

A Study on Exploring the Educational Thoughts and Contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

Shamim Akhtar

B.Ed. Trainee, West Bengal University of Teachers' Training,
Education Planning and Administration, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

ABSTRACT

In the present study, the investigator attempted to find out "A study on exploring the educational thoughts and contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam." Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is known as the father of Indian missile technology. He brought dignity to whatever he did even politics. He served as India's 11th president from 2002 to 2007 and was undoubtedly one of the most loved politicians of the country. Abdul Kalam was one of the great visionaries who contributed with his all-around abilities to the nation. During his presidency period, he talked about two main points: education and information technology. He was a scientist, writer, inspirational speaker, and motivational figure. According to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam education is an endless journey through knowledge and enlightenment. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is also a good teacher. A teacher is the most important profession in the world. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam writes that parents play a major role in the life of children. Every parent should guide children to be a good human beings. The rights that universities as prime knowledge generation centers of the nation and quality of education is linked to being the development of the country.

KEYWORDS: Educational Thoughts and Contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's Quotes on Education, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's Quotes About Success

INTRODUCTION:

Education is one of the greatest and finest services provided to the people of any country in the world. It provides various opportunities for an individual to be capable of living a good and prosperous life. In this modern era, it is impossible for a human being to achieve anything without being educated.

For many centuries philosophers, educationists, social reformers, saints are expressing their views about education. Lord Buddha, Mahaveer Swami, Shankaracharya, Swami Vivekanand, Swami Dayanand, Dr. Radhakrishnan, Maharshi Arvind are some of them.

Though Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is famous as a scientist, he also expressed views, thoughts, and contributions about education. He was a practical educational thinker and visionary who stands for integrating ancient and modern educational ideals for the development of a balanced Indian society.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam wrote many books in which he expressed his views about education. He loved children very much. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam has constantly contributed his thoughts on education.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam believed that five important areas to transform India are-Education and health care, agriculture, information and communication, infrastructure, and critical technology.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam placed education in first place out of five areas. It shows the importance of education and his love for education.

How to cite this paper: Shamim Akhtar "A Study on Exploring the Educational Thoughts and Contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam" Published in International Journal of Trend in Scientific Research and Development (ijtsrd), ISSN: 2456-6470, Volume-5 | Issue-4, June 2021, pp.1148-1151, URL: www.ijtsrd.com/papers/ijtsrd42549.pdf



IJTSRD42549

Copyright © 2021 by author (s) and International Journal of Trend in Scientific Research and Development Journal. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY 4.0) (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>)



DR. APJ ABDUL KALAM'S CONCEPT OF EDUCATION:

According to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, 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 inculcating in the students the spirit of 'we can do it. Education is an endless journey through knowledge and enlightenment. Real education enhances the dignity of a human being and increases his or her self-respect and universal brotherhood in its true sense becomes the sheet anchor for such education.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam often says that education is drawing out and developing creativity inherent in students. Education, according to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, is a fundamental right of every Indian child. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam believes that education is the most important area of the service sector as it provides the required knowledge and skill to do any work.

DR. APJ ABDUL KALAM'S PERSPECTIVE AIMS ON EDUCATION:

"Mission of Education", according to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, "is the foundation to ensure the creation of enlightened citizens who will make a prosperous, happy, and strong nation".

According to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam education system should retain the smiles of children. This can happen if the education system is made creative throughout and full employment is provided to all.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam lists the main aims of education are as follows-

- To build character and to cultivate human values in students.
- To enhance learning capacity through technology.
- To develop capacity for research and inquiry among students.
- To unfold innovating powers and entrepreneurship.
- To develop moral leadership.
- To make the country energy independent.
- To develop a sense of dignity, self-respect, and self-reliance among students.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The title of the present problem is as below:

“A Study on Exploring The Educational Thoughts and Contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam”.

METHODOLOGY:

The study is historically qualitative. The primary source of the data collection to study the Auto-biography of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam as only and as secondary sources the data collection to study the several books, articles, websites, and journal about Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- What are the thoughts of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on education?
- What are the contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on education?
- What are the quotes of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on education?
- What are the quotes of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on success?

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To study Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's thoughts about education.
- To study Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's contribution to education.
- To study Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's quotes on education.
- To study Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's quotes about success.

REVIEW OF RELATED STUDIES:

Pareek. H. P(2018)Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is known as the father of Indian Missile Technology. The best method of education is by imparting behavioral patterns. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam writes the parents play a major role in the life of children.

Dodiya. R. S(2018)Abdul Kalam was one of the great visionaries who contributed with his all-around abilities to the nation. The present study deals with his great vision for education and development from all perspectives. The study relates to the educational thoughts of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam as reflected in his writings. His educational thoughts are many in numbers from which the thoughts on the education system include the problems in today's education system, the requirements of the education system, and important policies to be established to improve the whole system of education thoroughly. The study includes the analysis and interpretation of the thoughts regarding these points. In the end, the findings and observations regarding the problem, requirement, and policies of education are derived.

Chauhan.K.R(2017) To study the thinking on the education system of APJ Abdul Kalam. The main objective of the study is to the thinking on the education system of APJ Abdul Kalam. As the data for the present study are qualitative, the entire study was carried out through the content analysis method. In the present study, the researcher selected 114 idea units out of 332 idea units by purposive sampling

method that represents the thinking on the education system of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. The major finding is: the thinking on the education system of APJ Abdul Kalam consists of thinking on curriculum, teacher, women education, school, and youth education as its component. APJ Abdul Kalam emphasizes teacher and school in his thinking.

Dodiya. R. S (2018) Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's educational thoughts are many in numbers from which the thoughts on the concept of leadership, the qualities, and attributes of leadership, leadership approach, and requirements of good leadership. The study includes the analysis and interpretation of the thoughts regarding these points. In the end, the findings and observations regarding the concept of leadership, the qualities and attributes of leadership, leadership approach, and requirements of good leadership are derived.

DIFFERENT EDUCATIONAL THOUGHTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. APJ ABDUL KALAM:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is a practical educational thinker and visionary who stands for integrating ancient and modern educational ideals for the development of a balanced Indian society.

About Students:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam writes that “My message, especially to young people is to have the courage to think differently courage to invent, to travel the unexpected path, courage to discover the impossible and to conquer the problems and succeed. These are great qualities that they must work towards. This is my message to the young people.”

Capacities to be Built Among Students:

The primary focus of the students should be to excel in their studies. This is their first contribution to the development of the nation. The education system should instill in the minds of students capacities of inquiry, creativity, technology, entrepreneurial and moral leadership. If we develop in all our stands these five capacities, we will produce an “Autonomous Learner” a self-directed, self-controlled, lifelong learner, who will have the capacity to both respect authority and at the same time capable of questioning authority, in an appropriate manner.

Planning for Good Education for Children:

Every school should have basic amenities such as a good building equipped with ventilation and lighting. The rooms should be airy and have spacious classrooms. The school should also have a library, laboratories including the latest information technology tools and infrastructure, safe drinking water, clean toilets, and a playground. This is possible by earmarking the additional 2 to 3 percent of GDP.

Reducing Dropouts:

It is reported that 39% of children dropout from school after studying 5th class and 55% dropout after starting up to 8th class. This situation needs remedial action, especially since assent has been accorded to the 86th Constitution Amendment Act?. The Right to Education bill for children between the age group of 5 and 14 years. But, an Act alone cannot achieve the goal, unless education is delivered in a manner, which will take into account the socio-economic reality and perception of the people to whom it is addressed. Apart from attracting children to schools, the education system should be able to provide nourishment and inject creativity among them. The aim of the education system should also be to build character, human values, enhance learning capacity through

technology and build confidence among children to face the future.

Technology Enhanced Education:

Constraints of time and space together with the rapid obsolescence of knowledge in some areas of science and technology have created a huge demand for different courses from different institutions in the distance mode. There is a need for a working digital library system that alone can, in the long run, provide the kind of access required for a knowledge society. Technology Enhanced Learning is a solution, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam (2005), writes that libraries need to be digitized and the books should be available seamlessly across the universities and distance learning programs for universal access.

Virtual Classrooms:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam (2005) writes that with the growth in information technology, distance education programs can now have virtual classrooms. The students would not merely be passively listening, there would also be scope for interaction and asking the question by having two-way connectivity between the teacher and the taught. The best teachers can be taken to the students, irrespective of physical distance. Virtual classrooms of the future will have students from many locations taught by a team of geographically distributed instructors through the tele-education delivery system.

Virtual University:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam (2005), writes that there is a need to create a virtual university in India. This can be done through the networking of all the universities of India. This would make it possible for all the networked universities to pool their resources and provide students with a better education than they could manage on their own.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam suggests the following tasks for Virtual University:

- The virtual university will act as a central hub of all networked universities.
- Record the live transmission of the lecture with interaction details in a databank for easy access by participants for review learning.
- Digitize all the universities' libraries and make them available for seamless access by all the universities.
- Provide lectures, laboratory, learning, and the library, all through the internet.

About Teachers:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is one of the Greatest Teacher India has ever seen. According to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, a teacher must have the following four qualities:

- Teachers should love teaching. A teacher must have passion about give his/her knowledge.
- Teachers should encourage questions from students. Teachers should let them think beyond their thinking.
- The teacher puts students ahead.
- The teacher creates pressure on the students to explore their capabilities.

About Parents:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam believed that every parent should guide children to be a good human beings. He writes that it is very important for every parent to be willing to make the effort guide to be good human beings enlightened and hard working. According to Abdul Kalam, parents should allow

their children to dream. Success always follows dreams attempted through there may be some set books and delays.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam thought that parents and teachers play a major role in the life of children. He writes that if parents and teachers show the required dedication to shape the lives of the young, India would get a new life. As it is said behind the parents stands the school and behind the teacher the home.

Moral Value:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam (2002) writes that if any society wants to do progress, there are two important needs-prosperity through wealth generation and cherishing the value system in the people. The combination of the two will make the nation truly strong and prosperous. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam believed that the full development of a child with a value system can only come from teachers and parents.

An Education Model for the 21st Century:

A good educational model is the need of the hour to ensure that students grow to contribute towards the economic growth of the nation.

The entire education system has to be based on capacity building comprising five components:

- Research and Enquiry.
- Creativity and Innovation.
- Capacity to use high-end technology.
- Entrepreneurship.
- Moral Leadership.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's Quotes on Education:

Abdul Kalam believes that students play a significant role to transform India into a developing country. Here are some Abdul Kalam quotes on education for students.

- The best brains of the nation may be found on the last benches of the classroom.
- All of us do not have equal talent. But, all of us have an equal opportunity to develop our talents.
- Excellence happens not by accident. It is a process.
- The purpose of education is to make good human beings with skill and expertise...Enlightened human beings can be created by teachers.
- Creativity is seeing the same thing but thinking differently.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's Quotes About Success:

Exploring the best Abdul Kalam quotes on success for students.

- When our signature change to autograph, this marks success.
- If you want to shine like the sun, first burn like a sun.
- Man needs difficulties in life because they are necessary to enjoy success.
- Let us sacrifice our today so that our children can have a better tomorrow.
- Winners are not those who never fail but those who never quit.
- To succeed in your mission, you must have single-minded devotion to your goal.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

- Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam has a high definition of the teacher. He believes that the responsibilities of the teacher are to nurture the life of the person, to teach the process of learning, and to make students life-long learners.

- The teaching methods used in schools do not help students in capacity building and developing their skills which can be made the main objective of the teaching process. The teachers impart the skills and make the students participate in learning activities is one of the main objectives of education.
- The education system requires the students to develop special capacities and abilities such as research aptitude, creativity, innovation, technology aptitude, entrepreneurial skills, and moral leadership.
- The education system needs to change the approach of teaching to coaching mode. The school curriculum, teaching methods, and approaches, and educational policies can be reformed keeping in mind this innovative model of education.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY:

- Students should be motivated to use modern technologies like computers and the internet in their learning.
- Teachers should teach the students the process of learning and they should make the students life-long learners.
- Constructive activities should be included in the curriculum to make the students active participants.
- Schools need to transform into the center of knowledge and skills.
- The students should be motivated towards doing research activities on small scales as well as participating in seminars, workshops, scientific assignments, tutorials, and computer-aided tasks.

CONCLUSION:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is known as the missile man in the world. He was a scientist and became the 11th president of India but as he writes-he wanted to be known as a teacher. He writes that learning is a lifelong process. The one who knows himself. Learning without wisdom is of no use.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam writes- "It will not be presumptuous enough to say that my life can be a role model for anybody but some poor child living in an obscure place in an underprivileged social setting may find a little solace in the way my destiny has been shaped".

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was a great inspiration to many, especially kids, and always inspired them to dream big and achieve great goals in life. We have seen that he expressed his thoughts on every aspect of education. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam must be placed among great educational thinkers.

REFERENCES:

- [1] Best and Kahn (2014). *Research in Education*, PHI Learning, Dehli 110092.
- [2] Chauhan, K. R. (2017). A Study of Thinking on Education system of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. *International Journal of Research in all subjects in Multi-Language*, 5(8), 17-22.
- [3] Creswell, J. W. (2012). *Educational Research: Planning, Conducting and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research* (4th ed.). 501 Boylston Street, Boston: Pearson Education.
- [4] Dodiya, R. S. (2018) APJ Abdul Kalam's Thoughts on Education System as Reflected in his writings, *EduInspire-An International E-Journal*, 5(1), 1-14.
- [5] Dodiya, R. S. (2018). APJ Abdul Kalam's Thoughts on Leadership in Education as Reflected in his Writings. *International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews*, 5(2), 543-545.
- [6] Garrett, H. E. (1979). *Statistics in Psychology and Education* (6th ed.). Bombay: G. U. Mehta.
- [7] Gay, L. R. Mills, G. E and Airasian, P. W. (2017). *Educational Research, Competencies for Analysis and Application* (10th Edition) Pearson.
- [8] Kalam, APJ Abdul. (1999). *Wings of Fire*, University Press (India) Pvt. Ltd.
- [9] Kothari, C. R (1990). *Research Methodology, Methods and Techniques*, New Age International Publishers, New Delhi-110002.
- [10] Koul, L. (2017). *Methodology of Educational Research*, Vikas Publishing House Pvt. Ltd.
- [11] Mangal, S. K. (2014). *Statistics in Psychology and Education (2nd Ed.)*. Delhi: PHI Learning Private Limited.
- [12] Mangal, S. K. & Mangal, S. (2018) *Research Methodology in Behavioural Sciences*, PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd. Delhi 110092.
- [13] Pareek, H.P. (2017). Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's vision About Education, *International Journal of Research in all subjects in Multi Language*, 5(4), 36-40.
- [14] Pareek. H. P. (2018). Educational Thoughts of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, *International Journal of Academic Research and Development*, 3(1), 126-128.
- [15] Trivedi, A. (2017). The Educational Thoughts of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, *International Education and Research Journal*, 3(5), 262-264.