

## तेविसावी आंतरराष्ट्रीय आंतरविद्याशाखीय परिषद, पुणे

देश आणि विदेशातील विविध क्षेत्रातील पुरुष कर्तृत्वाचे योगदान The Contribution and Achievements of Men in Various Spheres at National and Internatonal Levels

संपादक

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80 स्नेहवर्धन प्रकाशन क्र : १४०८
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ல प्रकाशक आणि मुद्रक :
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डॉ. स्नेहल तावरे

स्नेहवर्धन, ८६३ सदाशिव पेठ, महात्मा फुले सभागृहामागे, पुणे ४११०३०. स्थिरसंवाद : (०२०) २४४७ २५ ४९ / २४४३ ६९ ६१ भ्रमणसंवाद : ९४२३६४३१३१ / ९०७५०८१८८८ ई मेल : snehaltawre@gmail.com

80 © S.R.I.

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80 प्रथमावृत्ती : १७ डिसेंबर २०२२
२३ वी आंतरराष्ट्रीय आंतरविद्याशाखीय परिषद, पुणे
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80 मुखपृष्ठ : संतोष धोंगडे

- 80 अक्षरजुळणी व मुद्रणस्थळ : स्मिता टाइपसेटर्स, पुणे ३०
- ல ISBN 978 93 91033 52 1

वैश्विक पातळीवर विविध प्रकारच्या भूमिका यशस्वीरित्या करणाऱ्या, चैतन्यमयी असणाऱ्या, आपल्या कार्यकर्तृत्वाची मोहोर उमटविणाऱ्या **सर्व पुरुष कर्तृत्वांना**.... आदरपूर्वक सस्नेह अर्पण.

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## The Incredible Talent of India -Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

#### - D. A. Malvekar

#### Abstract -

Honourable late Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, the former president of India, was a constant source of inspiration for young India through his work, lectures, and inspirational ideas. This missile expert is well-known for his work with the DRDO and ISRO. His contributions and accomplishments at the national and international levels are the subject of the current essay.

Keywords- ISRO, DRDO, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, missile expert

He was the President of India while I was in the tenth grade. His ideas inspired us all back then and continue to do so today. His path as India's first citizen began as a newspaper boy. The honourable Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, India's president at large and the country's missile expert. He is the best illustration of effort, tenacity, and commitment.

He was a multifaceted individual. He is well recognised for the kindness he brought to the Indian presidential office. He was a polymath who was also an author, motivational speaker, poet, and musician. He was primarily a scientist with a knack for creativity and management. Dr. A.P.J. Kalam served as India's 11<sup>th</sup> president from 2002 to 2007.

In this article we will discuss about his contribution and achievements at National and International level as a scientist.

#### Childhood -

Let's briefly talk about his childhood. Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was born in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu, on October 15, 1931.

His father owned boats and served as the local mosque's imam. He ran a boat service between Rameshwaram and Dhanushkodi for Hindu pilgrims. Among his four brothers and one sister, Kalam was the youngest. Rich traders and landowners were his forebears. When their business failed, they gradually lost everything of their valuables. Kalam's family had experienced difficult times by his early years. He began selling newspapers at a young age to help his father financially.

When he was in school, Kalam received ordinary grades. He was an intelligent and diligent student.

His education was completed at Ramanathapuram's Schwartz Higher Secondary School. From Saint Joseph's College in Tiruchirappalli, he earned a degree in physics. He proceeded in 1955 to the Madras Institute of Technology to pursue a degree in aerospace engineering.

Although Kalam aspired to be a fighter pilot, he almost lost the opportunity. He joined the Defence Research & Development Service (DRDS) and began his career by creating a small hovercraft.

### Contributions of Dr. Abdul Kalam -

His following contribution gave wings to India's technological ambition:

**1.** As ISRO project director (Indian Space Research Organization)

His research allowed ISRO to create India's first indigenous satellite launch vehicle (SLV).

India became a member of the elite space club as a result.

2. Dr. Kalam served as project director for two missile projects after the SLV's commercial success. These projects were Project "Devil" and Project "Valiant." The purpose of Project Devil in the 1970s was to create a short-range surfaceto-air missile. Although it wasn't entirely successful, it eventually inspired the creation of the "Prithvi" missile.

**3.** Responsibility to develop indigenous guided missile at DRDO

Dr. Kalam was in charge of making the AGNI and

PRITHVI missiles operational.

Due to his contribution in missile technology he was named as "Missile man of India"

**4.** Pokhran nuclear test

Dr. Kalam remained the DRDO secretary and the Prime Minister's top scientific advisor from July 1992 to December 1999. In 1998, a nuclear test was conducted in Pokhran. This lead him to become famous nuclear scientist of country at that time. As a result, he rose to fame as a nuclear physicist in his native nation.

**5.** Creation of the Kalam-Raju-Stent to treat coronary artery disease

He worked with cardiologist B. Soma Raju to design a coronary stent to treat heart problems (1994). This lead to reduction in prices of imported coronary stents in our country.

They both have created the "Kalam Raju Tablet," a tough tablet PC that provides healthcare in remote places.

**6.** Participation in the nation's light combat aircraft

His area of expertise was aeronautical engineering. Dr. Kalam played a significant role in the development of India's light combat aircraft. He was the first head of state from India to pilot a fighter jet.

**7.** Driving force for Development of light weight callipers for patients with motor disabilities

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and his team spent countless hours creating orthosis callipers that are lightweight for people with mobility difficulties (weight one tenth of that available in market). These callipers made it easier to move around and walk.

**8.** Kalam began his career at DRDO by creating a small hovercraft. Kalam was in charge of creating helicopters for the Indian Army at DRDO.

**9.** He was a member of the Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR).

Kalam was a member of the rocket engineers' INCOSPAR team. They built the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station, which is today used by the ISRO to launch sounding rockets.

## Achievements of Dr. Abdul Kalam -

- 1. Dr. Kalam is a well-known person worldwide.
- 2. Nearly 40 universities, including Edinburg University and Oakland University, have awarded doctorates to Dr. Kalam.
- 3. He dedicated his entire life to improving the world through his writing, lectures, and inspirational speeches.
- 4. For his public service, he was honoured with the renowned Woodrow Wilson Award in 2008.
- 5. In October 2007, the Royal Society of the United Kingdom honoured him with the King Charles-II Medal for his contributions to science and technology.
- 6. In 2006, the father of India's missile programme travelled to Switzerland. Upon his arrival, Switzerland declared 26th May as a Science day.
- 7. In 2009, the California Institute of Technology in the United States gave him the International Von Karmen Wings Award.
- 8. In 2009, the US-based ASME foundation awarded him the Hoover Medal.
- 9. In 2007, the Royal Society of the United Kingdom awarded him the King Charles II medal.
- 10. In 2008, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore awarded him a doctorate in engineering.
- 11. He was an honorary IEEE member.
- 12. Dr. Kalam's birthday was designated "World Student Day" by the UN.

## Conclusion

Great personalities always inspires us through their thoughts and work. Dr. Kalam's thoughts are guiding to young India. He is best example of common man who climbed the stair of success with his knowledge and consistent hardwork. He always believed in the empowerment of students. Salute to this incredible personality of India.

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