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## Ilyas Khan

Research Scholar, Department  
of P.G. Studies in Education,  
K.U. Dharwad, Karnataka,  
India

## Dr. RH Naik

Research Guide and Associate  
Professor, Karnatak  
University College of  
Education, Dharwad,  
Karnataka, India

## Corresponding Author:

### Ilyas Khan

Research Scholar, Department  
of P.G. Studies in Education,  
K.U. Dharwad, Karnataka,  
India

## Dr. APJ Abdul Kalama's philosophy of education

### Ilyas Khan and Dr. RH Naik

#### Abstract

This paper is a result of Studying the Philosophy of Education of APJ Abdul Kalam. The main objective of the study is to study the Philosophy of education of APJ Abdul Kalam. The data is collected from various research journals, articles, books, speeches lectures delivered by APJ, research thesis and Websites. The data for the present study is qualitative in nature.

**Keywords:** Aims of education, curriculum of education, value education

#### Introductions

Since many centuries Philosophers, Educationists, Social reformers, Saints expressing their views about education. Lord Budha, Mahaveer, Swami Dayanand Saraswati, Swami Vivekananda, Arvind Ghosh, Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhiji, J. Krishnamurthy, Dr. Radhakrishnan, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, Dr. Zakir Hussain have given important educational implications by keeping different fields in mind. As a result by their thinking and educational work, they identified particular solution to everyone and to the educational problems of the world.

In-spite of being scientist by Profession Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam has made a pathway to social, national, spiritual and technological development by establishing educational and social thinking. During his journey of the thinking on education in the country (India) he met thousands of children, teachers, scientists, saints and visionaries and focused on their questions and problems that aroused new enthusiasm in education and patriotism. In his thinking he has covered subjects like vision of the development of the nation, science and technology, agriculture and health services., value education, moral education, spiritual education, religious education, leadership, women empowerment, children and youth education etc., APJ Abdul Kalam has broad view points, thought, creativity and thinking.

The normal curriculum of the children should job oriented through which they get job after the completion of academic carrier. APJ Abdul Kalam believes that education is the most important area in the field of service life of the trainee as it provides the required knowledge and skill to do any work. Library, laboratories with the most up-to-date information technology tools, equipment, safe drinking water, clean restrooms and a playground should all be included in the school and this can be accomplished by allocating an additional 2% to 3% of GDP. He said, Educationists should build the capacities of the spirit of inquiry, creativity, entrepreneurial and moral leadership among students and become their role model.

#### Goals of Education

i) To build character and to cultivate human values in students; ii) To inject creativity and to develop scientific attitude with spiritual foundation; iii) To improve learning capacity through ICT; iv) To build confidence to face the future; v) To ensure the creation of enlightened citizens to make the nation prosperous happy and strong; vi) To develop capacity for research and enquiry among students; v) To active innovating powers and entrepreneurship; vi) To develop moral leadership; and vii) To foster among students a sense of dignity, self-respect, and self-reliance.

#### Objectives of the Study

1. To study the concept of education as visualized by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
2. To study the Curriculum of Education as taught out by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
3. To study the educational aims and objectives as envisioned by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
4. To study the methods of teaching based on Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalama's Philosophy of Education.

### Methodology

The nature of the present study required the qualitative approach of research. Under the qualitative research approach, the present study is of Philosophical research type.

### Sample

In the present study the researcher make use of purposive sampling method that represents the philosophy of education of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

### Tools and Techniques

The tools and techniques used for collection of data for the study are;

- a. Book length surveys
- b. Content analysis

### Collection of Data

The data have been collected from various research journals, articles, books written by APJ Abdul Kalam and books on APJ Abdul Kalam, speeches, Lecturers delivered by APJ Abdul Kalam, media reports, Research theses and Websites.

### Analysis and Interpretation

1. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam has identified two fundamental ingredients of fully developed India viz. i. Universal literacy and ii. Education for all. In his opinion education will result in the creation of a large base of excellent people, who are invaluable active resource of the country.
2. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam has given a vision i.e., transforming India into a developed nation. For transformation of India into a developed nation, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, has given the following four point Formula.
  - Asking a question ‘Can the Government alone achieve this vision? Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam says we need a movement in the country for achieving the vision.
  - Igniting the minds of the people for the movement for transforming India into a developed nation;
  - Working for developing India into a developed India.
  - Learning to transact with speed. Quoting saintly poet Kabir’s wisdom “Kal Kare so Aaj Kar, Aaj Kare so Ab”, which means “What you want to do tomorrow do it today, and what you want to do today do it now”.
3. According to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam the duty of education system is enhancing students overall learning process. He believes that learning and value addition taken place through
  - Academic institutes
  - The senior inmates of the institute and
  - The teacher
4. Children are our best wealth. APJ Abdul Kalam emphasizes on the matter that each child of the nation should have enough opportunities to develop perfectly. He considers that the role of parents is very special to develop the education and civilization of child.
5. APJ Abdul Kalam emphasizes on tele-education and e-education methods to provide qualitative education in rural areas.
6. APJ Abdul Kalam said that education system should teach the students how to search their needed knowledge, education system should satisfy the hunger

of the knowledge of students, education system should not stop the students to be dreamer

7. APJ Abdul Kalam says that Education consists of honesty, peace, love, unity, prosperity of the nation, friendship, feeling for the nation, truth, non-violence, co-operation etc.
8. APJ Abdul Kalam said that the curriculum should be based on science and technology. There should be provision for expression, provision for experiencing and provision for learning by doing.
9. Development of values, humanity, discipline, religious harmony, spiritualism, creativity and faith in god must be the part of curriculum.
10. The best method of education is by imparting behaviour patterns. Teachers and parents should behave in such a way as to imbue in children acceptable. Decent morality, sowing the seeds of moral values in their minds.
11. Dr. Abdul Kalam writes that if the child misses the value education of the school campus, no government can establish a society with integrity. If the child misses this period of the learning, the nation lost an enlightened citizen.
12. Abdul Kalam says that teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, calibre and future of a country. The teacher in the school has great responsibility in shaping the character of the student especially during the adolescent periods.
13. 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 writes that education system must stifle power houses of creativity.
14. Education system should retain the smiles on the face of our children. He writes that education must build character and cultivate human value in students.
15. APJ Abdul Kalam was a great inspiration to many, especially children and always inspired them to dream big and achieve great goals in life. He expressed his thoughts on every aspect of education. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam must be placed among great educational thinkers.

### Discussion and Conclusion

An objective, reliable and valid study of the vision and wisdom of APJ Abdul Kalam concerning education clearly reveals that he is a philosopher of education par excellence. The thinking brain of APJ Kalam has produced many significant, original, creative, intelligent and constructive thoughts on education. The soft ideas, thoughts, ideals, wishes and values expressed on different aspects of education Dr. APJ Kalam needs to be channelized into the existing education with a view of restructuring the system.

The philosophical foundation of education of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam is unique, indigenous and appeals the collective consciousness of the community to establish and manage an education system, which is enviable, relevant, productive, efficient, effective, humanistic, idealistic, pragmatist, in fact eclectic in its approach.

There is a need for rightly perceiving ‘Edu-vision and wisdom of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam to re-design, improve and develop Indian education system on the bottom line of excellence.

**Educational Implications**

1. Teacher, school and parents should make the children active participants in curricular and co-curricular activities.
2. Students should be motivated to use modern technologies like computer and internet in their learning.
3. Every school should develop education system that develops creativity and constructivism in students.
4. School needs to transform into centre of knowledge and skills.

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