CHAPTER-4

A COLLECTION OF ATTRIBUTED QUOTES OF DR. KALAM

“Dream, Dream, Dream
Dream transforms into thoughts
And thoughts result in action.”

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
CHAPTER-4

4.1 A GREAT COLLECTION OF ATTRIBUTED EDUCATIONAL QUOTES
OF DR. APJ ABDUL KALAM: COLLECTED FROM VARIOUS
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES: This chapter is beautifully titled
by the researcher as-

“KALAM KI KALAM SE”

Philosophy determines the various aspects of education. It is a strong belief that
both philosophy and education are intimately and integrally connected with each
other. It is the philosophy, we must know, that has been influencing all aspects
of education since the very beginning and will go on influencing education for
all times to come. Dr. Kalam is a world famous scientist, a great educationist and
philosopher. He learns from his own life as his early life was very tough and
challenging, due to weak economic family status. His philosophy of life is
idealistic and simple to understand. He is a great teacher and he loves his
profession very much. So, his educational thoughts have significance in modern
system of education. The attributed quotes are one of the most approachable
ways in modern age of computer and internet, to give the messages to the
masses. In the present study, the researcher has selected this way as she felt that,
it is the most appropriate method to present the educational thoughts and ideas of
Dr. Kalam. There are some educational thoughts and ideas in the form of his
valuable quotes, regarding the various aspects of educational philosophy, as
follows-
4.1.1 MEANING OF EDUCATION:

According to Dr. Kalam, education means to learn, to earn and develop concern with our families, societies and nation for their progress and welfare. He visualizes one integrated system of education, system of learning and system of knowledge. He believes that Strength is developed through acquisition of knowledge and preparing for every eventuality. According to Dr. Kalam, Education cannot be a business product or a system. He says that:

- “True education is the acquisition of enlightened feelings and the enlightened power to understand the daily events and to understand the permanent truth by linking citizens, to his environment, human and planet, we live.”

- “Acquisition of knowledge will make you confident. We should not be afraid of failure. We should learn from every failure and apply the lessons we have learnt. This will help you succeed. Focusing attention on your task at hand will help remove laziness.”

- “Education is an endless journey through knowledge and enlightenment.”

- “Education and values imparted in childhood are more important than the education received in college and university.”

- “If only the real sense of education is realized by each individual and carried forward in every field of human activity, the world will be so much better place to live in.”
4.1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF EDUCATION:

Dr. Kalam recognized the prime necessity for the perfect fusion of quality education and proper guidance to youngsters for social progress. It is instrumental for many educational institutions into Knowledge Society. This transformation has an impact on removing illiteracy, upgrading the education systems at various levels for providing employable education and enriching the teachers at all levels. He visualizes that the whole purpose of education in a country like India is to develop and enhance potential of our human resources and progressively transform into a Knowledge Society. According to him, the prime aim of education should be to provide quality education with value system and provide ‘Creative Learning Environment’, at primary level all over India. He says that secondary education should provide the confidence and the capabilities in children to start their own small enterprise or go for higher education or research. According to Dr. Kalam, education has a comprehensive aim still it can be defined in following statements. These are -

- “Education system should retain the smiles on the faces of our children.”
- “The goal of education is to create an enlightened society.”
- “Focus of the education system should be to train students to become autonomous learners.”
- “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 the confidence among the students is the spirit of ‘We can do it.’”

• “Primary education should focus on triggering the creativity of the children.”

• “Education should be imparted with a view to the type of society that we wish to build”

• “The purpose of teaching is to create nation building capacities in students.”

• “Real education enhances the dignity of a human being and increases him or her-self respect.”

• “Real education is one that makes people think about what they can do for the nation.”

4.1.3 THE CURRICULUM:

The curriculum is the heart of schooling, in the education process. All resources available at school, for example the school building, equipment, various varieties of instructional materials including books in the library exist for just one purpose- for supporting effective implementation of the curriculum. The entire set of classroom activities, the co-curricular programmes as well as the entire evaluation schedule flow from the school curriculum. Dr. Kalam also visualizes that there is the need for a strategy that could make education more attractive, skill oriented and employment generating. He suggests that the syllabus should be structured in such a manner that it should meet changing societal needs, fulfill the needs of the occupation and inculcate high moral values among students in addition to learning skills. He emphasizes that the
education system is concentrating to build the curriculum which will emphasis the convergence of technologies and remove the inter-disciplinary barriers.

Dr. Kalam stresses on a flexible and creative curriculum having the freedom for innovation and self-expression. Regarding curriculum he has given some thoughts and ideas at each and every level of education but he especially gave preference to the curriculum at primary level. Some educational thoughts and ideas for curriculum designing and content of Dr. Kalam stated here are as follows –

- “Educational institutions have to gear up to evolve a curriculum that is sensitive to social and technological needs of a Developed India. Student’s activities towards developmental mission should be seamlessly integrated with the existing curriculum so that the future members of the knowledge society are fully developed in all aspect of societal transformation.”
- “A school must provide an opportunity for developing a multifaceted personality of the students, such as proficiency in games, debating, entrepreneurship, development of cultural values, and so on and these activities must become part of the school curriculum.”
- “Creativity in the education system can be promoted by reducing the theoretical burden at primary level, progressively increasing it at the secondary level, and finally leading to higher level teaching and creation of self-reliance among students to undertake entrepreneurship and be employment generators rather than employment seekers.”
• “At the primary stage, education must nurture the child’s curiosity about the environment and integrate the thinking process with the skill of hand, limb and body. Primary education needs revamping of the syllabus, the teaching methods and the examination system, so that the children’s creativity is kindled and allowed to grow. Emphasis should be on exploration, innovativeness and creativity through activities. At the secondary stage emphasis should be on experiments, problem solving and team work.”

• “The focus is on gender-sensitive curricula and creating materials for literacy, numeric ability, knowledge, attitude, skills for life and learning process.”

4.1.4 TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam proposed the frame work for the future education for the country by converging science and technology with spirituality. He stresses on Practical education i.e. teaching with practical examples related to our lives and surroundings and by sharing experiences and learning by doing. He suggests a strategy to deal with professional problem by knowledge and say, when we start our career, and each time we encounter a new situation, try to find the most innovative way of addressing that situation instead of going along the beaten path. This will result in incremental knowledge leads to lifelong learning. In this process, unlearning is also a necessary type of learning. He believes that learning is a lifelong process. He stresses on questioning method. He says that teacher should encourage the students to ask questions and develop the spirit of enquiry. Dr. Kalam said that the way to impart education is as important as the
content of the lesson. He always stressed on imparting theoretical topics covered with live and practical examples to be well and easily understood and retained for a longer period. In relation to teaching methodology some educational thoughts and ideas of Dr. Kalam are stated below -

- “Classroom teaching cannot be substituted by distance education.

- “The role of teacher is vital up to secondary education. Tele education can be used to enrich the content of higher education.”

- “Give one hour a day exclusively for book reading and in a few years you will become a knowledge centre.”

**4.1.5 DISCIPLINE:**

Realists emphasize moral and religious education of the child. For this type of education discipline is essential. They advocate self-discipline to effect smooth adjustment of the child with external environment. According to Comenius the school should be like the lap of mother full of affection, love and sympathy. In short, Realists advocate a synthetic form of impressionistic and emancipatory forms of discipline. On the other hand Pragmatism does not believe in external discipline enforced by the superior authority of the teacher from the cooperative context of shared activity. It supplements discipline with greater freedom of activity. They feel that discipline which is based on the principal of child’s activities and needs is beneficial. They want that the interest of the child should be aroused, sustained and satisfied.

Dr. Kalam believes in the purposeful co-operative activities carried in a free and
happy environment and control comes with the fellow mates. In pragmatism there is no place for rewards and punishments, as every activity is to be pursued in a social setting where teacher should come down to the level of children, mix with them, and share their interests, and participate in their activities. Dr. Kalam had shared his past experiences with his teachers who became the role model for Kalam in his book ‘Wings of Fire’ 1999. The modern concept of self-discipline is leading to natural obedience.

Dr. Kalam always paid attention to the ideas of his colleagues. He never attempted to impose his ideas upon them. He would maintain discipline and mutual understanding in his team and was friendly with all his colleagues. Because of his quality Kalam was a favourite among his colleagues. He has been totally dedicated to his work throughout his life and work has been his companion.

By analyzing his life incidents and happenings, the researcher has come to know that Dr. Kalam is a self-disciplined person. He had a disciplined life and routine from his very childhood. His father was also much disciplined and Kalam learnt from him to lead a disciplined life and its value. Dr. Kalam says that discipline is the only way to succeed. According to him whatever we do, we must put our 100 percent sincere effort to complete the same. He said that dedication, determination and discipline lead to success. He said-

- “My father was my first teacher who taught me discipline and values of life.”
- "I inherited honesty and self-discipline from my father; from my mother, I
inherited faith in goodness and deep kindness as did my three brothers and sisters."

- ‘What separates the human from other animals is intellect, the faculty of reason, which developed slowly over the four million years or more of human development. The intellect developed as a control over instincts to provide adaptable behavior. Over countless generations, the human being has been nurtured by Nature to modify any behavior that would normally be instinctive to one that would provide optimum benefit. This process may be called self-control or self-discipline, and is the major difference between the human beings and the lower order animals, those that apply only instincts to their behavioural decisions. Self-discipline, therefore, is the measuring stick of the human. The more he becomes like the lower order animals.’

4.1.6 EVALUATION:

- “Marks are a mere indicator of the knowledge gained in a particular subject and it is not a measure of character. Good marks must be complemented by good moral values and behaviour for your development as a responsible citizen.”

- “I have always considered ‘the Price of Perfection’ prohibitive and allowed mistakes as a part of the learning process.”

4.1.7 ROLE OF TEACHER:

Dr. Kalam says that the teacher has got a tremendous responsibility to transform a child into a leader. He/she puts his/her efforts for the transformation of ‘what can you do for me’ to ‘what can I do for you’. That will demand a Teacher to be
a visionary with an inspiring capability. Also the teacher has to ensure that you impart learning to the children in such a way as to bring out the best in them and for this, he or she has to be a good teacher himself. According to him teacher should not teach theory and practical of the subject but they must provide a good grounding on the civilization heritage and value system of the society. Kalam believes that the best of creativity among the students will emerge by integrated influence of teachers, and parents and the conduct of the teacher inside and outside of the school should become a great message to the student in shaping their career. He said that the teacher has to fill his or her mind with great thoughts and spread the nobility in thinking and action. He visualizes that to enable development of youth, the teachers love for teaching is essential. He suggested that the teacher should encourage the students to ask questions and develop the spirit of enquiry, so that they blossom into creative enlightened citizens. He visualizes that to enable development of youth, the teachers love for teaching is essential. He suggested that the teacher should encourage the students to ask questions and develop the spirit of enquiry, so that they blossom into creative enlightened citizens.

The teacher’s control of learning is indirect rather than direct. As a resource person, a teacher needs to be non-interfering and allow students to make errors and to experience the consequences of their actions. In this way, he/she helps the students to become self-directed persons, who are named as Autonomous Learners by Dr. Kalam. His whole life is influenced by his teachers from the very beginning of his student life. He
regards his teachers and gives all the credit of his success to his teachers. He says that his teachers were the only guide to design his career. He himself wanted to be a good teacher instead of a scientist or a national leader. He loves his teaching profession as the most and interacting youth and teachers to promote science based education and role of teachers in producing students possessing values and self-confidence to be empowered citizen of the nation.

According to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam the school must have the best teachers who have the ability to teach and build moral qualities; because a student spends 25,000 hours in the school campus, having such competent, good character and dedicated teachers an Institution becomes great. Dr. Kalam says that teacher should be role model for their students. They mold the lives that they influence and lesson learned from the teacher remain with their students throughout the life. He quotes that-

- “Teachers should be the best mind in the country.”
- “A teacher’s life lights many lamps.”
- “The role of the teacher is like the proverbial ‘ladder’-it is used by everyone to climb up in life- but the ladder stays in its place.”
- “Learning needs freedom to think and freedom to imagine, and both have to be facilitated by the teacher.”
- “Teacher has a great mission to ignite the minds of the youth.
- “Teachers are the back bone of the country, the pillar upon which all the aspirations are converted into realities.”
• “A good teacher with meticulous planning prepares himself for teaching and the students for acquisition of knowledge.”

• “Teachers must be perpetual seekers of intellectual integrity and universal compassion.”

• “A teacher has to create a lifelong autonomous learner.”

4.1.8 ROLE OF STUDENT:

Dr. Kalam believes that the role of student is very important, as initially student is a receiver and a giver later on. So, students should realize their responsibility towards their family as well as their nation. Students should contribute the best to them by initiating as a leader, whether in case of family progress or for national development.

According to Dr. Kalam, student is as responsible as teacher in shaping his/her career and maintain peace inside as well as outside the school or college. Student should pay regards to his/her teachers and has healthy teacher- pupil relationship by sharing problems and creative ideas. To succeed in achieving targets, a student has a predefined goal and he should follow the guided steps given by his/her teacher only then he/she will get assured success. Thus discipline, determination and devotion are necessary for a student to fulfill his/her dream. The following statements of Dr. Kalam show the role of a student to some extent. These are -

• “It is not disgrace not to reach the stars, but it is a disgrace to have no stars to reach.”
• He himself is a live illustration of the above quote. As he was an average student and sometimes be seated on back benches of his class due to caste discrimination imposed by his teacher in his schooling period. But he never gave up and his constant efforts to learn make him such a great president and scientist of world fame. He says that it doesn’t matter who you are if you have a vision and determination to achieve that vision through constant acquisition of knowledge, you will certainly realize. It means student should put their constant and determined efforts to accomplish their life target and transform their dreams into realities.

4.1.9 ROLE OF SCHOOL:

Kalam says that the school is the place where a child learns discipline. Whether it is regarding his/her self-conduct or his/her scheduled activities. Here a student also learns to behave in proper manner with his/her teachers and his/her classmates and shapes his/her character by his/her own in a social environment provided by a school. According to Dr. Kalam a school is a place where a student can learn, share, create, innovate and solve. Thus school does not mean with a big infrastructure or building having various facilities rather it has good teacher and good social environment and freedom to explore. Further, Dr. Kalam says -

• “School must move from being educational centers to becoming knowledge and skill centers.”

• “School must provide mission oriented learning with value system.”
According to Kalam the prime learning period for a child is from six to seventeen years of age. Hence, the school hours for children are the best time for learning, and they need the best environment and mission-oriented learning with a value based education system.

4.1.10 ROLE OF BOOKS:

According to Dr. Kalam that to achieve aims of life and of education, text-books are of great importance and value. As curriculum is powerfully influenced by the philosophy of times, so also the text-books are affected by the prevailing philosophy of the day. Since, text-books contain matter which reflects the ideology, ideals and values of society, the government should keep an eye on the production of desirable books for the children. For this, great books as well as really standard books of utility for children should be made available and undesirable books should be discouraged and banned from production and circulation.

Dr. Kalam says that books are our friend who never leaves our company. Books act as a guide and adviser in our difficult times. Knowledge gained through book reading cannot be replaced by internet surfing. Both the things have equal importance in modern time. Thus, Kalam has some special ideas towards collection of great books, book reading habit and role of books in the life of a person whether he/she is a student or a professional. He says that many a times, books are born before us; guide us during our life journey and continue for many generations. He says that people should make it a habit to give a book
as gift especially to youth. These actions will enrich our youth and assist them in transforming our society into a knowledge society. He believes that every successful person had a mentor the mentor sometimes becomes a real teacher, and many a time great books. He told in many of him speeches that books were always his friends last more than fifty years; and whenever there is a problem, the book wipes away the tears based on the experience of great minds. According to Kalam-

- “A good book is a source of great knowledge and wealth for many generations.”
- “A good book is a permanent companion. Coming into contact of a good book and possessing it is an everlasting enrichment of life.”
- “Books are our eternal companions. Books gave me dreams. Dreams resulted in missions. Books help me to take up our missions confidently. Books gave me courage at the time of failures. They were for me angels and touched my heart gently at the time.”
- According to Kalam “Children and students should be encouraged to follow the advice, “Give one hour a day exclusively for book reading and you will become a knowledge centre.”

### 4.1.11 ROLE OF RESEARCH:

Dr. Kalam says that the doctoral students are the prime movers for such mission, because they can work in the cutting edge of science and technology, improve the innovation index and competitiveness index of any nation. Hence,
the work of doctoral students is an important catalyst for national development and for fulfilling the international social responsibility. Dr. Kalam has given his logical ideas about research and its role in education as well as its contribution in national growth and development.

According to Kalam, Teaching- Research each is reinforcing the other. That is, research and development in some universities has enriched the quality of teaching and quality of teaching is enriching the research and development. He suggested that a premier research institute now involves in teaching at UG level, is the symbol of Research –Teaching- Research. These unique innovative activities symbolize how the research tasks at the under graduate level education in association with the research scholars, industry and academia enriches the engineering education as a whole. For promoting research, we have to inject the culture of excellence in all our engineering education. He says that research guides must also be sincerely devoted to the concerning research work along with the researcher. They must give preference to guidance of the researcher’s work than any other personal work.

- “Good teaching emanates from Research. The teachers’ love for research and their experience in research are vital for the growth of the institution. Any institution is judged by the level and extent of the research work it accomplishes. This sets in a regenerative cycle of excellence. Experience of research leads to quality teaching and quality teaching imparted to the young in turn enriches the research.”
• “The foundation of academic research is excellence in action.”
• “Wherever, there is research intensity, it has enhanced quality teaching and the institutions have got a great name in the world of teaching. Universities and institutions from developed world with their vast experience of a century have realized the significance of research as a foundation for the university and institution. This is one dimension. The other dimension is that the student community with research focus will most aggressively ask questions. The third dimension is that the sharp gradient and accelerated development processes can give a platform for research for sustainable development. There is a large student community in the developing countries and there is an urge for higher education. Hence, we should see how we can empower them through university to university collaboration, student-faculty interaction, lab to lab collaboration, reaching out the world class quality teaching and research through a virtual reality environment with the excellent content generated.”

4.1.12 ROLE OF SHARING EXPERIENCES:

Dr. Kalam always gives messages to the crowd by putting live examples and by sharing his past experiences as he believes that it is easy to understand a lesson by sharing the experiences. Dr. Kalam realizes that his experience is a small dot in human life, but that dot has a life and light. This light let it light many lamps. It means that by sharing experiences with others, we spread the knowledge.
4.1.13 TEACHER EDUCATION:

Dr. Kalam believes that a teacher must have sufficient knowledge to impart. He/she should update his/her knowledge to satisfy the curiosity of his/her student, knowledge hunger. And to fulfill this need of the students, teacher education is an essential element. According to Kalam, teacher education is an important aspect to be upgraded as it is an important part of educational system. He says that an educated and knowledgeable teacher can only contribute in producing good and knowledgeable students who will be the assets of our developed nation. Kalam says that -

- “A teacher is instrumental for converting many educational institutions into ‘Knowledge Society’. This transformation has an impact on removing illiteracy, upgrading the education systems at various levels for providing employable education and enriching the teachers at all levels.”
- “Teachers themselves should be lifelong learners.”
- “When a teacher is empowered with knowledge and experience good young human beings with value system emerge.”

4.1.14 DIFFERENT LEVELS OF EDUCATION:

There are some educational thoughts and ideas of Dr. Kalam, which give varied emphasis to different levels of schooling. These are -

- “Education at Primary level has to be delivered in an integrated way by great teachers through good syllabus and promoting affinity between the parents, students and the teachers”.
• “To provide quality education with value system and provide ‘Creative Learning Environment’, at primary level all over India.”

• “What child learns at home and in the school at primary stage, also play an important role in achieving excellence in their lives.”

• “Primary education should focus on triggering the creativity of the children.”

• “Secondary education should provide the confidence and the capabilities in children to start their own small enterprise or go for higher education or research.”

• “Classroom teaching cannot be substituted by distance education. The role of teacher is vital up to secondary education.”

• “Institutions of higher education should become world-class centers of excellence and partners of industry.”

4.1.15 VALUE EDUCATION:

A value is an orientation towards a whole class of goals that are considered important in one’s life. The value is labeled with the specific goals to be achieved in life. Every individual has some stable underlying values. Society establishes schools to preserve and transmit culture and value system. According to Kalam, the role of school is to develop human resource in conformity with the norms set by the society. Basic values are likely to be learned during early years. These values enter into every phase of life and include attitude towards success, competition, problem-solving, self-expression and many other areas of life. The
values also include the virtue of honesty, co-operation, obedience and the like, depending on what kinds of behaviour are reinforced in the societal institutions, such as home, family, community, school, political system etc.

Schools always exhibit the importance of values in their purposes and programs of study and most deeply desire to nurture those values in their own students. Values related to the conservation of human life should be taught in schools. And the catalyst for development of such good values is love and warmth; these can be offered only by home and school. According to Dr. Kalam that there is nothing like four value systems. Values are universal and common to all whether it is righteousness, selflessness, attitude of giving, transparency and treating everyone alike. These are the values that one must cultivate and follow.

According to Kalam-

- “See the flower, how generously it distributes perfume and honey. It gives to all, gives freely of its love and, when its work is done, it falls away quietly. Try to be like the flower, unassuming despite all its qualities.
- “From the emperor down to the common man, the cultivation of the righteous life is the foundation for all.”
- “The three key societal members who can make a difference are father, mother and teacher.”
- “Conscious is the divine light of the soul that burns within the chambers of our heart.”
- “Any country is a good as its citizens; their ethos, their values and their
character will be reflected in the country’s make-up”

- “Conscience is a great ledger where our offences are booked and registered.”
- “Corruption is an assault on the conscience.”
- “A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle.”

4.1.16 MORAL EDUCATION:

According to Dr. Kalam, moral education plays a very important role in maintaining peace at family level, society level and national level. He believed that morally healthy person always thinks positively for the welfare of his/her family, society and nation. He believes that everybody will be having a good heart but they need to develop the habit of serving needy person.

- “Teacher should develop Moral Leadership within the students. Moral leadership has two aspects. First, it requires the ability to have compelling & powerful dreams or vision of human betterment and second, the confidence to the youth to take up Entrepreneurship as an independent venture.”

- “The teacher conducting him- self or her-self in a noble way itself is a lifetime message for the students. It is essential that lectures are given by great teachers in schools and colleges, once a week for an hour on civilizational heritage and derive value system. This may be called as Moral Science Class that will elevate the young minds to love the country, to love other human beings and elevate them to higher planes. This will ensure embedding of righteousness in each citizen with eternal goodness and wholesomeness in conduct.”
4.1.17 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

As we all know that Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is a great scientist who has equal faith in God and science. He gives all the credit of his achievements and success to God who was always there in Kalam’s difficult time. According to Kalam-

- “All God's creatures are His family; and he is the most beloved of God who tries to do most good to God's creatures.”

- “God has not promised Skies always blue, Flower-strewn pathways all our life through; God has not promised Sun without rain, Joy without sorrow, Peace without pain.”

- “One of the important function of prayer, I believe is to act as a stimulus to creative ideas.”

- “Science is the best boon God has bestowed upon mankind. Science with reasoning becomes the capital of society. In whatever field we work, be it science, technology, medicine, politics, policing, theology, religion or judiciary, we have to use science in the service of the common man whose wellbeing is central to all human knowledge and endeavour.”

- “God and science both take us toward the truth and reality of life. God is important for spirituality and science is important for material progress. Both are important in life.”

- “Removing the pain is God’s Mission.”

- He believes in ‘GOD’ not in particular religion. He has faith in all the religions. He respects HUMAN-BEING, irrespective to caste, colour and creed.
• “Religions are enhancing islands, veritable oases for the soul and the spirit.
• “Religions are veritable islands. If we connect all the religions through love and compassion, we will definitely have religious harmony and lasting peace.
• “If we can connect all the islands of religions with love and compassion in a ‘garland’, we will have a prosperous India.”
• “Under developed minds normally creates differences. Developed minds create visions and differences disappear.
• “We have a number of religions. I find that religions are like orchards, but they need to be linked. Every religion preaches compassion and love. If we can transform religion into a spiritual force then we have arrived.
• “Harmony comes from tolerance. We should cultivate a sense of unity amid diversity of region, religion and language. These divisive forces should be converged as cohesive forces for bringing about peace in the society. Nation is bigger than any individual, religion or organization. If we keep this in mind and work together there will be unity among all our people.”
• “A borderless society with no divisions of caste and community can only arise from borderless minds.”
• ‘The search for God was abandoned and humanity pressed forward on a new road called need. At the end of this road lay power and wealth. Those who did not desire these things and chose to search for something greater were blinded by religion and forced to believe in a God of man’s own creation - a God personified with the best and worst of human traits and emotions. This was a
God who was capable of love, but was equally capable of hate, judgment, condemnation, need and desire.’

- ‘Worship is one of the fundamental drives of life. When people visit a place of worship, their minds rise over instincts, converging towards the divine as thanksgiving or as prayer to God. In turn their minds are conditioned to serve God in whatever form possible. True worship does not deal with what we do with our bodies (singing, kneeling or praying), but consists of who we are, what our heart is feeling and we can give to the needy’.

- ‘The essential equality of all people is supported by the doctrines of monotheistic faiths, that God is the parent of all humanity. In Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Confucianism, this equality is grounded in the fact that Enlightenment, unity with the Absolute, or the realization of Goodness is available to all universally. Distinction among people, therefore, should be based only on their conduct, morality, level of spiritual education, and attainment.’

- Religion has two components, theology and spirituality. Even though theology is unique to every religion, the spiritual component spreads the value to be inculcated by human beings for promoting a good life and the welfare of the society, even while pursuing a material life.

- The spiritual goal of any religion is indeed an individual free of violence in mind and body, which leads to a peaceful society. Removal of society is one of the components for realizing peace.
4.1.18 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:

Kalam's belief in the power of science to resolve society's problems and his views of these problems as a result of inefficient distribution of resources is modernistic. He also sees science and technology as ideology-free areas and emphasizes the cultivation of scientific temper and entrepreneurial drive. APJ Abdul Kalam views on certain issues have been espoused by him in his book *India 2020* where he strongly advocates an action plan to develop India into a knowledge superpower and into a developed nation by the year 2020. Kalam is credited with the view that India ought to take a more assertive stance in international relations; he regards his work on India's nuclear weapons program as a way to assert India's place as a future superpower. He says that-

- “Science was my favourite subject. It enabled me to understand how certain phenomena occur in nature.”
- “Science is the only way man can progress fast.”
- “Science is the process of using one’s brain to find answers to the phenomena around us and technology is the process of using science to develop ways to answer those questions.”
- “Science and technology leads to development and that in turn has at times damaged our environment. But let us not forget that the solutions to this problem will also be provided by science and technology.”
- “Science with reasoning becomes the capital of society. In whatever field we work, be it science, technology, medicine, politics, policing, theology, religion
or wellbeing is central to all human knowledge and endeavour.”

- “Science is all about asking questions and finding the right answers through hard work and research into laws of nature. It is a fascinating subject and students get attracted to science if there are scientific problems which triggers their curiosity, are practically relevant, and are beautiful to pursue; and the teachers are good role models. The solution to scientific problem is universal and does not depend on the country you live in because science and scientific pursuits are borderless.”

- “Science was born and survives only through questions. The whole foundation of science is questioning. And as parents and teachers know well children are the source of unending questions. Hence, child is the first scientist.”

- “Scientists should become “civic scientists” and ensure that the results of science reach the common man. If this is constantly done and the people see the impact of science on their day-to-day life, a scientific temper will definitely flow.”

- “Science is innocent. It is certainly not a bane. It is how science is used by man that makes it a blessing or a curse. For example nuclear energy can be used for generation of electricity and also for making bombs. Fertilizers can be used in agriculture to improve the yield while the same chemicals can also be used in chemical weapons.”

- “Science leads to technology and the leaders in the society decide how to use that technology.”
“The convergence of science and technology with spirituality is touted to be the future for both science and technology, and spirituality.”

“The science that we work with today must have the innovativeness, foresight and the vision for it to be the centre of technology that we develop tomorrow.”

4.1.19 WOMEN EDUCATION:

Dr. Kalam always gives equal preference to both, boys and girls not only for educational context but in all the fields of life also.

Dr. Kalam says that for “empowering women education has to be given the highest priority. There is a need to ensure the continuity of secondary education and university education for girls, and distance education packages have to be evolved 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 seek either self-employment or employment in establishments. This has to be done keeping in mind the aptitude of the girl and the need for such skills as required for a particular occupation. The emphasis should be on making every woman educated and economically self-dependent as early as possible.”

“If mother is happy, the entire family is happy. If all the families are happy, the society will be healthy. If the society is healthy, the country will be strong and vibrant.”

“When women are empowered, a society with stability is assured. Gone are the days when women were considered subservient or secondary in almost all
walks of life compared to men. It has now amply been proved that women are capable of executing any job as efficiently as men, if not more so.”

- “Women are shining in every field.”
- “Every organization has to be made aware that there is no difference between men and women.”
- “Women are equal partners in national development.”

4.1.20 INCLUSIVE EDUCATION:

- Dr. Kalam has deep concern for children and youth. He proposed some ways to handle special children in reference to their education. He has also given some valuable suggestions to the parents and teacher to cope with the problems of special children. Thus, Dr. Kalam says that -
- “He considers ‘Innovative recovery of a child’, as a tool to deal with special children and youth regarding education.’
- “The parents should admit the child with learning disabilities in an appropriate school without waiting for many years. Also there is a need for training large number of teachers who can handle special children and be posted to regular schools. This will at-least enable early recognition of abnormality leading to admission of the child in the right atmosphere for treatment and training. I am sure, the educators of special children will make note of this message and take action to propagate among the parents, teachers and the trainers, so that the special children are dealt within a proper manner without undue worry for the parents, teachers and the community.”
"Any disability increases dependence on others and reduces the self-esteem of the individual". Education has to propel and give thrust on building self-esteem among the special child. Researchers must direct their efforts in bringing about a sense of equality amongst special children. Equality can be generated by prevention, early detection, appropriate training to acquire certain skills and engaging the minds of affected children in productive efforts to enable them to lead a normal life. I am sure that such collective action will bring smiles to the faces of special children, their parents and light the lamp of happiness in their family."

“While we are finding scientific and training solution for early diagnosis and cure of many types of disabilities, I would like to suggest to the teachers, parents to recite the poem, along with the children every night before going to sleep in their mother tongue.”-

‘Deliver me from fear

    I am not alone,

    God is always with me.

    If God is for me,

    Who can be against?

    I sought the Lord, He heard me,

    Delivered me from all fears.

    Divine cure and divine light penetrated into me

    And cured my pain in body and soul.
Divine beauty enters into me,
And blossoms into happiness.

When God is for me, who can be against?’

This song can strengthen the mind and body of a child and provide good feelings to the parents and care givers. Every special child is a spiritual challenge to the family. We should find the purpose of our life in supporting the life of a special child, thus making the child’s life purposeful.”

Thus, Dr. Kalam believes that special children need personal attention, love, affection, care and moral support from their families, peer groups and teachers along with inclusive education.

4.1.21 EDUCATION FOR DEPRIVED ONES:

According to Dr. Kalam

- “I 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. It could perhaps help such children liberate themselves from the bondage of their illusory backwardness and hopelessness.”

- “The lack of educational opportunities and their quality of life perpetuates their poverty. Non-availability of preventive health care further weakens their bodies and therefore their capabilities. Can we break this vicious cycle? Indians should be provided access to first-rate education and prevalent methods of village schools or other schools and institutes in town and cities. We need to create
clusters of villages with excellent internal connectivity through roads and communications which is also linked to nearby urban centers. These rural clusters would have quality centers of education, and health support facilities. People can easily commute between the village and acquire the best skills and education. Their access to well-equipped health care centers will be the necessity. These centers would have the knowledge base to advise them on preventive health care methods. The teachers or medical personnel in these quality centers would also have access to other experts in India and even abroad through communication connectivity."

4.1.22 PEACE EDUCATION:

Dr. Kalam stressed on peace education. There is a uniqueness in his idea of peace. He believes that peace can be sustained through woman empowerment. Since woman of the nation is satisfied and empowered with education, the whole nation will become strong and peaceful. He also stresses on moral education through which he wants to develop righteousness in the hearts of everyone and develop strong social and emotional bond among them. This will increase understanding among one other and leads to sustained peaceful nation. According to Dr. Kalam –

- “The seed of peace in the world have their origin in the Righteousness in the heart of every individual. Such Righteous Citizens lead to the evolution of Enlightened Society.”
- Dr. Kalam wrote in his book ‘Governance for growth in India’ that India should
only work towards bringing sustainable peace and prosperity within its borders but also among its neighbours. India is the second largest democratic nation in the world and its democratic values have been tested for more than six decades. If Vision 2020 has to reap all the benefits of development, India has to see that all its neighbours, particularly the SAARC nations, have attained the peace and prosperity under the democratic system. Otherwise cross border Terrorism, Naxalism and Maoism will continue to threaten the very process of sustaining peace and prosperity. It is the responsibility of India to bring peace and prosperity in the subcontinent through democracy.

- “Indeed most countries, societies, corporate and Government should innovate to differentiate between the better and the best. They should innovate to become the best in whatever pursuit they have chosen. The differentiation may at times lead to economic divide and possibly a digital divide. The benefits of innovate to differentiate must also be used effectively to integrate to bridge any divide that may due to the gaps in digital information, economic criterion and geography. That is why we should innovate to differentiate and also “innovate to Integrate” so that we will have a prosperous, happy and peaceful world which has all the technologies and processes that man had ever invented at its command.”

- “Music and dance can be used as an instrument for ensuring global peace and act as a binding force.”

- “Music and dance elevate you to a different plane altogether and give you a breeze of happiness and peace. Music and dance can emanate only when the
artists themselves are at peace and in a happy state of mind. In this state they become an elegant example of propagators of peace and happiness.”

- “Music penetrates into the soul and spreads happiness and kindness”.

4.2 UNIQUENESS OF EDUCATIONAL IDEAS OF DR. APJ ABDUL KALAM-

- **GOOD HUMAN BEING:**
  
  According to Dr. Kalam, Hard work and spirituality combined with scientific temper will make us a good human being.

- **GREAT BOOKS IGNITE IMAGINATION:**
  
  Kalam says that books are as essential as teacher in the class. As great teachers provide great knowledge and guidance, the books also play the same role in the life of a learner. He believes-

  ‘Great books ignite imagination,

  Imagination leads to creativity,

  Creativity blossoms thinking,

  Thinking provides knowledge,

  Knowledge makes you great.’

‘Books are our companions coming into contact with a good book and possessing it, is indeed an everlasting enrichment of life. Good books become a life-long companion. Many a times, they are born before us; guide us during our life journey and continue for many generations.’ Kalam said.

Whenever there is a problem, the book wipes away the tears based on the
experience of great minds. When the happiness overwhelms you, the book again softly touches the mind and brings about a balanced thinking. Books are eternal.

- **CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN SCIENCE AND SPIRITUALITY:**

  Dr. Kalam established a unique connection between science and spirituality. He gives all credits of his performances to God primarily then to any other. He believes that God is creator of everything. He said that God has given man the faculty to think. He has commanded His creation to use the faculty to reach His image; this is the mission of human life. Further he said that Science is the recent boon God has bestowed upon mankind. Science with reasoning becomes the capital of the society. Spirituality is a special quality God has given us. Our duty is to discover it and use it for the benefits of all.

  Every religion has a central component-spirituality driven by compassion and love. Rationality and logic are intrinsic to science and spirituality. A spiritual experience is the goal of a deeply religious person whereas a major discovery or an invention is the goal of a scientific mind. If both the aspects are unified and amalgamated in our own patterns, we can transcend to a level of thinking in which unity is a cohesive concept. For this environment, the two major components-science and spirituality-have to interact. A peace prayer can be the foundation for both.
‘Peace Prayer’

‘Oh Almighty, create thoughts and actions in the minds of the people of the nation so that they live united.

Oh Almighty, bless the people to take the path of life with righteousness gives the strength of character.

Help all religious leader of the country to give strength to the people to combat the divisive forces.

Guide the people to develop an attitude to appreciate different viewpoints and ways to lives and transform enmity among individuals, organizations and nations into friendliness and harmony.

Embed the thought ‘Nation is bigger than the individual’ in the minds of the leaders and people.

Oh God, bless the people to work with perseverance to transform a country into a peaceful and prosperous nation.’

According to Kalam, Spirituality is a thought to pertain to the ultimate meaning and purpose of life. Each individual needs to find meaning and purpose in life and define a value system in which to operate. Spiritual wellness is achieved as each person’s action become more consistent with their values and their belief system.

❖ CREATIVE CLASSROOM:

According to Dr. Kalam, Classroom environment is also related to pupil’s active participation in learning process. Many organizational factors such as direction,
feedback, communication, interpersonal relations between the teacher and the students, freedom for expression, creation and innovation etc. create a proper learning atmosphere. Beside all these features for creative classroom, a certain degree of calm, quite and comfort is necessary for the teacher’s as well as student’s mental health. According to Dr. Kalam, innovative methods and use of audio-visual media are the best way to seek attention of the students; and by using locally available resources a teacher can covert a theory class to a laboratory. Thus, creative classroom is the best way to enhance pupil participation by introducing inductive teaching techniques such as group activities, project method, exposure to the nature, and tours and travelling out of the classroom to understanding the theoretical concepts.

Creative classroom can be made by adopting different innovative methods to make the class dynamic and creative. A classroom can become a laboratory by showing live examples and demonstrations to seek more attention of the students. This teaching method definitely will produce permanent learning. Realists regard school as a mirror of society reflecting its true teaching. Realists emphasize the importance of school and class teaching. According to them the school is an agency which meets the needs of the child and the demands of the society as well. In short the school is not only has the provision for fullest development of the child but also provide vocational education to prepare the child for some livelihood. In the words of Comenius “Schools are true foregoing places of men.”
Realistic ideology has changed the organizational pattern of school. Now, they are becoming centres of joyful activities, practical engagements and interesting experiments. All children show eagerness to such schools and classes. Like concept of ‘Creative Classroom’ of Dr. Kalam.-

- Creating an appropriate classroom for better learning
- Designing learner-centered activities
- Explaining, illustrating and questioning
- Providing motivation and positive reinforcement
- Opportunity for expression, creation and innovation
- Getting feedback from the students,
- Evaluating student’s learning

The educational philosophy of Dr. Kalam also has some other unique concepts which are scientific, logical and easily applicable in our lives.

❖ SCIENTIFIC MAGNANIMITY:

- Dr. Kalam says, “If we aspire to achieve great things in life, we need Scientific Magnanimity to focus the young achievers. It is my experience that great mind and great heart go together. This scientific magnanimity will motivate the scientific community and nurture the team spirit”.

- Scientific magnanimity is important for the growth of science.

❖ HOME LIBRARY:

Kalam says that to allocate at-least one hour in a day for reading quality books will enrich them with knowledge to empower the children and see them grow as
great children. Dr. Kalam also suggests all the parents to start a small library in their own houses with approximately 20 books to begin with. This library should particularly have 10 children’s books, so that the children in the house can also cultivate reading habits at an early age looking at the parents reading quality books.

He administered the following oath to the parents:

- Today onwards, I will start a home library with 20 books and out of which ten books will be children books.
- My daughter and son will enlarge this home library with 200 books.
- My grandchildren will lead a great home library to 2000 books.
- I consider our library is lifelong treasure and precious property of our family.
- We will spend at-least one hour at home library to study along with our family members.

Thus, according to Kalam, Home library is the greatest wealth than any other wealth. Reading habit for one hour each day in the home library will transform into great teachers, great leaders, great intellectuals, great engineers, and great scientists. He says that Home Library will enable the entire family to discuss common topics during dinner time every day. Apart from enriching the knowledge of every family member this reading habit creates a healthy discussion among the family members which is essential for the sustained harmony of the entire family.
AN AIM AT RIGHT AGE:

According to Dr. Kalam, a mentor is needed for a child at early stage of his/her schooling to show the path for his/her future career. He says that “For me, it was not merely an understanding of how a bird flies. The bird's flight entered into me and created a special feeling. From that evening, I thought that my future study has to be with reference to flight and flight systems. I am saying this because my teacher's teaching and the event that I witnessed decided my future career. When I went to engineering in Madras Institute of Technology, I took Aeronautical Engineering. Thus, my life was transformed as a rocket engineer, aerospace engineer and technologist. That one incident of my teacher’s teaching the lesson, showing the visual live example proved to be a turning point in my life which eventually shaped my profession.”

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam gives all the credit of future planning of his career as an aerospace engineer to his primary school teacher and emphasizes the role of teacher in shaping the career of a student.

AUTONOMOUS LEARNER:

Kalam believes that learning is a lifelong process and it comes with determination, devotion and discipline. He says that self-motivation is necessary for learning. According to him-

- “It assumes learner’s willingness to take greater responsibility for his/her learning. It can be described as education based on learner’s needs, their interests and their preferred styles of learning. Any technique of learning, which is
regulated and directed by the individual learner, leads to self-learning. Self-learning is a very important feature of human learning. It has been seen that when children self-learn, they are totally engrossed in it and display very high level of motivation. The Chinese proverb: “Nothing can be taught; everything can be learnt”. He says that-

- “All incidental learning in life can be easily understood in terms of self-learning. Self-learning also comes from experiences. In order to make self-learning more effective, it must be planned, organized and based on self-evaluation”.

Dr. Kalam wants to produce autonomous learners who have self-motivation to learn.

❖ DYNAMICS OF SMILE:

According to Dr. Kalam “When we see a child, we see the innocent smile of the child. When we come across the child in the Primary School, the smile is reduced, since the child has to carry a heavy school bag. When we see the child in their teens, their smile slowly fades away and the sign of concern appears. This is because of the anxiety about the future. When they complete their education, the question uppermost in their mind is, what will I do after my education? Will I get an employment? Will I get a proper employment? Can the teachers see this dynamics of smiles of the child and preserve the smile in their faces when they complete their school education. The students should be confident that “I can do it”. The students should have the self-esteem and the capability to become employment generator rather being an employment seeker.
This transformation can only be brought about by a teacher who has a vision to transform, who has the ability to take risk against all challenges, who is a good listener, who is a good innovator, who maintains a cordial inter-personal or intrapersonal relationship and who has the ability to carry the parents, community, media and the teachers for accomplishing the vision of generating an enlightened citizen for the nation.”Kalam says that by providing the vocational training and maximum opportunities to generating self-employments, a teacher along with the whole society, including home and school, we can help the children to retain their smiles which will express the inner satisfaction of children for getting the desired employment after completing their education.

**ROLE MODEL:**

Role models can help us focus on what is correct for us as individuals, as groups and, of course, as a nation. They can also lead us to a great success. Dr. Kalam says that,

- “it will not be presumptuous enough to say that my life can be a role model for anybody; but some poor children living in an obscure place in an underprivileged social settings may find a little solace in the way my destiny has been shaped. The nation requires role models in leadership who can inspire youngsters. There is no dearth of resources and talent in this country but what we need is more creativity.”
WINGS OF FIRE:

Kalam says that, “Education gives you wings of fly. Achievement comes out of fire in our sub–conscious mind that “I will win”, “I will win”. So each one of you will have “wings of fire” to fly.”

‘Wings To Fly’

“I am born with potential.
I am born with goodness and trust.
I am born with ideas and dreams.
I am born with greatness.
I am born with confidence.
I am born with wings.
I am not meant for crawling,
So I won't, I have wings,
I will fly, fly and fly” - Kalam

“Education gives us wings to fly. Achievement comes out of fire in our sub-conscious mind that "I will win". The wings of fire will indeed lead to knowledge, which will make you to fly as a Doctor, or an Engineer, or a scientist, or a teacher, or a political leader, or a bureaucrat or a diplomat or anything you want to be.”

These, inspirational lines of Dr. Kalam gives courage and built confidence in children of the country to deal with problems of the life patiently and intelligently, and never give up before reaching to their desired targets.
AIM IN LIFE IN THE SEQUENCE:

According to Kalam-

“There are four proven steps to achieve success;

Having an aim in life before 20 years of age,

Acquiring knowledge continuously,

Hard work towards the aim and

Perseverance to defeat the problem and succeed.”

KNOWLEDGE EQUATION:

Dr. Kalam believes that knowledge acquisition is possible only through creative ideas, implemented with positive attitude and courage. This creativity should be for the welfare of self and for the society, which leads to welfare of the nation. And this is possible only though the righteousness in our hearts. According to Kalam-

- **Knowledge**
  
  Knowledge has three components. Creativity + righteousness + courage.
  
- **Creativity**
  
  "Learning gives creativity
  
  Creativity leads to thinking
  
  Thinking provides knowledge
  
  Knowledge makes you great"
• **Righteousness**

“Where there is righteousness in the heart
There is beauty in the character.
When there is beauty in the character,
There is harmony in the home.
When there is harmony in the home.
There is an order in the nation.
When there is order in the nation,
There is peace in the world.”

• **Courage**

Courage to think different,
Courage to invent,
Courage to travel into an unexplored path,
Courage to discover the impossible,
Courage to combat the problems and Succeed,
are the unique qualities of the youth.

As a youth of my nation, I will work and work with courage to achieve success
in all the missions.”

According to Kalam, there are three sources which can build a youth with
righteousness in the heart one is mother, second is father in a spiritual
environment and the third and the most important is the teacher, particularly
primary school teacher.
AN IDEAL TEACHER:

- He has been able to adopt himself to the age of the student.
- As a teacher, he makes sure that he takes maximum number of classes per week.
- He practices everything and he expects his students to do. His real life itself is a medium to the students.
- He ensures transparency in all his transactions and treats all students alike, irrespective of their religion, caste, language and economic status.
- He has a foresight and visualizes the student’s growth in long term perspective.
- During the 11 years of his tenure, Dr. Kalam has ensured that at least 2000 students who were average performers have been groomed to excel in their studies.

QUESTIONING:

Dr. Kalam believed that questioning from the students means that they want to enquire something. It means they are anxious to know about something from their elders or teachers. And to satisfy their inquisitiveness we should satisfy them by giving them proper answers. He said that questioning is a powerful technique of teaching. Through this technique, the teacher transacts a lot of learning experiences. The teacher asked questions and the responses given by the students are strengthened and elaborated. He said that questioning facilitates high order thinking skills like analysis, synthesis and evaluation in the students.

Dr. Kalam promoted questioning as a strategy for teaching-learning process to inject research, creativity and innovative attitude and questioning also be done
by the students in the class discourage hesitation in them and helps in developing confidence and leadership qualities which makes the class more interactive. Thus, it maintains the classroom interaction between the teacher and pupil and it maximizes the students’ participation in teaching-learning process. Questioning done by the students promotes initiative attitude of learners and helps in developing creative and interesting classroom atmosphere.

✓ **ENTREPRENEURSHIP:**

According to Kalam, Entrepreneurs have to produce competitive products to become successful in their missions.

Dr. Kalam is a visionary and missionary to make India Developed by generating more economically efficient conditions through vocational education. He suggested that the country’s education system should be reorganized in terms of job-orientation, work experience and development of skills and attitude that will help in self-employment rather than putting an individual on search for the job; and to accomplish such a great mission he stresses on producing entrepreneurs who initiate to contribute in national economy by creating new business ideas by using indigenous resources available within their local areas or in the country. He also says that at secondary level of education, vocational trainings must be introduced to develop entrepreneurial attitude. Kalam says that we should always be ready to walk and unexplored path.
EDUCATION THROUGH INTERACTING MASSES:

Mass education is the only way to achieve any improvement in individual as well as society. Swami Vivekanand. Swamiji exhorted his countrymen to know-
“I consider that the great national sin is the neglect of the masses, and that is one of the causes of our downfall. No amount of politics would be of any avail until the masses of India are once more well-educated, well-fed and well-cared for.”

Dr. Kalam is a person who is popular for his motivational lectures and speeches to inspire the children and youth of the whole world, to dream, create, innovate and contribute to their nation economically. According to him, interaction is the best way to pass our messages to the mass. He uses interaction of children as a tool to implement his thoughts and ideas, at national and international level.

ROLE OF GUEST SPEAKERS:

Inviting guest speakers to the classroom is another effective teaching strategy. There are number of experts whose rich experience of knowledge and skills could be made use of in instructional activities. They not only provide students the experience of the real world but also motivate them for effective learning. According to Dr. Kalam every educational institution must invite guest lecturers, especially for moral teaching classes. Sometimes, guest speakers can also serve as role models for students.

For example a freedom fighter, if invited to speak on the role of freedom fighters during the independence movement, would certainly act as role model for students. Students would, thus, learn the virtue of patriotism and mold their
character for the cause of the nation.

Guest speakers can be chosen from any discipline or from any occupation.

**ROLE OF MENTOR:**

At school age, child comes in contact with different children, participates in different activities, and interacts with different teachers when he/she goes from one class to another or one level of education to another. Thus he/she encounters a number of problems.

According to Kalam, a teacher or a mentor shows him/her the path of success and prosperity by providing the guidance at the time of need. Most of the time the teacher may help the students to planning their future career by showing the right path to accomplish their dreams. Teacher guidance may help the students by,

- understanding them as a learner.
- knowing their strengths and weaknesses in different areas (cognitive and non-cognitive)
- adjusting themselves to varied situations within their total environment.
- realizing their own potential.
- working with most capacities, interests, motivation to fulfill their needs.
- understanding the problem and solve them independently.
- developing the ability to analyze the situation and to make their decision widely.
- making their own unique contribution for welfare of the society with fullest potential.
• selecting appropriate educational and vocational courses, based on their potential.

• putting the best effort to fulfill their dream true.

Thus according to Kalam, a teacher plays various roles in his professional life, in developing a healthy personality of a student as well as in plotting the base for their career.

❖ POWER OF YOUTH:

Individual differences in attitudes are observed in students. Maturity levels, planned and random experiences, physical surroundings, extent of warmth exhibited, democracy and indulgence in home environment, schooling, playmates and exposure to media are not the same for everyone. Attitude towards cheating and stealing is different in children of different age. In the same way, adolescents differ in their attitude towards authority (teacher, principal, leader and parents) depending on the satisfaction or figure of dissatisfaction they derive during the course of their interaction with them. Dr. Kalam has interaction with children and youth of the whole world, especially high-school children. This age is considered as adolescent age, as age of stress and storm. But due to hormonal changes, adolescents are more active and curious and needs more attention. From the point of view of the researcher, Dr. Kalam’s motivational lectures and speeches and sufficient knowledge to satisfy their knowledge hunger are become the guide for children at this crucial stage of their life. He shows the right path to children and diverts their energies towards the realistic
and worthy goals of life. He tried to know about their suppressed desires and dreams and gave the logical and practical solution of their problems. Thus by interacting children, Dr. Kalam put his the best effort to convert their negative energy into positive energy and utilizes it for transforming the developing nation into developed nation. Beside the above good cause, interaction with youth and children is a passion and aim of Kalam’s life. He wanted to know their dreams and tell them, those were perfectly all right to dream of a good life, an abundant life, a life full of pleasures and comforts and work for that golden era.

❖ **GOOD HEALTH MEANS STABLE EMOTIONS:**

Dr. Kalam believes that by coming to know our powerful emotions, we can maximize peace and joy in our lives. Those who are ready to accept the world and others as they are healthier than those who resist reality.

❖ **ROLE OF EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE:**

Dr. Kalam says, “Having met and interacted with youth and families, we discuss at this point the important elements that can remove the urge in young minds for acquiring wealth through wrong means and that can cultivate in them the yearning for a higher goal. Above all, we stress the ability to enjoy the success of the others, which is indeed the highest order of emotional intelligence. Here we recommended to all the educational institutions in the nation to include in the curriculum the following oath for all students up to the age of seventeen.
AN OATH OF EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE BY THE YOUTH:

- I realize I have to set a goal in my life. To achieve the goal, I will acquire the knowledge, I will work hard, and when the problem occurs, I have to defeat the problem and succeed.

- As a youth of my nation, I will work and work with courage to achieve success in all my tasks and enjoy the success of others.

- I shall always keep myself, my home, my surroundings, neighbourhood and environment clean and tidy.

- I realize righteousness in the heart leads to beauty in the character, beauty in the character brings harmony in the home, harmony in the home leads to order in the nation and order in the nation leads to peace in the world.

- If imbibed from a young age, this oath will help the growth of a righteous mind in the youth, steer them towards a purposeful life, and remove all the stresses, thereby building future citizens with healthy mind and bodies.

CONCEPT OF TOLERANCE EDUCATION:

According to Kalam, Education is the most effective means of preventing intolerance. The first step in ‘tolerance education’ should be to teach people what their shared rights and freedom are, so that they may be respected, and to promote the will to protect those of others. Education for tolerance should be considered as an urgent imperative. It is necessary to promote systematic and rational tolerance teaching methods to address the cultural, social, economic, political, and religious sources of intolerance. Education policies and programs
should contribute to the development of understanding, solidarity and tolerance among individuals as well as among ethnic, social, cultural, religious, and linguistic groups. Education for tolerance should also aim at countering influences that lead to fear and exclusion of others, and should help young people to develop capacities for independent judgment, critical thinking and ethical reasoning.

**GARLAND PROJECT:**

Dr. Kalam visualized a beautiful strategy to unite all religions and to resolve all inter-religious conflict in the country. As we all know that ‘unity in diversity’ is the beauty as well as strength of our country and to get sustained peace regarding inter-religious disputes, Dr. Kalam suggested an idea to deal with it. According to Dr. Kalam,

‘As man lives in the materialistic world, he searches for solutions to his problems only in the materialistic world. However, the fact is that the root of the problem is not matter, nor does it lie in the external world. It lies within us, in our passions that distort our worldview and conduct. What is needed is that we should investigate the root cause and find solutions—both inside and outside. The external aspect of our strategy to solve a problem is the environment and the inner one is passion. Indian ideas of mind and consciousness have permeated the rest of the world through music, yoga, mind-body medicine, and spirituality. Recently India has excelled in information technology. Besides, India has demonstrated that democracy is a feasible ambition even for cultures and
societies that are not familiar with it that a large, multi-religious, multicultural society can live together as a single political unit’. To resolved inter-religious conflicts, Dr. Kalam suggested to undertake five projects and activities and named it as Garland Project. These activities are-

- Celebration of inter-religious festivals;
- Multi-religious projects;
- Education in and with the ambience of unity of religions;
- Inter-faith dialogue; and
- Creation of a national level independent and autonomous organization managed by religious and spiritual leaders as well as scholars and enlightened citizens.

Thus, Dr. Kalam’s philosophy of life as well as education has some uniqueness in their concepts child’s innate powers and potential to transform a developing nation into a developed one through proper educational guidance and amenities. He wants to motivate youth of the country to utilize their positive energy in the welfare and development of their families, societies and of course for their nations. According to Dr. Kalam that it will be possible only through enlightened citizens well equipped with knowledge power, which comes through education.