



Views of Leader, Leadership and Education of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

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Abstract: School is considered to be the centre of the whole education process. The whole world concentrates on this centre. The important power station of the school is a leader. The place of a leader in the school is like a wheel in a machine work of main bow in a clock. A leader means a captain. A work of the captain is to lead. A leader means a demonstrator initiator, adductor, undertaker, guide in decision-making for goal achievement and contributor.

“A desire to follow a common goal, necessity to awake others mean leadership.”

- Livingstone.

Virtues like decision-making, planning, self-confidence, competent, worry for welfare, firm nature, ability to guide, intellectuality, co-operative nature, boldness, social virtues, healthy attitude, broad heart, personality, modesty, innovative idea, physical health, ideal behavior, motivation, acceptance of leadership etc. are necessary for the leader. The present article is a result of analyzing thoughts and views depicted in Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's writings. It presents the views of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam regarding leader, leadership and its correlation with education.

Keywords: Leader, Leadership and Education

1. Introduction:

A Leader should depend on temporary solution, which is the best option in emergency. A leader should use and experiment only that technology which has been proved successful in the most of systems and he should use various tools for the technology. The motivational examination of the leader is based on three kinds of understanding:

1. An understanding of contentment in own work.
2. An understanding of power through which motivation can be gain in work-formation.
3. An understanding of positive suggestions that impress the behavior of people.

A good leader should recognize two kinds of environmental characteristics one that fulfills the needs of person and the other that creates dissatisfaction related to work.

2. Life, work and contribution:

- **A.P.J. Abdul Kalam :** A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, in full Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, (born October 15, 1931, Rameswaram, India—died July 27, 2015, Shillong),

Indian scientist and politician who played a leading role in the development of India's missile and nuclear weapons programs. He was president of India from 2002 to 2007.

- **Abdul Kalam as a missile man:** Kalam earned a degree in aeronautical engineering from the Madras Institute of Technology and in 1958 joined the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO). He soon moved to the Indian Space Research Organization, where he was project director of the SLV-III, India's first indigenously designed and produced satellite launch vehicle. Rejoining DRDO in 1982, Kalam planned the program that produced a number of successful missiles, which helped earned him the nickname 'Missile Man.' The plan called for, among other measures, increasing agricultural productivity, emphasizing technology as a vehicle for economic growth, and widening access to health care and education.
- **Presidency:** Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam served as the 11th president of India lasted from 25th July 2002 to 25th July, 2007. In 2002 India's ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) put forward Kalam to succeed outgoing President Kocheril Raman Narayanan. Kalam was nominated by the Hindu nationalist NDA even though he was Muslim, and his stature and popular appeal were such that even the main opposition party, the Indian National Congress, also proposed his candidacy. Kalam easily won the election and was sworn in as India's 11th president, a largely ceremonial post, in July 2002. He remained committed to using science and technology to transform India into a developed country.
- **Early Life and Education of Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam :** Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was born on 15th October 1931 in a Muslim family in Rameshwaram in the state of Tamil Nadu. His father's name was Jainulabdeen and he was a boat owner and the Imam of the local mosque. His mother's name was Ashiamma and she was a housewife. A P J Abdul Kalam was the youngest of four brothers and one sister in his family. Because of the poor condition of the family, A P J Abdul Kalam sold newspapers to help his family's income in the early age Kalam was an average student in getting the grades in his school education, but it is said that he was a bright and hardworking student and had a strong desire to learn. A P J Abdul Kalam completed school education from the Schwartz Higher Secondary School, Ramanathapuram, and then he completed his graduation in the subject of physics in the year 1954 from Saint Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli. Then he moved to Madras in the year 1955 and studied aerospace engineering from Madras Institute of Technology.
- **Awards and books writing:** Kalam wrote several books, including an autobiography, Wings of Fire (1999). Among his numerous awards were two of the country's highest honours, the Padma Vibhushan (1990) and the Bharat Ratna (1997).
- **Death:** Kalam travelled to Shillong to deliver a lecture on "Creating a Liable planet Earth" at the Indian Institute of Management – Shillong. At around 6:35 p.m., only five minutes into his lecture, he collapsed. He had been rushed to the nearby Bethany Hospital in a critical condition; upon arrival, he lacked a pulse or any other signs of

life. Despite being placed in the intensive care unit, Kalam was confirmed dead of a sudden cardiac arrest at 7:45 p.m.

3. Views of Leader, Leadership and Education of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam beautifully connects the ideas related to leadership with the education. He advocates the strong leadership. Education needs to turn the leadership into proper direction by developing it. He prefers the need of the development of the powerful and imaginative leadership in the fields of politics, management, religion, profession education and science. He believes that these fields create positive effect on the development of society and nation too. According to him powerful leadership means empowerment. Today our society needs such leadership by which peace, progress and prosperity are possible in the nation. There should be vision and devotion in the development of leadership. Today moral and persevering leadership is necessary. Leadership gives new direction to economic development. Attractive and lusty dreams are needed for the well-being of human life in moral leadership and there are also needed to externalize the ideas by proper work and to do activities of motivation to work properly and with well planning. Today creative leadership is necessary. Overcoming form traditional role, creative leadership works to become coach instead of commander; work to become guide instead of manager; representative instead of displayer, the person who enlightens the feeling of self-respect instead of desired person. He has clear thinking that the more the number of creative leaders increase the more the success of dreams of developed nation will more sound and become more possible. He prefers specially to increase, the competence of nation building in students in the objective of education. These competences are available from the value system obtained from knowledge, experience and cultural heritage through education. After completing education characteristics of leadership should be developed in the students. Technology enriches the knowledge; technology acquires the strength through occupation; occupation gets new managerial strength; and management becomes strong through leadership. A leader is a dreamer a co-operator and a thinker. And above all this, a special kind of characteristic moral excellence is a crown of leaders head.

We have proper resource and man power but along with this it is necessary to develop the ability of leadership in the youth. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam sees the leader as a creator of excellent organization. These kinds of leaders contribute inspiring leadership even in contradicted situations. The meaning of a good leadership is to accept the responsibility of failures and to keep team away from controversy. This leadership, analyzing the frustrations, can help the available experts of the country, in their improvement, leaders of mission to find the solutions.

According to Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam a leader should have courage to face failures and should have ability to take responsibility of failures on him, when this kind of leaders gives the whole credit of success to his followers. A good leader can see far away in the future and celebrates the success of others as festivals. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam expects these kinds of competences of leaders from the principals of the schools or colleges. These leaders need to be dreamer along with ability to provide motivation.

As a leader, the principal of the school should create an atmosphere, in which teachers provide education to the students, so that excellence comes out of them and they (teachers) must become excellent teacher themselves for this. According to Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, the excellent creativity will come out of the students only through the joint power of principal, teacher and elders. A leader of an institute goes on in the direction to change the history of the nation for preparing his fellow colleagues as leaders by empowering them. A good leader should have the ability to develop old principles in new situations with wisdom along with patience to search all possible options. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam believes that leaders should have the skills like positive thinking, discussion, adjustment with all, and decentralization of authority among others. A creative leader should be competent. This leader plays a continuous role in research and development. A good leader should have the ability to increase enthusiasm in the members of his team. This kind of leader properly admires proper person too. He admires in open and criticizes in private. First of all a leader should educate him first and become skillful; he should have modern knowledge. A leader can be free to guide his group to which he is aware about happening around him during his own time. He believes that a leader should work more than his working hours to become good and success group leader. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam considers the process of guiding as the process of continuous education.

A good leader together all the members of the team to be participant in experiences, small achievements and so on. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam sees the leaders at every stage. A leader can create the level of production ability by operating it high, providing proper institutional format and work design, accepting hard work and appreciating it. Leaders should be provided the atmosphere which motivate them and provide opportunity to express thoroughly their desires. Leaders should care to achieve the objective to work according to their individual specialty, but along with this, they should also worry for their workers. Leaders should also try to accept their workers as lovable and acceptable persons rather than mere tool to get result.

A leader should motivate and develop the relations between project team and work center. Leader and workers should accept their partnership in any work. A leader should evaluate the strength of opposite side to plan what they should need to do and how to do it. According to Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, a good leader should work keeping his co-workers in his each work; he should listen and understand their ideas carefully. A leader should never impose his desires on his co-workers. The acceptance of devotion, trust and mutual understanding is necessary in own team. The friendly behavior of leader with all is also necessary. A leader uses thorough enthusiasm to unite the people. A real leader is one whose behavior people try to imitate. The thinking of leader proves effective to unite the people for organization. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam considers the following competences necessary for educational institutions.

- Eligibility of research,
- Competence of constructive and innovation,
- Constructive transformation of knowledge,

- Skill of using higher kind of technology and
- Preserving and moral leadership.

Forgiveness provides opportunities to person to develop the skill of taking risk, to become constructive, to learn something and own strength of leadership. Real reformed leaders enlighten the feeling of pride, respect and trust in their followers by the virtue of forgiveness, and in this way, bring commitment, self-scarification, motivation and performance at higher level.

Thus, Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam advocates the good leader and leadership of leader too. He specially emphasizes on the leadership through the medium of education.

4. Educational findings:

- A.P.J. Abdul Kalam advocates the imaginative and creative leadership of youngsters. He believes that leader should have characteristics like fearlessness, courage, ethical living, non-violence, forgiveness, compassion, vision and co-operation.
- A.P.J. Abdul Kalam emphasizes that the principal of the school or college should have the ability to motivate as well as the virtue of self-realization. A role of leader is to bring out the excellence out of the teachers and children by motivating them. A P J Abdul Kalam does not like the leaders who don't worry about their followers; who uses their followers as the tool to get result; who gives less importance to the work.

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