

ANALYSIS OF DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY IN THE CONTEXT OF MODERN EDUCATION SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

In the presented research paper, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's educational philosophy has been analyzed in the context of the current education system. Today, making education strong has become most important because education is the most important aspect of social development. In this context, Abdul Kalam's educational ideas can guide us. He presented the idea of an education system which was global, through which characterful, hardworking, honest and patriotic citizens can be created. Along with this, science was given importance in his educational philosophy. His educational philosophy is a mixture of traditions and modernity. The ideas given by Abdul Kalam in the context of curriculum, moral education, women's education, scientific education have been analyzed in the presented research paper.

Keywords: A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Educational Thought and Scientific Thought.

Introduction

In the present era of development, 'Aptitude' is the most important dimension because 'Aptitude' is connected to every aspect of development. The role of 'Aptitude' in the development of any society and country cannot be denied. Therefore, it is necessary to make 'Aptitude' more capable for the use of people. 'Aptitude' should not only provide employment to the people but it should also develop the personality of the people. 'Aptitude' should be related to the history, culture and religion of the country. It should not only be related to mythology but also to modern science. Science cannot be separated from 'Aptitude' because modern development is based on science. To ensure that this science is not misused, it becomes important for 'Aptitude' to develop the personality of the people using it in the right direction. To create such 'Aptitude', it is necessary to include the thoughts of some great 'Aptitude' experts in it. Among these thinkers, the views of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam are also important. Abdul Kalam has been the former President of India. Before this, he was a scientist who enabled India to make missiles. That is why he is also known as the 'Missile Man'. Abdul Kalam was very interested in teaching children and he wanted the world to remember him not as a scientist but as a 'teacher'. In this research paper, his educational views have been evaluated in the context of current 'education'.

Review of Related Literature

The major work on Dr. Abdul Kalam was done by Jayaraman (2002). In his analysis, he said that Kalam was not only a leading scientist of India but he also presented many such ideas which are helpful in building the personality of people. Kalam's outlook was global and he wanted that education should have a combination of both personality and science. Kalam wanted to see a developed India scientifically capable and at the same time he wanted that all the citizens in this developed India should also have good character, because only character can make proper use of science.

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The second important research on Kalam was done by Sharma (2004). He said that there is a need to include Kalam's ideas in school education. Teachers should also be taught Kalam's educational philosophy during training. Today, if the teachers themselves are not aware of Kalam's thoughts, then how can they tell the children about his thoughts? With Kalam's thoughts, we can create good teachers and good students.

Objectives of the Study

- To analyse the educational philosophy of Abdul Kalam in the context of various dimensions.
- To evaluate the main dimensions of Abdul Kalam's educational philosophy.
- To analyse the relevance of Abdul Kalam's educational philosophy in the context of modern education system.

Research Questions

- What are the main features of Abdul Kalam's educational philosophy?
- How are Abdul Kalam's educational ideas relevant in current education?

Research Methodology

The present research has been done on the basis of exploratory and descriptive method. In this, qualitative facts have been analysed using secondary facts.

Sources of Data

In the present research, books written by Abdul Kalam have been analysed. Therefore, the main sources of facts are the books, speeches and letters written by him.

Limitations of the Study

The present research is limited to knowing the educational philosophy of Abdul Kalam and its current relevance.

The results of the present study are presented as follows:

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's Educational Philosophy

Concept of Education

The true meaning of education is to search for truth, this sentence is the basis of Abdul Kalam's educational philosophy. In this, the meaning of search for truth is both scientific and spiritual. Abdul Kalam wanted the students to search for themselves spiritually. In this search, their personality will develop. They will be able to recognize themselves. They will be able to ensure their contribution to the society. Along with this, the other aspect of the search for truth is scientific. In this, scientific attitude will develop in the students in the search for truth. They will be able to make new scientific discoveries in future. Due to which the scientific development of the country will take place. The citizens engaged in the search for this truth will then know the difference between good and evil. No one will be able to mislead them.

Today's current education system lacks the spiritual aspect of the search for truth. We are providing only scientific attitude to the students, but until a spiritual attitude does not develop in them, they will not be able to become virtuous. Spiritual development is more important than scientific development. Therefore, this thought of Abdul Kalam is relevant even today.

Objectives of Education

With regard to the objectives of education, Kalam said that the main objective of education is to inspire students to do research. This research is to be done to go towards the truth. This inspiration will develop character, leadership, values, spirituality in them and with this inspiration they will be able to make big scientific discoveries. The result will be that they will become job givers rather than job seekers.

Curriculum

With regard to curriculum, Abdul Kalam believed that moral values should be included in the curriculum. Along with this, innovation and entrepreneurship should also be included in it. Activities should be conducted to develop leadership, management, economic knowledge etc. for character building in students. Subjects like computer should be added to increase scientific outlook. Along with this, artistic development is also necessary in them. For this, students should be connected with painting, music, dance etc. He wanted to create such a curriculum that would inspire all-round development.

If seen in today's context, not much effort is being made for moral education. Even after school education, it is mandatory to make moral education a subject in higher education.

Moral Education

Abdul Kalam gives a lot of importance to moral education. He believes that life is incomplete without moral education. Therefore, parents and teachers should give moral education to children. Only through moral education, children will be able to recognize good and evil. Their outlook will not be selfish but global. For this, they need to turn towards spirituality and not towards trivial religion. Religion makes them fanatic, whereas through spirituality they can become comfortable in understanding all ideas. This will automatically end many problems of the country. In the present context, moral education is not being imparted. Teachers are limited to completing their course only. Parents do not have time for children. Therefore, his thoughts are relevant even in today's time.

Science Education

Abdul Kalam gives more importance to science because he understands the importance of science in development. Therefore, he wanted that students should be taught from a scientific point of view. They need to be taught subjects like nano science, space science, engineering, research on medicines, biotechnology. In today's time, students are being educated in all these fields.

Social Education

Abdul Kalam was in favor of social education. He did not want the student to become a robot. He wanted the art to remain alive within them. For this, he also wanted to impart education in arts like music, painting, dance etc. Along with this, he wanted that the students should have knowledge of every society of India. This will help them understand their country and patriotism will develop in them.

Today's education lacks facts that increase patriotism. Due to which the citizen of the country thinks only for him. The development of the country is not his goal. Therefore, Abdul Kalam's thoughts are completely relevant in today's time.

Methods of Teaching

Abdul Kalam wanted that along with traditional education, scientific approach should also be included in education. Children should be taught through excursion method. They should not only be told about the rivers but also shown to them. If they are taught through projectors, films etc., they will be able to learn quickly. His thoughts are relevant even today and the trend of teaching in this way is increasing in today's education system.

Examination Reforms

Kalam was not happy with the methods of examination. He wanted that the examination should not test the memory capacity of the children. Therefore, he wanted that open book examination should be taken. Such questions should be asked in the exams which enhance their mentality, scientific thinking, critical thinking. Even today exams are conducted in the traditional way due to which students are committing suicide due to stress. In such a situation, Abdul Kalam's thoughts related to exams seem relevant.

Role of a Teacher

The teacher is the pillar of education. Therefore, it is necessary for the teacher to be spiritual and scientific. His aim should not be to complete the syllabus but he should also focus on the personality development of the children. Kalam wanted such a teacher who develops the spirit of research in them. Who inspires the students to think in a scientific way. Kalam wanted the teacher to teach his students not like a guardian but like a friend. The teacher should include new methods in teaching. The teacher should also give knowledge to the students outside the syllabus. In today's time, his thoughts towards teachers are relevant.

Role of Parents

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam emphasizes that parents have an important role in the education of children and he stresses that parents should be aware of the need for a good education of the child. Parents should set an example for the child by their overall behavior and conduct. Parents should serve as a role model for children. Every parent should be willing to put in efforts to make children good human beings. It is rightly said that parents are the first teachers of a child. With the changing times, the role of parents is also changing drastically. They have to be more responsible in shaping the future of their children. Therefore, Dr. Kalam has rightly emphasized the role of parents in the current education system.

Conclusion

It is highly recommended that emphasis should be laid on the development of moral values through education in the most sensitive and formative time of the life of school children to make education more meaningful.

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