problem

A Study Of Relevance Of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Azad's Educational Ideology About Women Education And Science & Technology In Present Scenario

Objectives of the study

1. To analyze the educational ideas of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam in terms of
 - A. Women Education
 - B. Science and Technologies Education
2. To study the relevance of educational ideas and the thoughts of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to reform contemporary education system.

Tools and techniques used

Due to the philosophical nature of the study, historical and philosophical methods were employed. The references from various books, journals etc. were used extensively.

Research Questions

Q1. What are A.P.J. Kalam Azad's ideas on the following aspects of Education?

A.WOMEN EDUCATION

B.SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

A. WOMEN EDUCATION:

India is a land of diversity Kalam was one of those few political figures who was not only an epitome of knowledge but also one of India's first pro-women politician. Only recently APJ

Kalam graced our list of the few Indian feminist men and today as we bid good bye to one of our finest educators. In his autobiography 'Wings of Fire' that he co-wrote with ArunTiwari, Kalam writes, "when it comes to burning social issues like those related to women, dowry, girl child and others; we make loud drawing room protests and continue to do the reverse at home. Our excuse? 'Whole system of society has to be changed. So who's going to change the system?'" He said.

Kalam was a believer of women's empowerment. "Empowerment of women leads to development of a good family, good society and ultimately a good nation." When women are empowered, a society with stability is assured. That days have passed away when women were considered timid or secondary in almost all works of life compared to men. It has been proved that women are capable of doing so many jobs as efficiently as men. Every organization has to be made aware that there is no difference between men and women. Women education has to be given the highest priority. There is need to ensure the continuity of secondary education and university education for girls .Distance education packages have to be started to cater to women in remote areas. After completing basic general education, a girl should be able to opt for a vocational training program which will enable her to have either self employment or employment in different areas.. This has to be done keeping in mind the aptitude of the girl. The need for such skills is required for a particular occupation. The emphasis should be on making every woman educated and economically self dependent as early as possible.

B. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science is the best boon that God has bestowed upon mankind. Science with reasoning becomes the capital of society. The coverage of science and technology with spirituality touched to be the future for both science and technology and spirituality. Dr.Kalam was a great scientist. He has a technical approach for the development of India. He is known as 'Missile Man', a Man of Technology. According to Kalam, science and technology is the only medium to grow and complete in modern world. Dr. Kalam suggests that we must allow children to ask questions to develop scientific aptitude of our children. We should have patience to answer them satisfactory. We should not stop them for asking questions because curiosity is the foundation for creativity Along with a questioning mind he will be able to develop of scientific temperament. Youngsters should be motivated to inquire into science. He connects science with spirituality to feel its depth.

India's Vision 2020 was initially a document prepared by the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) on India's Department of Science and Technology under the chairmanship of APJ Kalam and a team of 500 experts. The plan is further detailed in the book India 2020: A vision for the New Millennium, which Kalam co-authored with Y.S.Rajan. Kalam also played a vital role in the Pokhran II nuclear test conducted in 1998. In his tenure as scientist he worked under the renewed space scientist Vikram Sarabhai as a part of the INCOSPAR committee. He then went on to direct two aerospace projects, Project Devil and Project Valiant aiming at developing ballistic missiles from the technology of the SLV program.

Dr. Kalam was an old man with young spirit. He was very close to the hearts of our young generation. He could realize that these young people will only like the ideas based on modernism and futuristic outlook. He gave his educational ideas based on research and is varied experience in the field of education. He seems to be manifestation of optimism and value oriented life. His extreme optimism could be judged from his thoughts about black board when he says, "black color is sentimentally bad but, every blackboard makes the students life bright". He has been a true blend of nationalism, spiritualism and modernity. He finds education as the best tool for social reform and. He considered science as best tool to serve the

humanity. He sees India as one of the great economic and scientific power in this world as described in his dream project 'India 2020'. His philosophy of education seems to be more close to the pragmatism and naturalism that makes it more relevant than any other idealist philosophers. His ideas are more realistic and practical. He not only just gives ideas about curriculum and methods of educating young minds but also provide material for it. Finally we find that Kalam's educational ideas suit very well in the present time. We answer in statement regarding the question of relevance of Kalam's educational ideas about Women Education and Science & Technology in present scenario.

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