

VANA PREMI

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No.9

Vana Premi Wishes Happy Ganesh Chaturthi and Bakrid To All

“Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam - Vana Premies Ka Apko Akhri Salaam”
People’s President

**Special Issue on
Dr. Abdul Kalam**



**“Black Color Is Sentimentally Bad” But
“Every Black Board Makes The Students Life Bright”**
(Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam)



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Contents

1. Editorial QMK 4
2. letters to the Editor .. 8
3. Heart - Melting Poem for Mother
Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam 10
4. The Kalam I Knew
M.M. Rajendran 11
5. Moments with Abdul Kalam
M. Kamal Naidu 13
6. We Shall Not See Another APJ Abdul
 Kalam Like Our Late President 17
7. My Memoir of Meeting Dr. A.P.J. Abdul
 Kalam S.D. Mukherji 19
8. Abdul Kalam - The Ideal Citizen
 Swanthana Jayanthi and J.V. Sharma 27
9. Mahatma Kalam, Aap Ko Mera Salam
 K.B.R. Reddy 29
10. Birthday Greetings ... Secretary 32
11. None in the past (so far), (and) none in
 future (perhaps)...!
Dr. B. Raghotham Rao Desai 33
12. Office of Profit, Disqualification and
 Law Relating To Prevention of
 Disqualification K.B.R. Reddy 35
13. Our Man Kalam V.S.Joshi 37
14. A Sequel to The Poem By 'Usha Vinod
 Rajawaram...
Dr. B. Raghotham Rao Desai 38
15. Some lesser known facts about the
 popular APJ Abdul Kalam 39
16. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam - An epitome of
 "Excellence, humility and
 perseverance" V.V. Hariprasad 40
17. News and Notes 44
18. Legal Notes 48
19. స్వార్థి దాతా! విశ్వవిజేతా! కాలాం ! రాజవరం ఉషా వినోద్ 50

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**TRIBUTE To
Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam**

Vana Premees Pay

**Rich Tribute And Salute You
Sir For Your Honest, Selfless**

Work As President

**And For The Phenomenal
Contribution To Promotion of
Self-Reliance in Defense
Technologies.**

EDITORIAL

Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam - Vana Premees Ka

Apko Akhri Salam: - Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October 1931 in Rameshwaram, which was under Madras Presidency then and presently in Tamil Nadu state. His father's name was Jainulabudeen, a boat owner, and his mother Ashiamma, a housewife. His father owned a ferry that took pilgrims from Rameshwarm to now-extinct Dhanushkoti and back. Dr. Kalam came from a poor background and started working at an early age to supplement his family's income. In his young age, at one time Dr. Kalam distributed newspapers to contribute to his father's income, to support his family and his education. He used to study in the light of a Kerosene lamp up to 11 PM, daily which was specially arranged by his mother for him and the other kerosene lamp of his house used to be put off by 8 PM. He had a strong desire to learn and spend hours on his studies, especially mathematics. After completing his education at Ramanathapuram, Dr. Kalam went on to attend Saint Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli, then affiliated with the University of Madras, from where he graduated in Physics in 1954. He did his Aerospace Engineering from Madras. He was intimately involved in India's civilian space program and military missile development efforts. He played a pivotal role in India's Pokhran-II nuclear tests in 1998. He thus came to be known as the *Missile Man of India* for his work on the development of

ballistic missile technology. In 1998, along with cardiologist Dr. Soma Raju, Dr. Kalam developed a low cost coronary stent, named the "Kalam-Raju Stent" in Hyderabad for cardiac patients. The role for which he will probably be most remembered is that of a president who brought *Rashtrapati Bhavan* to the people, earning him the tribute as the People's President. Dr. Kalam was elected President of India in 2002 and served as the 11th President of India, succeeding K. R. Narayanan. His term lasted from 25 July 2002 to 24 July 2007. Signing the Office of Profit Bill was the toughest decision he had taken during his tenure — that's what Dr. Kalam himself was once quoted.

He was a very simple and honest person. In May 2006 when he was the president, a group of 52 of his relatives visited Delhi and stayed in the *Rashtrapati Bhavan*. He paid all the expenses of their stay in *Rashtrapti Bhavan* costing Rs. 352000/- from his personal account through a cheque to the Government.

Dr. Kalam was the third President of India to have been honored with a *Bharat Ratna*, India's highest civilian honor, before becoming the President. Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, (1954) and Dr. Zakir Hussain (1963) were the earlier recipients of *Bharat Ratna*. During his tenure as President he visited all the states and union territories except Lakshadweep, and most of the states more than once; but he made very few and only very essential foreign trips. After

serving a term of five years he returned to his life of education, writing and public service. When leaving the *Rashtrapathi Bhavan* after completion of his term he came out of with only a bag of his personal belongings and started for his native place.

During his term as president, he was affectionately known as the *People's President*. He was an educationist, teacher, scientist, engineer, missile man, good administrator and above all a good human being. He was supposed to don a *bandhgala* suit (Jodhpuri suit, Indian suit or closed collar suit) for his swearing-in ceremony as the President. During the trial, he was pretty uncomfortable with it and he said if a President's neck is choked how will he speak in front of the nation? How will he address the people? So the Delhi-based tailor designer, Aman Jain who used to stitch, his cloths decided to do away with the first metallic hook giving it a cut, which became famous as "the Kalam cut". Dr. Kalam was a very simple man. Mr. Jain who had been stitching his clothes for the last two decades, used to visit Dr. Kalam usually in the night after shutting his shop. Dr. Kalam used to ask him on several occasions to stay and dine with him. Mr. Jain is now having a pair of suits which were ordered by Dr. Abdul Kalam before his death but could not be delivered by Mr. Jain due to his sudden demise.

After leaving office, Dr. Kalam became a visiting professor at the Indian Institute of Management Shillong, the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad and the Indian Institute of

Management Indore, an Honorary Fellow of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Chancellor of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology Thiruvananthapuram, Professor of Aerospace Engineering at Anna University and was associated with many other academic and research institutions across India. He taught Information technology at the International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad, at the Banaras Hindu University and Anna University.

In May 2012, Dr. Kalam launched a programme for the youth of India called *What Can I Give Movement*, with a theme of eradicating corruption. He enjoyed writing Tamil poetry and playing *Veena*. Dr. Kalam listened to Carnatic devotional music every day. Dr. Kalam used to read Quran and Bhagavad Gita. He was a vegetarian, and it is said that he turned to vegetarianism as he could not afford non-vegetarian food in his child hood.

On the evening of 27 July 2015, Dr. Kalam collapsed at around 6:30 p.m. while delivering a lecture on "The Livable Planet Earth" at the Indian Institute of Management Shillong. He was rushed to hospital in a critical condition and was placed in the intensive care unit, but was confirmed dead of a massive cardiac arrest. Thus "the missile man took off for the space never to land again on this planet".

Dr. Kalam's 79th birthday was recognized as World Students' Day by the United Nations. It was in the year 2010, when the United Nations decided to honor this 'great scientist' on his 79th

birth anniversary and declared his birthday on October 15 as the 'World Students' Day'. He has also received honorary doctorates from 40 universities. The Government of India has honored him with the *Padma Bhushan* in 1981 and the *Padma Vibhushan* in 1990 for his work with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Defense Research & Development Organization (DRDO) and for his role as a scientific advisor to the Government. In 1997, Dr. Kalam received India's highest civilian honor, the *Bharat Ratna*, for his contribution to the scientific research and modernization of defense technology in India. In 2005, Switzerland declared 26 May as "Science Day" to commemorate Dr. Kalam's visit to the country. In 2013, he was the recipient of the Von Braun Award from the National Space Society "to recognize excellence in the management and leadership of a space-related project." Dr. Kalam was a great leader. He never exposed the shortcomings or failures of his team. Instead, he took responsibility for them. However, when success was achieved, he gave full credit where it was due. That was the philosophy he practiced throughout his life.

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam had a special attachment to Hyderabad where he led India's missile development programme and worked on various projects. It was under Dr. Kalam's leadership that the Defense Research Development Laboratory successfully launched missiles named as *Prithvi*, *Trishul*, *Akash* and *Nag*,

apart from *Agni*. The successful launch of these missiles helped India join a select international club. "Dr. Kalam had strongly advocated the need and necessity of a lifesaving ambulance service like 108, which is today serving the needy in 29 states and 2 U.Ts. He agreed to become Chairman Emeritus of Emergency Medical and Research Institute (EMRI). Dr. Kalam always encouraged the use of technology in the business of saving lives.

He understood that the best way to make an impact was to reach out to the children and youth of the country. Not a single other person can claim that he or she influenced as many kids of all ages. He was a president to the nation and a father to the children. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, widely loved and admired by people of all age groups, is very popular with children. His humility, easy accessibility, simplicity, warmth and affection for children made them connect with him. Everyday hundreds of children from every nook and corner of the country were writing to Dr. Kalam asking him questions on a variety of topics. Sharing their concerns Dr. Kalam took time out to respond to these queries. During his tours he made it a point to meet and address the children and ask questions.

"The best tribute one can pay to Dr. Kalam is to be an honest citizen and live in harmony with others." *Vana Premees* pray God to rest his noble soul in peace and to give strength to his relatives, friends, and every Indian to bear this great loss.

QMK

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As I scanned through the August 15 issue of VP on your website, it was with the sense of shock and disbelief that I went through the obituary to our SFRC batch mate and house mate Josef K Kurien whom we used to respectfully address as Kurien Sir because of his elderly brother attitude, always helping nature and sound practical knowledge of forestry. I still remember his ebony colored chiseled body attired in white vest folded up to knee length and his calm nasal accents in which he used to render advice to whosoever approached him for help irrespective of the state to which he belonged. The fond memories of our after dinner lively interactions on the veranda of Mutthana house still conjure up in my mind. He was the natural leader of our house. May God let his noble soul rest in peace forever. I also recollect the recent split verdict delivered by his eminent son Justice Kurien of Supreme Court while disposing off the eleventh hour mercy petition filed by a death row convict few days before he was hanged.

Hats off, to your idea of a special VP issue on A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. I am contributing hereby my little tribute to the great soul Dr. Kalam for inclusion in this issue.

With regards,

V. S. Joshi

Dear Sir,

Greetings!

As desired, please find attached the article 'A Sequel to the Poem by ' Usha Vinod Rajawaram'. Sad to learn that at least half a dozen attempts to send the said article during the past fortnight or so had failed in getting the same downloaded at your end for some mysterious reason. Hope this attempt is going to succeed without much ado and my frustration will ultimately end when you acknowledge that it has indeed come to your notice and will be included in all probability in the ensuing issue of Vana Premi.

We were once again happy to have received at Bangalore the latest issue of the Monthly and I had liked the way your editorial has gone this time followed by articles in the three languages of the State, catering to the tastes of multitudes who happened to be your readers. We are happy to be briefed about various aspects involved in bringing your magazine attractively and printed legibly on a paper which would have made an effective advertisement for 'Tino-Pal'!

Wishing you the very best in the days to come to surpass the standards which you had set for yourselves and may the same be beacon to others in the field.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raghotham Rao Desai.

Sir,

An alarming news appeared in Deccan Chronicle dated 24th August 2015 that the National Board for Wildlife appointed a working group to study the reduction of lake contour from +5 to +3 feet asking it to submit the report in two months.

It should be fresh in readers' memory that the Supreme Court had appointed an expert group earlier and obtained the report and decided the matter once for all which necessitated the State Government to demolish the aquaculture ponds and communication facilities made. There are vested interested in the area cutting across party lines agitating for reduction of size to promote their interests and the Chief Minister is said to have promised to concede. Understandably, the appointment of working group is a sequel to the proposal made by State Government. The State Govt's contention is that the lake sanctuary has 14,861 acres of private land and that it is not possible to compensate the owners if evicted.

Mr. S. Ashok Kumar, a retired IAS officer who was a member of the expert group appointed by the SC in 2011 is on record to nail the State's contention as lie in that "The land which is being claimed as private land is actual part of the lake bed and was given away to people by successive governments. It gets covered when there is a large inflow of water." Thus it would appear that the assignment of lake bed lands was to render the lake sanctuary redundant.

There is reason to apprehend that the Central Govt /National Board of Wildlife could give in to the State's proposal and the appointment of working group is to facilitate it. We have already witnessed similar strategy in the appointment of TSR Subramanian's High Level Committee.

I request the environmental activists, nature lovers and foresters conversant with the case and facts, to initiate efforts to save the Sanctuary.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

-JVSharma

24.08.2015

NOTICE

October 2015 issue of Vana Premi will be a special issue on Wild Life. All the readers, writers Forest Officers retired and in service are requested to contribute articles on Wild Life to be published in the issue of October 2015. They are requested to send the articles on or before 18th of September 2015 by E-mail.

Editor

HEART-MELTING POEM FOR MOTHER

By
Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

"I used to collect the paper and run around the Rameswaram town and be the first one to distribute the newspapers in the town. My elder cousin brother was the agent who went away to Sri Lanka in search of better livelihood. After distribution, I used to come home at 8 AM. My mother will give me a simple breakfast with a special quota compared to other children because I was studying and working simultaneously. After the school gets over in the evening, again I will go around Rameswaram for collection of dues from customers. I still remember an incident which I would like to share with you.

As a young boy I was walking, running and studying all together. One day, when all my brothers and sisters were sitting and eating, my mother went on giving me chapattis (even though we are rice eaters only, wheat was rationed). When I finished eating, my elder brother called me privately and scolded "Kalam do you know what was happening? You went on eating Chappati, and mother went on giving you. She has given all her chappatis to you. It is difficult time. Be a responsible son and do not make your mother starve". First time I had a shivering sensation and I could not control myself. I rushed to my mother and hugged her. Even though I was studying in 5th class, I had a

special place in my home because I was the last guy in the family. There used to be no electricity. Our house was lit by the kerosene lamp that too between 7 to 9 PM. My mother specially gave me a small kerosene lamp so that I can study up to 11 PM. I still remember my mother in a full moon night which has been portrayed with the title "mother" in my book "Wings of Fire".

MOTHER

"I still remember the day when I was ten

Sleeping on your lap to the envy of my elder brothers and sisters.

It was full moon night, my world only you knew Mother! My Mother!

**When at midnight, I woke with tears falling on my knee
you knew the pain of your child, My Mother. Your caring
hands, tenderly removing the pain**

Your love, your care, your faith gave me strength,

To face the world without fear and with His strength.

We will meet again on the great Judgment Day. My Mother!

This is the story of my mother who lived ninety three years, a woman of love, a woman of kindness and above all a woman of divine nature. My mother performed Namaz five times every day. During Namaz, my mother always looked angelic. Every time I saw her during Namaz I was inspired and moved." (Source Internet)

THE KALAM I KNEW

By
M.M. Rajendran

Simple living and high thinking' exemplifies the life of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam more than of any other leader I have come to know in my more than five decades of public life. I got to know Dr. Kalam in 1992 when we used to sit in the official gallery of Parliament — he as Scientific Adviser of Secretary rank and I as Secretary in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. I had a reserved seat, as I had to frequently go to the gallery to take note of the proceedings. One day, I saw Dr. Kalam in my seat, and someone pointed out to him that it was my seat. He immediately started to move to the next seat without any fuss and it was with great difficulty that I persuaded him to remain where he was. We became friends since then; he frequented the gallery as much as I did, to send information to the Prime Minister and Defence Minister concerning his subjects.

Years later, in 2000, when I was Governor of Odisha, I was invited by the Madurai Kamaraj University to deliver the convocation address. I jumped at the opportunity when they told me that Dr. Kalam was going to be conferred an Honorary Doctorate at the convocation. The two of us got a good opportunity to discuss many things, including the points I made in my address. He did not, however, accept my suggestion that he speak on the occasion. He said it was my day.

Distinguished guest: A few weeks before he

became President, Dr. Kalam visited Bhubaneswar to deliver a lecture. The organizers asked if I would host him in Raj Bhavan, as there were security issues in putting him up elsewhere. I readily agreed. But Dr. Kalam insisted on staying in the simple home of the organizers rather than at Raj Bhavan. He felt that the people who wanted to meet him may not have access to him in Raj Bhavan. Later, when he found out that I had looked forward to hosting him, he insisted on personally calling on me to explain why he had not accepted my hospitality. It was again a great meeting during which we discussed several topics, particularly about the potential of the youth to shape the future of this country. After 45 minutes, I walked him to his car to see him off little realizing that he would soon be my boss.

I have pleasant memories of Dr. Kalam to ask him questions and patiently answered them, much to their delight. He saw every student as a valuable potential resource for the development of the country, his primary goal. He wanted a developed India by 2020.

As Chancellor of Universities in Odisha, I had invited him to deliver convocation addresses in three universities, and he willingly accepted. In convocations, the practice is to seat important guests in the front rows and the

graduating students behind them. After the convocation, Dr. Kalam went straight to the students, barely stopping to greet the other invitees. He also requested that in future students be seated in front, with important invitees at the side. After that, we meticulously followed this arrangement. The last convocation he participated in was at Sambalpur University, where his idea to start a herbal garden in each university — to make young students aware of the rich wealth of herbs in India — had been implemented. I invited him personally, but he had pressing commitments. Not wanting to miss an opportunity, I scanned the appointment diary he showed me and found a date that was mutually acceptable. When he came, he was delighted with the herbal garden.

Another time, at a banquet held in his honor in *Raj Bhavan*, he relished a brinjal and curd preparation, saying it was his favorite dish. The Odisha Chief Minister told him that my wife painted Saura tribal art. He immediately said he wanted to see them, went to the lounge where they were displayed, and appreciated each painting keenly. The next morning, he mentioned one particular piece that he had liked very much and my wife promptly volunteered to paint a similar one for him. She later gifted it to him during one of our visits to Rashtrapati Bhavan, on the condition that he would treat it as a personal gift that he would take with him when he left.

A hospitable President: Though a strict vegetarian, by choice Dr. Kalam never imposed his preference on his guests. He threw a banquet in Rashtrapati Bhavan for the Governors attending the Governors' Conference, and took care to see that the best meat dishes were served. I found out later from his personal staff that each item in the menu had been personally chosen by him. That was the kind of generous hospitality that he extended.

The two and a half years that we worked together, when he was President and I was Governor, were excellent. There are many things I have learnt from him. He was never overbearing, always listened to anyone who had a good idea, and was absolutely dedicated to achieving the goal of a developed and prosperous India. For this, he was willing to work for long hours, often past midnight, after which he would take a walk in the Mughal Gardens. This placed his security staff under great strain, but they would gladly accompany him, knowing how much their boss loved them.

Indeed, India was fortunate to have had as its President a role model of the highest integrity, diligence and devotion to duty. May his tribe increase (Source "The Hindu" of 31-07-2015 with thanks)

(M. M. Rajendran is former Governor of Odisha and former Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu.)

MOMENTS WITH ABDUL KALAAM

By
M. Kamal Naidu

Yesterday (28-7-2015), while watching the afternoon NDTV 24x7 news at far away London, I was shocked to see the news, thanks to modern technology, unlike way back in 1964, when I did not know that Pundit Nehru died a week ago, since I was deep in the forests of Cuddapah around Sanipaya region. I was shocked to see and hear the slumping to death of Dr. Abdul Kalam due to Cardiac Arrest, and follow the passage till funeral as though personally present at burial ceremony, almost immediately at London, He seemed to me he died like a soldier with boots on, while discharging his most favorite duty of 'Igniting Young Minds' at the IIM Shillong, the most picturesque city in North East India, located among the spectacular green mountainous surrounds, with a salubrious climate. One cannot die at such a divine place, so I could not believe Kalam, our former President, a divine soul that he was, is no more, will not be amidst us any more, despite having been in such invigorating surrounds and in a state of extremely good robust health that he was in. His personality had endeared everyone in the nation as an immortal soul, having been intellectual and divine, and an incarnation of humility, duty, dignity and grace. He was virtually an *Avatar* of Krishna, an exponent of philosophy of *Karma Yoga*, who is reincarnated during *Kaliyug* in our midst, as seen by the way people who responded to him in millions to pay homage, not knowing why and

with what relationship, except love and respect for him, I felt it a personal loss.

After hearing and seeing the sad news, my mind immediately raced back to 1990, when circumstance were created for me to meet such a noble soul, and hold fond memories of him. This happened when I returned back to Hyderabad from Delhi after my central deputation assignments, On meeting PCCF for posting, I was given a choice to choose either as GM to AP Forest Dev. Corp. or as CF, Soil Conservation Circle, Visakhapatnam. However PCCF Mr. Pusph Kumar after giving me the options cautioned me of there being too many skeletons in the later post, which I would have to unearth and answer. Taking the hint I opted for APFDC to avoid intriguing situations as successor CF in Vizag, and also since I had never experienced this FDC aspect posting in forest dept. ever since its inception in mid-eighties, was too eager for new experience rather than dig out skeletons at Vizag.

I joined in APFDC in place of BV Rao as GM, who was very keen to go to Vizag, being from that region as CF. This assignment gave me an opportunity to meet this remarkable scientist, about whom Dr. Rajaramana, former Director of BAARC at Mumbai spoke very often, very glowingly, while I underwent a training programme for 'Senior Level Officers' of different streams including the private and

public sector, sponsored by MODP, in the first batch of the newly instituted NIAS, conducted at TMTC, Pune, in January 1988, with JRD Tata as coordinator and a chief guest speaker.

In 1990, Dr. Kalam as Director of DRDO, Hyderabad had entered into an MOU with APFDC for afforestation, of the barren DRDO Campus. Having done so, he was very keen to contact and discuss the mode of approach by APFDC in the barren desolate tract that DRDO was. I was asked by Mr. Desai, then VC & MD of APFDC if I would like to meet Dr. Kalam and satisfy his inquisitiveness and keenness on our approach of getting the work done. I immediately seized the opportunity of meeting the great scientists, about whom I had heard so much.

My opportunities of getting acquainted and hearing great scientists of India started with Dr. CV Raman, a noble-prize physicist in 1950, and Dr. Jagdish Chandra Bose, a biologist of eminence in 1952, who established proof that plants have sensitivity to stimuli just like us and animals. These eminent scientists visited Lawrence School, Lovedale, in Nilgiris in early 50's, where I was a student because of our enterprising principal, Mr. Lakhani, who was the first Indian Principal of the school, whoever desired to expose us students to outstanding figures to inspire us, because of his extensive contacts. The scientists were both so childlike in addressing us children like Dr. Kalam *chacha*, maybe a characteristic of great scientists to get their dreams into reality.

In 1988 on getting acquainted with Dr.

Rajaramana, it was another wonderful experience, especially when he regaled us on the beauty of music, and kept us stunned with the piano in the lounge every evening at TMTC. With this acquaintance I assumed great scientist are very genuinely humble and humane, and lost characters as we would assume, this is probably they not being materialistic and political minded, and of nobler stock.

My first meeting with Dr. Kalam's came about because of his innate desire to learn forestry and meet the member of the forest officer tribe concerned with Afforestation Project he decided to launch in DRDO Campus. There I was at his office on his request in early January 1991 as decided by him, clad not as a gentleman in rank in a well pressed suite with tie, but as a field forester in my khakis, for the beginning of my contact, and consequent three intimate conversations with this great person that followed.

I sent in my visiting card on arrival at his office, and was promptly called in. He gracefully stood up, and received me with a soft spoken query if I were from the defense service, probably because of my attire, as he was comfortable with them professionally. I told him I was a first looked down upon civilian in my family circle and consequently landed up in forest service, so loved being in khakis when possible and required. He next asked where from I got the '*Shourya Chakra*', a defense service award. I told him it was a very long story. With this brief introduction he guided me outside, and said he would discuss the very long story in the fresh

air, which he said a forester would prefer, while exhibiting his profound interest in learning his new subject on Forestry like an ardent new forest probationer. I was amazed at his enthusiasm and eagerness to know and learn new facts on forestry to satisfy his long pending curiosity on the subject.

We soon got into our first round of discussion, starting off as to whether Forestry was 'an Art or Science'. I told him it was an art based on scientific established and proven techniques, like the eye-opener Howard's Folly at Chakrata, which had contributed to deodar management of Himalayas, to make it different from natural laws of the jungle left to nature. He was further pleased to know I was a teacher at the National Forest Academy, besides being a field officer, a profession to his liking. With this he got more comfortable with me, and got into intriguing question of inquisitiveness of a mind displaying brilliance, keeping me also absolutely relaxed over the next two hours of our first meeting, after he made sure I was not tied up with any other programme besides him. He got more inquisitive and more delighted to know that I worked at the renowned Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun, which he never got a chance to see and discuss with its renowned scientists, mentioning however in particular Champion and Seth, who authored 'Classification of Indian Forest Types' to make forestry more scientific, which he asked me to elaborate. On my telling him of my personal Acquaintance with Dr. Seth at FRI, he wanted to know more about him. I told him that Dr. Seth was very simple

devoted scientist, very analytical and very polite, and also a good painter and gardener as pet hobbies. He painted particularly women without a heads, which adorned his drawing room. My wife asked him why it was so, to which he answered very honestly that women don't use their head, We concluded that must have been the reason for him having remained as a bachelor, possibly he must have been ditched by a woman he loved, who rejected his proposal to her, so concluded women have no heads.

At end of two hours on field of our first meeting, he never forgot his eagerness to know about my *shourya chakra*, as he was keen to know if I got it for my research or teaching assignment. I told him briefly that I got it for my escaping death twice in my act of protecting forest and animals in my charge, as part of my field duty. This roused his intellectual curiosity to all time high, and patiently heard me out without interruption, except seeking clarification. He was very highly appreciative of Rajiv Gandhi, for his decision to so award me, in contrast to the recommendation of Padma Shri by Mr. Seshan, then Forest Secretary. All through his time out with me he was extremely absorbing like a dry sponge absorbing information, and oozed out valuable tips on research as though the sponge is squeezed by stating that progress in science was achieved only on being dedicated, sincere hard work, with an observant eye. These discussions prompted him to an eager second discussion.

I started our second great encounter a week later at his request, to explain 'the basis of

classification of forest types' with Deccan Dry Deciduous Forest, where we stood and moved on to Himalayas conifers, which he knew well, and then to Western Ghats forest he was able to visualize, then went on to riverine and coastal forests around Sriharikota islands, which he knew very well, and related to cause for its protruding aerial roots, and our associated techniques to manage them, with reasons thereof.

He was thrilled at the information exposures, so he called me over on yet another third occasion, which I spared to satisfy his hungering quest for new knowledge and keen curiosity, and my own love to be with him. He asked as to what was my main research activity, was as CFR&D, is it laboratory based or field based. I told him my research was mainly field based in research plots in different terrains of soil type, in identifying site suitable clones of different species for different forest types and regions with eucalyptus clones from Australia, tropical pines from FRI clone bank in Chintapalli region, possibility of red sanders adaptability in different adverse regions like Cuddapah in AP, where it never occurred, as I was familiar with Cuddapah during training, and raising casuarina and cashew in coastal belts. He used to be virtually mesmerized with outflow of new scientific knowledge to his mental archive. We never did genetic manipulation but resorted to grafting of better clones, if it necessitated.

After my meetings with him, I was so ignited with his enthusiasm, that I wished I had a chance to go through the research and teaching phases once again, but felt sad I did not have that many

years to serve in the capacity for I was to retire in 1997. I did not find him very enthused about my zoo postings, for he never liked wild animals caged, for he felt they are more natural where they ought to be. He felt that we unnecessarily criminalize the animals for no fault of their by putting behind bars, to suit our whims and pleasure of feeling superior to them. I told him of my experience of rearing my tiger cub Sona caught from wild and sent for care and nurturing, for 11 months in the house, and about her memory to remember me after 7 years while I was away at Delhi. He liked this experience of mine with a wild caught animal of 22 days old as interesting, especially when I told him that in contrast my daughter was zoo born, when he wanted to know if I would leave her in the wild, when old enough to sustain herself in the cub's territory as a forest officer, to compensate for getting the cub from the wild to the zoo.

To summarize it was a wonderful opportunity to spend valuable personal moments with such a great noble soul as I now realize, then not realizing the God given opportunity of speaking and spending moments with a person destined to be so great, loved, and mourned by the nation and the world as though was an individual loss. This went to prove my observation that he was a divine avatar, unspoilt by the materialistic world ever at his disposal. I now wonder if he had his dream fulfilled of visiting FRI and meeting its scientist later as President of India, or FRI lost such a visitation.

WE SHALL NOT SEE ANOTHER APJ ABDUL KALAM LIKE OUR LATE PRESIDENT

DD Podhigai (Tamil language regional channel) telecasted an interview with Mr. P M Nair a retired IAS officer who was the secretary to Dr. Kalam when he was the President. The points he spoke in voice choked with emotion are summarized below. Mr. Nair authored a book titled "Kalam Effect"

1. Dr. Kalam used to receive costly gifts whenever he went as it is customary for many nations to give gifts to the visiting Head of state. Refusing the gift would become an insult to the nation and an embarrassment for India. So, he received them and on his return, Dr. Kalam asked the gifts to be photographed and then catalogued and handed over to the archives. Afterwards, he never even looked at them. He did not take even a pencil from the gifts received when he left Rashtrapathi Bhavan.

2. In 2002, the year Dr. Kalam took over, the Ramadan month came in July-August. it was a regular practice for the President to host an *iftar* party. Dr. Kalam asked Mr. Nair why he should host a party to people who are already well fed and asked him to find out how much would be the cost. Mr. Nair said "it costs around Rs. 22 lakhs". Dr. Kalam asked him to donate that amount to a few selected orphanages in the form of food, dresses and blankets. The selection of orphanages was left to a team in *Rashtrapathi Bhavan* and Dr. Kalam had no role in it. After the selection was made, Dr. Kalam asked Mr. Nair to come inside his room and gave him a cheque for Rs 1 lakh. He

said that he was giving some amount from his personal savings and this should not be informed to anyone. Mr. Nair was so shocked that he said "sir, I will go outside and tell everyone. People should know that here is a man who not only donated what he should have spent but he is giving his own money also". Dr. Kalam though he was a devout Muslim did not have *iftar* parties in the years in which he was the President.

3. Dr. Kalam did not like "yes sir" type of people. Once when the Chief Justice of India had come and on some point Dr. Kalam expressed his view and asked Mr. Nair, "Do you agree?" Mr. Nair said "No sir, I do not agree with you". The Chief Justice was shocked and could not believe his ears. It was impossible for a civil servant to disagree with the president and that too so openly. Mr. Nair told him that the President would question him afterwards why he disagreed and if the reason was logical 99% he would change his mind.

4. Dr. Kalam invited 50 of his relatives to come to Delhi and they all stayed in Rashtrapathi Bhavan. He organized a bus for them to go around the city which was paid for by him. No official car was used. All their stay and food was calculated as per the instructions of Dr. Kalam and the bill came to Rs 2 lakhs which he paid. In the history of this country no one has done it. Now, wait for the climax, Dr. Kalam's elder brother stayed with him in his room for the

entire one week as Dr. Kalam wanted his brother to stay with him. When they left, Dr. Kalam wanted to pay rent for that room also. Imagine a President of country paying rent for the room in which he was staying. This was any way not agreed by the staff who thought the honesty was getting too much to handle!!!

5. When Dr. Kalam was to leave Rashtrapathi Bhavan at the end of the tenure, every staff member went and met him and paid their respects. Mr. Nair went to him alone as his wife had fractured her leg and was bed ridden. Dr. Kalam asked why his wife did not come. He replied that she was in bed due to an accident.

Next day, Nair saw lot of police men around his house and asked what had happened. They said that the President of India was coming to visit him in his house. He came and met his wife and chatted for some time. Mr. Nair said, "No president of any country would visit a civil servant's house and that too on such a simple pretext."

By going through the narration given by Mr. P. M. Nair and having come to know a lot of an eminent personality and one of the States-men of our country Dr. A. P. J Abdul Kalam an embodiment of humility, integrity coupled with high thinking and simple living. (Contributed by Sri M. Kamal Naidu)

RELEASE OF 'TRILINGUAL DICTIONARY' AND FELICITATION TO THE COMPILER:

The Trilingual Dictionary (Urdu-English-Kannada,) providing in additon, the pronunciation of Urdu words in English and Kannada scripts, published recently by the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Govt. of India was released on 18/8/2015 by Dr. Qamar-ul-Islam, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration & Public Enterprises, Minorities & Waqfs, Govt. of Karnataka, in the presence of Prof. Irteza Kareem, Director, NCPUL, who inaugurated the function in Bangalore, presided over by Dr. Fauzia Chowdhary, Chairperson, Karnataka Urdu Academy.

The function was arranged by the Centre at the instance and in collaboration with the State of Karnataka. The organizers chose the occasion to felicitate befittingly the octogenarian compiler Dr. B Raghotham Rao Desai, M.A., Ph.D., IFS(Rtd), extolling his dedication and commitment to the cause and explaining the uniqueness of the Dictionary. All the copies, brought by the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, were sold like hot cakes amongst the vast appreciative audience and the media present to cover the event.

MY MEMOIR OF MEETING DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM

By
S. D. Mukherji

Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen "APJ" Abdul Kalam was born on October 15, 1931 and passed away on July 15, 2015. He was a career scientist turned a reluctant politician, served as 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007.

He was a student of physics and aerospace engineering. For four long decades he was a scientist cum administrator at the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). He was intimately involved in India's civilian space programme and military missile development efforts and came to be known as the 'Missile Man of India'.

On 27th July 2015, Dr. Kalam visited Shillong to deliver a lecture on "Creating a Livable Planet Earth" to the IIM Shillong students. At 6.30 pm, barely 5 minutes into his lecture, he collapsed at the podium of a sudden cardiac arrest. India and the whole world condoled the death of Dr. Kalam's with outpouring grief. Numerous tributes were paid across the nations of the world acclaiming his achievements. Government of India declared seven-day State mourning as a mark of respect to the departed soul. Condoned Teaching, especially the young children, was

close to his heart. Dr. Kalam had written several books that throw light on his character. In his book, '2020- A Vision for the Millennium', he strongly advocated an action plan to develop India into a "knowledge Super Power" and a developed nation. He yearned to ignite the imagination of the student community to prepare them for a developed India. In pursuit of this goal he traveled widely and addressed the students on every conceivable opportunity. He is the recipient of more than twenty prestigious awards including, *Padma Bhusan* in 1981, *Padma Vibhusan* in 1990, and *Bharat Ratna* (the highest civilian award) in 1997. He received honorary degree from forty universities most of them international. He was constantly busy in the pursuit of his vision not bothering much for his personal life including marriage. He was a living example of single minded devotion to free India from hunger, malnutrition, illiteracy, ignorance and all that is needed to make the nation developed. The Swiss government declared 26th May, a "Science Day" in his honor.

I cherish the memory of my meeting the great soul, Dr. Kalam, accompanied by Prof. K.V. Subba

Rao (Former professor, IIT Bombay), Dr. J.C. Mohanty IAS (Retd.), Shri Sivashankar Reddy IFS (Retd.) on 29th July 2013 at *Raj Bhavan*, Hyderabad. Prof. K.V. Subba Rao, the president of National History Society of India (NHSI) arranged the meeting through Dr. Sheridon, Secretary to Dr. Kalam. All of us, the council members of NHSI interacted with Dr. Kalam. We appraised him of the objective of our society to spread the knowledge amongst people, primarily the children, about the concept Natural History Park and Museum in all its branches (life sciences/ biosciences/ geosciences), its focus on the study of animal and plant life in terrestrial and aquatic environments both marine and soft water (static and flowing). He lauded the objectives of the society and assured all support from him. He spent more than an hour discussing with us the vision document and ways and means of developing Natural History Parks and Museums in the country. Dr. Kalam suggested the NHSI members visit the Don Bosco Centre for Indigenous Culture, Shillong, which is run single handedly, without Government support, by a Christian father to get ideas and inputs in designing the Natural History Museum proposed by the NHSI. He kindly consented to our request to inaugurate the NHSI and also release the book: "Land Forms of India", authored by Prof. Vaidyanathan and Prof. K.V. Subba Rao on the occasion. Unfortunately for us he left for

heavenly abode before we could have the opportunity of getting the NHSI inaugurated by him.

His down to earth simplicity was reflected in the manner in which he treated us when we met him. He came out of the living room and received us in the visitor's hall. He sat along with us on the side sofa meant for visitors in the hall. When he found that Prof. K.V. Subba Rao did not have a chair for him close by and he was standing, he made him comfortable on the central chair meant for him in the hall. Such was his humility.

As is usual with me not to leave any occasion to champion the cause of forests, I took this opportunity to draw his personal attention to the 'State of the Forests' and the way government policies are misinterpreted to use them to the detriment of the forests and forest dependent communities. He gave a patient hearing and agreed to find a solution that would safe guard the interest of the people as well as the forests.

I can never forget the honor of sitting beside him and spending time discussing about NHSI and Forests. I cherish the memories of the pleasant moments and it would be remembered all through my life.

The blessed soul breathed his last while teaching the students, a mission so close to his heart. (Please see page No. 51 for Photos)

ABDUL KALAM – THE IDEAL CITIZEN

By
**Swanthana Jayanthi
and J. V. Sharma**

Another star of Indian horizon had joined the pantheon in the galaxy of illustrious Indians of the Past. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, former President of Indian Republic passed away, suddenly, on 27th July 2015 at Shillong in Meghalaya State. The entire Nation, as one, grieved his death as personal loss. Why the nation is so moved with his demise? His greatness lies in the answer to this question itself.

The journey of his life, starting from Rameswaram in the deep down South to its end in Shillong of North-East, is a text book sample of everything that is right, apt and ideal in this world. Dr. Kalam was born on 15th October 1931 as the youngest of five siblings in a lower middle class family in Dhanushkodi of Rameswaram Island known for its famous Hindu Temple. He was not born with silver spoon and had to work as newspaper boy to supplement the family income. During the course of this journey he earned several credits including the Country's highest award of "Bharat Ratna" besides being the Head of the country. Kalam and his boyhood environment:

A closer look at his life prompts us to believe that the foundations for an eventful life were laid

quite firmly at Rameswaram itself. He was a Muslim boy and his closest friend was a Brahmin Boy by name Ramaswamy. The bond of friendship between the two was not engineered by the boys but cascaded from their fathers. The concept of 'harmony' was strongly embedded in him even at that tender age as has been said by him in his own words:

"Whenever I come to know of the problem of communalism and social inequity, I vividly remember one incident at Rameswaram Elementary School. I was in the fifth standard. I always used to sit in the front row along with my close friend Ramaswamy. A new teacher had come to our class. The teacher could not comprehend a Brahmin boy and a Muslim boy sitting together. In accordance with the social ranking as perceived by the new teacher, I was asked to go and sit on the back bench. I felt very indignant and so did Ramaswamy. Even today I am living with the image imprinted on my subconscious mind of Ramaswamy crying in the class when I changed my seat to the rear row. When this incident was related to our respective father's traditional close friends, the teacher was

summoned and told by them that what he had done was a snake's work. Strong convictions of our parents reformed the teacher half a century ago." (The Luminous Sparks - 2004.)

This small incident should make any inquisitive researcher to have a closer feel of life and circumstances in the past. There is no gainsaying the fact that the society was sharply divided on the lines of religion and caste. It was worse in respect of Scheduled Castes who suffered unimaginable indignities in the society. It was an injustice heaped upon the disadvantaged sections for no fault of theirs. Not to see it as an old tradition, albeit bad, handed down to generation after generation and blaming the people of present generation for the historic wrong, is like missing the wood for trees. Society in general and the suffering section of society in particular, took it as normal in the past without bitterness. Despite social ranking, various sections of the society lived in harmony unlike the intolerance, hatred and animosity now breeding in disadvantaged sections.

Thus Dr. Kalam digested the philosophy of secularism even when he was in Elementary School, Rameswaram. It is important to note that India was not Independent then nor was there a Constitution and much less the secularism as accepted concept. He explained it succinctly in his poems:

*"Cranes, Seagulls wandering clouds
Sea waves, laughing, playing idle sports,
My memory goes back five decades
A small school in Rameswaram town,
Ramaswamy and I weaving words together.
"Harmony knows only delight of creator
Hindu or Muslim, Mosque or Temple
Our minds were free from these cradles
Sitting together sharing the morning light."
"Years have passed, we remain friends
Sharing the joys and rhythms of the past.
These educated serpents separate our souls,
They give not the knowledge but hate and defeat.*

*Tell others not to heed their unwanted advice,
'Cause the Almighty created all equal and free."*

Kalam, His education: Kalam had his elementary education in Rameswaram itself and went to Schwartz Higher Secondary School, Ramanathapuram (then called Ramnad) for High School studies. He had his undergraduate education in Saint Joseph's College, Tiruchirapally, then affiliated to Madras University, obtaining his B. Sc. degree in Physics in 1954. He then moved to Madras in 1955 to study Aerospace Engineering in Madras Institute of Technology. He was not known to be a brilliant student but he attracted the attention of all as a hardworking and sincere student.

Kalam, His professional moorings: He wanted to become a fighter pilot. He almost made it and missed it by a whisker. He stood 9th in the short list of selection and the vacancies were only eight. He took the setback in his stride and started excelling in whatever assignment he took up. He joined the faculty of Alma Mater MIT in 1958 and worked there till the year 1960.

- ◆ Joins Aeronautical Development Establishment of DRDO as a Chief Scientist in 1960.
- ◆ Moves to ISRO to become Project Director of India's first indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle in 1969.
- ◆ Helps India enter Space Club by putting the most talked about Rohini Satellite in the near earth orbit in 1980. SLV-3 (Satellite Launch Vehicle) Programme.
- ◆ Left ISRO in 1983 and joined DRDO as its Director at Hyderabad.
- ◆ Becomes Chief of Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) in 1980. Played pivotal role in developing missiles like AGNI, AKASH, PRITHVI and NAG.
- ◆ Appointed Chief Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister and Secretary, DRDO – 1992 to 1999.
- ◆ Was the key person as Chief Project Coordinator in conducting Pokhran-II Nuclear Test in May 1998.

Kalam, His Awards:

- ◆ Awarded Padma Bhushan in 1981.
- ◆ Awarded Padma Vibhushan in 1990.
- ◆ Highest Civilian Award Bharat Ratna was conferred upon him in 1997.
- ◆ Unique privilege to be awarded Doctorates from 40 Universities across the globe in addition to scores of Citations of Honour.
- ◆ Awarded Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration in 1997.
- ◆ His birthday, 15th October is celebrated as World Children's Day.

First Citizen of India: Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was elected as 11th President of Indian Republic and occupied the highest office of the land from 2002 to 2007.

Kalam, the writer:

Kalam was not only a thinker but also a compulsive optimist. He always made sure that the ideas generated are disseminated and particularly to whom they matter most. Being a professional technocrat, he strived to present his thoughts with clarity in order to make them stand to reason. He was a prolific writer and the topics chosen are mostly purpose oriented and value based. Following are some of the books authored by him:

1. India Vision 2020 (1998)
2. Wings of Fire (1999)
3. Ignited Minds (2002)

4. The Luminous Sparks (2004)
5. Agni Siragugal (2008)
6. The Family and the Nation (2008)
7. Spirit of India (2010)
8. Target 3 Billion (2011)
9. Turning Points (2012)
10. My Journey – Transforming Dreams into Action (2013)
11. Beyond 2020: Vision for Tomorrow's India (2014)
12. And many more.

Of all the books, India 2020 is the most valuable document which sets an agenda and a roadmap for Nation's progress and development. A great deal effort had gone into its preparation in that about 500 experts of various fields along with a part of TIFAC (Technology, Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council of the Department of Technology) had worked overtime to enrich its content. Objective is Integrated Action to double the growth rate of GDP and realise the vision of Developed Country. Five areas in combinations have been identified based on native core competence, natural resources and talented man power. The five identified areas are Agriculture & Food Processing, Infrastructure with reliable electric power, Education & Health Care, Information & Communication Technology and Development of Critical Technologies & Strategic Industries which include Nuclear, Space & Defence

Technologies. The book is an authentic text for guidance in 12 chapters of 300 pages. A cursory perusal of the names of chapters itself will reveal the relevance and importance of the material it contains. The chapters are:

1. What various countries are thinking of themselves?
2. Status of technology by 2020.
3. Food, Agriculture and Processing
4. Materials and Future
5. Chemical Wealth
6. Chemical Industries and Biological Health
7. Manufacturing for Future
8. Services as People's Wealth
9. Strategic Industries
10. Health Care for All
11. Enabling Infrastructure
12. How to study Hard?

Vision 2020 is so close to his heart that he has created a Forum called "United Developed India" to realise the objectives.

Death: His death in the evening of 27th July 2015, though a terrible loss to the Nation, was as dramatic as was his life. Most importantly, he died while doing what was most dear to him – to be in the midst of youngsters in close company interacting on topics of vital importance to humans. He was hale and hearty when he left New Delhi on the fateful day. He was not uncomfortable in the two and half hours air journey from Delhi to Shillong. He took rest

for a while and reached the Indian Institute of Management Campus in time to deliver a lecture on "Creating a Livable Planet Earth". He started his lecture at 6:30 PM promptly. Five minutes into the lecture, he suddenly collapsed and slumped to the ground. Death was almost instantaneous as he lacked pulse and any sign of life. Yet, he was rushed to the Bethany Hospital where the doctors declared him brought dead due to sudden cardiac arrest. His aide Srijan Pal Singh was sitting right behind and the tragedy was so sudden & shocking, it took a while for him to comprehend it.

Excellent actions: Dr. Abdul Kalam asks which are the excellent actions and replies himself in a poem thus:

"What actions are most excellent?
To gladden the heart of human being,
To feed the hungry,
To help the afflicted,
To lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful
And to remove the wrongs of injured"

Dr. Kalam was fond of poetry and loved to express his thoughts in fewer words of poetry in the company of youngsters. He was a Muslim but did not wear religion on his sleeve. He had abundant respect for other religions and conducted himself as a good secularist in true sense. He often quoted from Saint Thiruvalluvar. In a message to readers, he wrote in one of his books:

"Poems are the result of peak happiness or sorrow. Common traits of both happiness and sorrow are tears. In one case, tears will be sweet. In another case, it will be salty. Human life is a combination of both. This reminds me of the great Poet Saint Thiruvalluvar."

The lines of Poet when translated into English read as:

"Successful leaders can never be defeated by problems. They become master of the situation and defeat the problems."

And his prayer was:

"Oh! My Almighty

Bless me always to be

With great teachers

Of high thinking,"

"When will be the dawn of second vision?

Create thoughts in the minds of my people,

And transform those thoughts into action.

Embed the thought of Nation being bigger than

The individual, in the minds of leaders and people"

"Help the leaders of my country with strength

And bless the nation with peace and prosperity.

Give strength to all my religious leaders to bring

'Unity of minds' among all our billion people"

"Oh Almighty, bless all my people to work and transform

Our country from a developing into a developed nation

Let the second vision be born out of sweat of my people,

And bless our youth to live in Developed India."

He is a man of simple living but he was a rustic genius. However he rose in life, he continued to be conscious of the basics he had learnt as child. Human values are the articles of faith to him. He was always courteous and compassionate. There are no instances of his losing cool and resorting to harsh language. His harshest remark was "Funny Fellow". He was easily accessible to all who had worked under him.

A team of scientists was working on an important project and they were hard pressed for time. One of the senior scientists in the group informed the Director (Kalam) in the morning that he might have to leave early in the evening to take his children to a picture. The scientist got busy with an important meeting and forgot his promise to family. He remembered it only when he was on his way to home late in the night. When he was expecting a scornful welcome from his wife, he was shocked to hear his wife saying that his manager had come and taken the children to the picture and the programme could have been deferred if there was pressing need at the office. Needless to say, it was Dr. Kalam.

As Director, DRDO, he was entitled to the best living accommodation at the disposal of the Organization. He chose to live in a simple dwelling. He was never ostentatious in his bearing or attire. A pant with a full-sleeved shirt tucked-in is all he liked most. He would not go

for a coat unless it is necessary. He was a frugal eater. Standard diet was Idli, Vada and Sambar. He was a strict vegetarian. He loved classical music and loved to hear it for long hours if time permitted. His hair style was typical. When he entered Rashtrapathi Bhavan, some senior leaders and bureaucrats thought that it could be better if the President consents for a minor change in hair style. When a person who had access to the President suggested subtly, Kalam threw up his hands and mockingly said; "No No, This hair style brought me from Rameswaram to Rashtrapathi Bhavan. What better can I imagine?"

Kalam, the Dreamer & Thinker:

Dreaming, he certainly did. He dreamt to visualise excellence so that he could make it his objective. He advises the children to dream so that their thoughts, hopes and ambitions to make big are not restrained. In other words he hates a shackled mind. The logic is simple; if one aims very high and when viewed in given circumstances, it looks absurd and impossible, inhibition sets in. Such decelerating forces will cast dampening effect and weaken the effort. In the case of Kalam, dreaming certainly paid rich dividends. Being a technocrat by training and profession, he changed gears to give practical shape to his dreams. Or else, it is difficult to imagine a newspaper boy of Rameswaram to become a technocrat first and

then rise much higher to become the President of the country.

He is a compulsive optimist. By saying "A developed India by 2020 or even earlier, is not a dream. It need not be a mere vision in the minds of many Indians. It is a mission we can all take up and succeed", he is goading people to put in all efforts to make it real. Word 'mission' used is of crucial significance.

Above all, he was a man of perfect integrity. His conduct was impeccable and beyond reproach. Though the President's estate is required meet the expenses on hospitality extended to personal friends and relatives of the President, he never availed the privilege and was particular to pay from his pocket. After demitting the office, Kalam did not require many minutes to walk out of Rashtrapathi Bhavan and all he carried to his new home were two suit cases. Even the personal gifts he received during his tenure were left behind.

It is difficult to say whether he was rich or poor. Because money never mattered much to him. He was unmarried and did not have a family of his own. His elder brother and his family lived in Rameswaram to whom he used to send 50% of his pension. He kept a quarter of it for his personal expenses. Remaining money went to support the causes of public interest and welfare. An inventory after his death revealed that he left no bank balance. He lived in Government

accommodation at New Delhi. All his earthly possessions found after his death were 3 suits, 6 shirts, 3 pants, 2500 books, the musical instrument *Veena*, a lap-top and several CDs of music mostly of Carnatic classical music. He did not have a TV or a car of his own. He once owned an apartment in Bengaluru which he made over to scientific community years ago.

His equation with children was very special. In a way, he saw the future of India only in children. He loved to spend as much time as possible with children and always endeavored to motivate them for higher goals and matching achievements. He coaxed the youth to dream and his idea of a dream is not something which one sees while sleeping. "It is something that does not let you sleep" he said. While asking them to dream high, he always cautioned them not to be complacent with one success. He argued that the effort which brought first success should be sustained and improved to ensure the second success and more successes to follow. He said that the second success is so vital that if it is not achieved, the first success could be deemed a fluke. He asked the children not to read too many success stories because these stories only convey message. Instead, he advised them to read failure stories from which they could draw ideas for success.

Dr. Kalam adored Gandhiji the most. He was 16 years old when India became Independent.

Gandhiji's leadership qualities made an indelible impression on him. To narrate the incident in his own words:

"An incident fascinated and shaped me when I was a young boy. On 15th August 1947, my high school teacher Rev. Iyyadorai Soloman took me to hear the midnight freedom speech of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. We were all thrilled when Panditji spoke that the mission was achieved. On the next day, that is on 16th August 1947 I had a great experience. An experience of best of education I can think of. In a Tamil newspaper, on the front page, two news items appeared. One item was India achieving freedom and Panditji's speech. The other news item and the most important one which has been embedded in my memory is about Mahatma Gandhiji walking barefoot in a town in Bengal, removing the pain of riot affected families. Mahatma Gandhi was an embodiment of nobility, elevated thinking and concern for human beings and he was there where there was pain. What an everlasting positive impact of the ideal leadership qualities on the mind of a school boy,"

It is common that persons with proven track record in public life and distinguished services with acceptability to people in general and more particularly across the political spectrum are considered for the office of the President. He

is only the second person after Dr. S. Radhakrishnan to become the President from outside political arena. Dr. Radhakrishnan had at least been the vice-president for 10 years before was chosen as President. Kalamji entered the Rashtrapathi Bhavan from an entirely non-political background. Dr. Kalam has another unique achievement; A Bharat Ratna had become the President and not the President has been awarded Bharat Ratna.

Dr. Kalam was a multi-faceted personality. He was a perfect human being. He was a Scientist, a Teacher, an Institution builder, a Dreamer, a Counsellor, a motivator, a Patriot and an eternal Learner. He believed that human mind is something like an untapped power house with unlimited energy stored therein. He always tried to ignite these minds for release of stored marvels. More than transferring the knowledge, igniting the minds like giving a spark to silent dynamite, would bring out the hidden treasures. That was the reason, perhaps, he chose the children as his close friends. They are the Nation of Tomorrow.

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was a Saint and a Scientist. And, above all a Human Such great people rarely appear on horizon and walk away after playing their role as ordained by destiny, leaving millions behind to mourn.

MAHATMA KALAM, AAP KO MERA SALAM

By
K. B. R. Reddy

P. J. Abdul Kalam Sahib, we know that you were born in 1931 in a poor family of Rameshwaram in the erstwhile state of Madras. You were the last of the five siblings (one sister and four brothers) of your parents Jainulabuddin, a boat owner and the Imam of the Mosque at Rameshwaram and Ashiamma, a housewife. They took good care of you to put you in the local school. You realized that your family resources were limited and therefore to supplement the family income you took up the part-time job of distribution/sale of newspapers. Nobody would have ever imagined that the newspaper boy of Rameshwaram would occupy the *Rashtrapathi Bhavan* at New Delhi.

It was your science teacher Siva Subrahmanya Iyer who explained to you on the black-board and on the sea shore to answer your innocent question as to how the birds fly in the air; he infused enthusiasm in you to take interest in science and Mathematics. You were graded average in school though; but were described as bright and hard working. You graduated with physics in 1954 from Madras University and we know you did aerospace engineering from Madras Institute of Technology in 1960. You narrowly missed selection for a fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force That did not deter your

enthusiasm for pursuit of your career. Your father's advice was, "Troubles don't come to trouble you but they come to test your inherent talent and mettle to face them." It was the Guru in your father and the teachers, who guided your destiny. You gave the same message in different words to the youth of India. You said: "Youth should have the courage to think differently and explore unexplored paths. Difficulties would come but don't be afraid of them. Overcome them by your intellect and hard work."

In the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), your research and leadership brought you laurels. As a scientist and science administrator your services to the country are laudable. I recall here what I read in newspaper of your concern and affection for men working with you. One member of the team who was assigned the job in designing a missile, requested you to grant him permission to leave from work in the afternoon as he wanted to take his children to the exhibition. You readily granted him leave. But you found the person busily engaged in the project work assigned to him, totally oblivious of his evening programme. He got reminded of it only late evening, when he was to return home as usual.

He reached home remorsefully and he saw his wife alone. He enquired his wife regretfully as to what happened to him at work and wanted to find his children. His wife replied, "Your boss took the children to the exhibition already." His eyes swelled with tears. I ask myself if there is any such example in the country. I have read another heart-warming story of your love for birds. While working as a team leader at ISRO, for safety and security of building, there was a proposal to construct a wall and fix pieces of glass on the top of the wall to prevent any one scaling over the wall. When this was brought to your notice, you said: "Will the glass pieces not hurt and injure the birds that perch on the wall?" You have also said of birds on another occasion like this, "All birds find shelter during a rain. But eagle avoids rain by flying above the clouds." This quote of yours indubitably is pregnant with meaning.

It was your innovative plan which you called "Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas" (PURA). This must act as food for thought for the planners and policy makers. In collaboration with the Cardiologist Dr. Soma Raju, you produced in 1998, a low cost coronary stent which has come to be known as Kalam-Raju Stent. This is extensively being used. Along with Dr. Narendranath, you designed cheap and light weight calipers for polio affected persons; the previous ones were heavy and expensive.

It was because of your extraordinary abilities you were appointed as Chief Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister. In the various organizations in whatever capacity you worked, you earned the sobriquets like Aerospace Engineer, Missile Man, Rocket Scientist etc. and the best of them being the Jewel of India – *BHARAT RATNA* - awarded in 1997. In all humility, you remembered Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Prof. Satish Dhawan and Dr. Brahma Prakash from whom you learned the leadership qualities. This reflects your nobility and magnanimity. In your scientific career throughout, you strived for self-reliance in defense technology. Someone, out of ignorance, asked you, why should there be missile making and rocket technology, atomic energy etc., when India is a peace loving nation. Your reply was: "We have to be strong because, only then the strong nations will respect us. There is no point, being weak, and talking of peace."

We know that you are the third non-politician and the first scientist to be elected to the high office as the XI President of India. You remained in the office of presidency from July 2002 to July 2007. Before you assumed the office of presidency, someone on protocol duty took the liberty of telling you about the dress code and the need for haircut. You said: dress code, 'Yes'; hair-cut 'No'. With that hair style wherever you appeared it was graceful any way. You desired

that the *Rashtrapathi Bhavan* should be easily accessible to a common man. In fact, you wanted it to be people's place so as to solve their problems. That is why you earned the title of People's President.

You have been a multifaceted personality. We therefore called you *Bahumukha Pragnashali*. Apart from being a scientist of international repute, you have been a visionary and a successful statesman. You were committed to nation building and created a vision document to make India a developed nation by 2020. This vision document was your *magnum opus*.

There was no difficulty for you in solving with ease constitutional and legal problems. You had immense faith in the preamble of the Indian Constitution and held the view that every citizen should enjoy equality and social-economic-political justice. You felt uncomfortable when you had to give assent to the Office of Profit Bill in 2006.

You believed in secularism and have been religious. According to you, religion and morality are one and the same. During the post presidency period, you became visiting professor for many institutions like Indian

Institute of Management at Ahmednagar, Indore and Shillong; Professor of Aerospace Engineering at Anna University; Honorary Fellow of Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore; Chancellor of Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology at Thiruvananthapuram.

Your companion in loneliness was *Veena* like Einstein's Violin. You had perfected the art of playing on the stringed instrument. People enjoyed when you played Thyagaja's kriti, *Endaro mahanubhavulu*..... On July 27, 2015, you went to Shillong for giving a talk on 'Creating a Livable Planet Earth' at the Indian Institute of Management but you had to leave for Heavenly Abode within a short time after the commencement of the talk. For your intellectual capabilities, patriotic fervor, possessing high moral values and service rendered to the country, I intend to accost you as Mahatma. It is a compound word consisting of '*maha*' (great) and '*atma*' (soul). We have no doubt in addressing you as a 'great soul'. I doubt if there is anyone who disagrees with me if you are called a great soul or Mahatma.

MAHATMA KALAM AMAR HAI !

Man needs his difficulties because they are necessary to enjoy success.

-A.P.J. Abdul kalam

Birth Day Greetings

We wish the following born on the dates mentioned
" A very Happy Birth Day "

S.No. Name of Members

	Sarva Sri	
1.	A.H.Qureshi	07-09-1941
2.	A.Raja Reddy	13-09-1926
3.	J.V.Subba Rao	13-09-1934
4.	Narpatt Singh	15-09-1952
5.	V.Kishan Reddy	20-09-1941
6.	G.Sagar	23-09-1952
7.	V.V.Hari Prasad	25-09-1953
8.	K.S.Rao	26-09-1948
9.	D.S.Gangakhedkar	29-09-1934
10.	P.S.Reddy	30-09-1932
11.	P.V.Krishna Murthy	03-10-1933
12.	P.Ranga Rao	05-10-1927
13.	P.Subramanyam	05-10-1946

7.	A.Sreenivasulu	11-09-1967
8.	M.Samuel	12-09-1978
9.	N.Rama Chandra Rao	18-09-1984
10.	S.Venkateshwarlu	22-09-1961
11.	B.Jayachandra Reddy	01-10-1958
12.	D.Sudhakar Reddy	01-09-1966
13.	S.Satyanarayana	04-10-1967
14.	K.Purushotham	05-10-1962
15.	M.Keshavaram	05-10-1960

Secretary

S.No. Name of Serving Officers

	Sarva Sri	
1.	Smt.Priyanka Varghese	08-09-1978
2.	K.S.Reddy	10-09-1957
3.	Chandan Mitra	27-09-1958
4.	S.B.L.Misra	30-09-1956
5.	Dr.Suresh Nagesh Jadhav	01-10-1955
6.	Dr.Rajendra Prasad Khajuria	05-10-1968



NONE IN THE PAST (SO FAR), (AND) NONE IN FUTURE (PERHAPS)...! ("NA-BHOOTHO, NA-BHAVISHYATHEE...!")

By
Dr. B. Raghotham Rao Desai

APJ Abdul Kalam was indeed a President like no other: with a fighter spirit, he was a man for all seasons with a beautiful mind and a human being, par excellent. While being a man of the masses he ignited India's mind, making his life a mission — telling the youth to dream big, have high aims, think & translate that, thought into action with hard work and perseverance. He was a morale booster, and a visionary scientist, never allowing himself to be away from being eco-friendly & ego-friendly, in spite of being a *Bharath Ratna* five years earlier to his becoming President. He was a life without frills: that was the reason he could show how to make high constitutional principles people-centric!

Simple, warm and disarmingly social, President Kalam threw open the sprawling *Rashtrapathi Bhavan* & its surrounds to an audience of millions: within a month of his assumption of office, the message had clearly gone down that the staid protocols had to be reworked to make the President easily accessible! Five years he spent there transformed not only the Presidency, but the man himself. He was indeed people's President.

Being so well aware what to tell the media, and what not, he was one of its practitioners even before social media came into vogue — he had welcomed this century with a pledge to connect with children and launched his own vision of what our country should become by 2020: Kalam's whirlwind tours and long string of engagements each & every day had more followers than most of the celebrity social media accounts. He was equal to the task of handling complex political issues: despite his campaign for openness & transparency, he believed that many things in the government should remain a secret. He had a charming way of fending off curious questions from the media and had an extraordinary talent for diverting attention during conversations, as he had been part of national security strategy team — being the supreme commander of the armed forces who had to take the advancement of military technology.

He led by example in whatever he did — as a scientist and technologist he might not have travelled much because of the sensitive nature of the high technology areas in space & defense departments that he was in charge of, yet Kalam

handled foreign affairs well, observing diplomatic niceties and even springing surprises sometimes! In spite of such sterling qualities, he wanted to be known as a teacher, rather than a scientist, writer or former President.

He greatly enhanced the stature of his office by adhering to constitutional norms and gave respectability to our country in the world, by being a man of integrity, genuine simplicity with an abiding concern for the well-being of fellow human beings, shunning pomp and publicity. Kalam rose from the humblest of backgrounds to the country's top constitutional position, but always carried the high positions he held lightly on his shoulders. Though he combined many

roles in himself — scientist, technocrat, team leader, teacher and the President of the country, he always more than did justice to his calling — what he did in any one of these avocations would have been enough to secure him a place in history. The last moments came to him fittingly when he was doing what he loved doing most — talking to and engaging the youth to inspire and motivate them! He was intuitively and naturally a humanist, above the divisions of religion and politics. In his passing away, India thus lost not only a visionary scientist and an institution-builder but also a staunch nationalist who was an inspirational figure for people across generations.

PROPERTY LEFT BEHIND BY DR. APJ. ABDUL KALAM

The property left behind by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was estimated.

He owned

6 Pants (2 DRDO uniforms)

4 Shirts (2 DRDO uniform)

3 suits (1 western 2 Indian)

2500 books

1 flat (which he has donated)

1 Padmashri

1 Padmabhushan

1 Bharat Ratna

16 Doctorates

1 website

1 twitter account

1 e mail ID

He did not have any T.V., A.C., car, jewellery, shares, land or bank balance.

He had even donated the last 8 years pension towards the development of his village.

He was a real patriot and true Indian. India will forever be grateful to you sir.

(Collected and contributed by Sri P. V. Krishna Murthy with thanks)

OFFICE OF PROFIT, DISQUALIFICATION AND LAW RELATING TO PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION

By
K.B.R. Reddy

An Office of Profit means a position that brings to the person holding it some financial gain, or advantage, or benefit. It may be an office or place of profit if it carries some remuneration, financial advantage, benefit etc.

The concept of Office of Profit disqualifying the holder is borrowed from Britain. The idea was that legislators should not fall prey to the temptations of Executive. The framers of the Constitution have thoughtfully incorporated provisions in Articles 102 and 191 prescribing disqualification under a certain situation.

The phrase 'Office of Profit' is used in Constitution of India, 1950 and Representation of People's Act, 1951. There is no legal definition of the expression, 'Office of Profit'. It is left to the courts to interpret the scope and meaning of the expression. According to Article 102 (1) of the Constitution, a person is disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of parliament if he holds any Office of Profit under the Government of India or any State Government other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder. Similar provision is made in Article 191 (1) (e) for the state legislators.

Right to Information Act was passed by the Parliament in May 2005 and it received the assent of the President on 15.06.2005. The Act came into force with effect from 12.10.2005. Taking advantage of the new law, interested parties gathered information relating to those lawmakers who were holding Office of Profit and thereby are likely to get disqualified from membership of the Parliament. Election Commission / Courts are competent authorities to decide the question of applying the provisions of disqualification.

Jaya Bachan was a member of the *Rajya Sabha* and was also the head of U.P. Film Development Council, which was considered an Office of Profit and was, therefore, on the recommendation of the Election Commission, was disqualified and expelled from the *Rajya Sabha* on 18-03-2016 by President Kalam. Sonia Gandhi M.P. was chairperson of National Advisory Council (N.A.C) and also head of many other organizations which are within the purview of the Offices of Profit. She resigned to avoid disqualification and got re-elected. T. Subbarami Reddy, a minister in the Central

Cabinet, was the chairman of the *Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam* (T.T.D.) Karan Singh, was head of I.C.C.R. Indian Council for Cultural Relations (I.C.C,R). The *Lok Sabha* Speaker Somnath Chatterjee was Chairperson of the Shantiniketan and Sriniketan Development Board. Amar Singh, M.P. was chairman of U.P. Industrial Development Council. All these persons were under the threat of disqualification. To avert the catastrophic situation, the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006 was rushed through and the Amendment Act was passed by the Parliament.

The background of the scheme of law to prevent disqualification needs to be understood. With an objective to prevent disqualification of elected representatives, a law was enacted under the short title, Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act 1950, 1951 and 1953 exempting certain posts being regarded as Offices of Profit. All the Acts were replaced by the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959. By virtue of Sec. 3 of the Act certain offices did not disqualify their holders from being

members of Parliament. The law was therefore proposed to be amended as mentioned above. It was also proposed to be given retrospective effect.

The Bill passed by Parliament was sent to President Kalam for his assent. Going through the contents, President Kalam felt very uncomfortable. He therefore returned the Bill to the Speaker of the *Lok Sabha* and the Chairman of the *Rajya Sabha* on 25.5.2006. It was passed again by Parliament in the last week of July 2006. It was sent again to the President on 9.8.2006. Prime Minister Man Mohan Singh had called on the President twice and the issue was reported to have figured in the discussions. The controversy was also discussed in the political circles. The Presidential assent came a day after the *Lok Sabha* adopted a motion to constitute a 15-member Joint Parliamentary Committee to look into comprehensive definition of Office of Profit. The amendment benefited 40-odd offices. But the legal luminaries and Constitution experts are critical about the amendment.

Source: Internet

Life is a difficult Game. You Can Win It Only By Retaining your Birth Right To be A Person.

-A.P.J. Abdul kalam

OUR MAN KALAM

By
V. S. Joshi

A little lad hailing from a tiny village
Climbed the science-ladder with courage
With the stars twinkling in his eyes
He tried to clasp in hand the skies
With perseverance of a caterpillar
His craft hovered over the air
With the wings of fire
His rockets soared up higher
With the surgical precise tact
His missiles shattered the target
With deafening sound
His nuclear device shocked the world
With rare precedent
He became people's president
With chest full of patriotism
He rose above the petty isms
With vision beyond twenty-twenty
He visualized India's prosperity
With smiling bright eyes
He lighted up many faces
With missionary zeal inspired
He traversed India beloved
With head full of subject
He earned student's respect
With down to earth humility
He lived life with austerity
To A.P.J. Abdul Kalam!
Our heartfelt Salam!

A SEQUEL TO THE POEM BY 'USHA VINOD RAJAWARAM'

By

Dr. B. Raghotham Rao Desai

I was quite amused by the said Telugu verse, well composed on a topical subject by a young departmental employee, in typical Telangana-Slant, which appeared on P.42 of VP (6/15 issue, presented by the Editor while I was still at Hyderabad when the magazine was back from the press), and even read it with a relish to KBR (who came to pick me up for an evening's marriage reception, hosted by L. Lohit Reddy at a resort, joined also by T. Narayan Swamy, K. Mohan Reddy and J.V. Sharma).

Yes, use of calcium carbide, a ripening agent — in spite of harmful consequences of disrupting intestinal functions and causing stomach upset — is widespread for ripening bananas, mangoes, papaya and even chiku (sapota), dates and tomato. Over 80% of them in the market are in all probability ripened in this fashion, though it is known to one and all that such fruits are overly soft, inferior in taste & flavor and have shorter shelf-life.

Mangoes and bananas treated with calcium carbide turn yellow in a day and are ready for sale, very raw fruits requiring larger quantity of the chemical which render the fruits more tasteless, unhealthy and possibly more toxic — though there is a wrong perception that when consumed in small amounts, the chemical is not harmful. Irrespective of the quality consumed, it is found to harm the body.

Cases could be registered against sellers under the Food Safety and Standards Act if fruits are found to have traces of calcium carbide, as using it to ripen fruits is banned under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. Not necessarily it be

restricted to the said chemical alone but can incorporate other contaminants widely used in the fruit-and-vegetable market. Stringent action is the need of the hour against those violating the law, even stepping up vigilance at the wholesale markets.

Awareness-creation among farmers, middlemen and fruit sellers is also needed, prevailing upon them not to use harmful colors and chemicals. They need to be educated on the benefits of natural ripening besides having safer options, like Ethylene and facilitating them to transport the produce when ripe, with minimum damage. The consumers & other public too have a role to play in compelling the sellers to give up usage of harmful and dangerous chemicals: by boycotting the stalks that sell such poisoned products. Simultaneously a drive should be launched by the Government Agencies by cracking down on the perpetrators of such a heinous crime, as it involves general health of the public.

Consumers also must realize that naturally-ripened fruits (and vegetables) are more nutritious & tasty, while artificially ripened ones have only a cosmetic effect. Color and texture of the artificially ripened produce being uneven, it is not that difficult to identify them — what is more, they taste awful. More importantly, they are harmful most of the times, and this is the aspect which has effectively been explained by the (toothless) grand old man in the said poem to the young lady (in the presence of her inquisitive child)!

SOME LESSER KNOWN FACTS ABOUT THE POPULAR APJ ABDUL KALAM

The whole world is mourning the demise of the great 'Missile Man' of India, Former President of India APJ Abdul Kalam. While his great achievements in life have inspired us forever, the lesser known notorious facts about him is what makes him the 'People's President' of India.

1. When Kalam was with Defense Research Development Organization (DRDO), he rejected the suggestion to put broken glass on the walls of a building that need protection as he was concerned it would be harmful for the birds.

2. He founded the trust named PURA (Providing Urban Amenities to Rural Areas) and started giving all his life's salaries and savings to it when he came to know that the government takes care of its Presidents.

3. Kalam is known to write his own thank you cards with personalized messages in his own handwriting.

4. It was the convocation day at IIT Varanasi and our own humble Former President was the chief guest. He surprised all when he refused to sit on the chair made ready for him. It was slightly larger than the rest.

5. He was famously known for his frequent surprise visits to college and school students and sometimes with minimal security facilities. Once while he was one of the key advisors to the government, he was invited as a guest. Before

the event he drove off in a jeep without any security to visit the students of the organizing committee and at night.

6. In his book 'My Journey', APJ Abdul Kalam reveals his life's first lesson that made him the Missile Man of India. He remembers building the first boat with his father. His father's courage and dedication was what inspired him the most. Not only this, when it was lost in a cyclone, his father's stoic figure helped him learn his first lesson about life.

7. During his tenure at ISRO, he came forward and faced the press during all the failed tests, accepting it as his own mistake. But one huge success and he is nowhere to be seen. He sent his fellow scientists to talk to the press.

8. India had tested five nuclear bombs in 1998 at the Indian army's Pokhran Test Range. This incident makes it worth mentioning as the way they deceived CIA spying was wonderful. First spotting the time when CIA satellite was over India and then working at shifts accordingly was how the plan was carried. They worked mostly at nights. Also, they dressed in Indian military attire as scientists in plain clothes at army area would attract attention and suspicion. This is how scientist APJ Abdul Kalam and his team gave India its first nuclear bomb.

DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM - AN EPITOME OF “EXCELLENCE, HUMILITY AND PERSEVERANCE”

By
V.V. Hariprasad

These are the days that we often come across the politicians, employees, officials and bureaucrats who are corrupt, arrogant, bent upon using their power in pursuit of self and above all in the habit of licking the boots of their superiors while treating their subordinates as insects because of the sheer fact that in a country like India where the population exceeded 1200 million they are the privileged lot despite the fact that their numerical strength does not exceed a few crores. These type of people comprise right from a *daffedar* to some of all those belonging to the clan of politicians and bureaucrats.

I remember my student days when I used to notice a person who was a Govt. employee and who always used to go by a rikshaw (tricycle) by sitting in it in a posture reminding me of the British regime when a high profile British lord residing in British India used to sit in a tricycle being pulled by a rikshaw puller manually. When I enquired about the post that the employee was holding I was told that he was working as a clerk at a commercial tax check post which was highly fetching in terms of bribery at that point of time. These kind of people, all those belonging to such high profile bureaucrats and even a common man should bow their head to a person simple and humble by nature and eminent by his knowledge, achievements and stature by name A.P.J. Abdul Kalam a great scientist and a former President of India who passed away on 27-07-

2015 and who was trying to convey his message of scientific temper coupled with visionary approach to the youth to achieve the goals aimed at by them, till he breathed his last.

About Dr. Kalam in a nutshell: Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen “A. P. J.” Abdul Kalam was a scientist and an engineer, who served as the President of India from 2002 to 2007. Already a highly accomplished and much respected individual when elected to be the president, Kalam had spent four decades as a scientist and science administrator at several prestigious organizations like the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). Born into a family of humble means in Tamil Nadu, Kalam went on to study aerospace engineering in Madras Institute of Technology. His initial dream was to become a fighter pilot but he failed to qualify for the Indian Air Force. He then started working at the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) as a scientist and was later transferred to the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). Eventually he was appointed as the Chief Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister and in this position he played a key role in the Pokharan II nuclear tests. He became the President of India in 2002 and was known as the People’s President. He left the office after serving one term and became professor of Aerospace Engineering at Anna University and a visiting professor at several other institutions.

Childhood & Early Life

: Abdul Kalam was born as the youngest of five children of a Muslim boat owner named Jainulabudeen and his wife Ashiamma, in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu. His ancestors had once been wealthy traders though his family lost much of its fortunes by the early 20th century. Dr. Kalam grew up in humble surroundings and had to take up a job while he was still in school in order to augment his family's meager income—he distributed newspapers to help his father in providing for the family. He was a bright young boy, blessed with a thirst for knowledge and was always eager to learn new things. He completed his schooling from Ramanathapuram Schwartz Matriculation School and proceeded to study physics at the Saint Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli, from where he graduated in 1954. Then he studied aerospace engineering in Madras Institute of Technology, graduating in 1960.

Career at DRDO: After completing his studies he joined the Aeronautical Development Establishment of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) as a scientist. One of the first projects he worked on was to design a small helicopter for the Indian Army. He also got the opportunity to work with the renowned space scientist, Vikram Sarabhai as a part of the INCOSPAR committee. However, Kalam was not much satisfied with his career at the DRDO.

Career at ISRO: Dr. Kalam was transferred to the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in 1969 as the project director of India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III). An expandable rocket project on which he had started working

independently in 1965 got the government's approval for expansion in 1969. Over the next several years he developed the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and SLV-III projects, both of which proved to be successful. In the 1970s he also worked on the development of ballistic missiles from the technology of the successful SLV program and directed the projects **Project Devil** and **Project Valiant** which were aimed at producing a short-range surface-to-air missile. Even though the projects were discontinued in 1980 without achieving full success, they earned Dr. Kalam great respect and admiration from the scientific fraternity.

Return to DRDO: In 1980s, the government decided to initiate an advanced missile program under his directorship and thus the Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP) was launched with Dr. Kalam as the chief executive. The program which aimed at the research and development of a comprehensive range of missiles started in 1982-83. Under the able guidance of Kalam, several missiles including Agni, an intermediate range ballistic missile and Prithvi, the tactical surface-to-surface missile, were developed.

Presidency: Dr. Kalam stood for presidency in 2002 and easily won the 2002 presidential election. He had the support of both the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and the opposition Indian National Congress and was sworn in as the 11th president of the Republic of India on 25 July 2002. He was the first scientist to occupy *Rashtrapati Bhawan*. He was a popular president who was much respected by the citizens of the country. At the end of his term he

decided not to contest the Presidential election again and stepped down on 25 July 2007.

Post-Presidency After leaving the president's office he became the chancellor of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology Thiruvananthapuram and professor of Aerospace Engineering at Anna University. He also became a visiting professor at the Indian Institute of Management Shillong, the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, and the Indian Institute of Management Indore, and taught information technology at the International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad.

As an Author: Abdul Kalam was also a noted author who had penned books like 'India 2020: A Vision for the New Millennium' (1998), 'Wings of Fire: An Autobiography' (1999), 'Ignited Minds: Unleashing the Power within India' (2002), and 'A Manifesto for Change: A Sequel to India 2020' (2014).

Awards and Honors: Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was honored with several prestigious awards from the Government of India including the *Padma Bhushan* in 1981, the *Padma Vibhushan* in 1990, and the Bharat Ratna in 1997. He was also the recipient of the Von Braun Award (2013) from the National Space Society "to recognize excellence in the management and leadership of a space-related project". Following his death, the Tamil Nadu state government announced that his birthday, 15 October, would be observed across the state as "Youth Renaissance Day".

Personal Life: Dr. Kalam was a life-long bachelor. He had four elder siblings—one sister and three

brothers—with whom he had close relations. He was a very simple person with just a few personal possessions.

Death: He remained active until the last day of his life. He was scheduled to deliver a lecture at the Indian Institute of Management Shillong on 27 July 2015. Only five minutes into his lecture, he collapsed and was rushed to the Bethany Hospital where he was confirmed dead of a sudden cardiac arrest. His last rites were performed in his hometown, Rameswaram.

One has to understand

"What you think of yourself is different from
What others think of yourself, which again is different from

What others think that you think of yourself,
which is also different from

What you think that others think of yourself,
which may be different from

What actually you are!!!"

And that

"Any individual commands respect from his fellow countrymen not by the post that he holds, not by the power that he wields and not the pelf that he is endowed with but by the values human, social and cultural that one upholds. Dr. A.P.J Abdul kalam is a great soul who commanded respect from all his fellow countrymen by virtue of his patriotism, integrity, humility and the values that he used to uphold which all right thinking people of this biggest democratic country of the world are bound to emulate and stand for."

NEWS AND NOTES

APJ Abdul Kalam buried with full state honors in Rameshwaram; nation bids a teary adieu to People's President :-

In a spontaneous outpouring of grief, thousands of people bid an emotional farewell to former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam who was on Thursday laid to rest with full state honors in his home town here amid chants of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai".

The body of Kalam was buried in the middle of a 1.5 acre piece of land earmarked for the purpose at Peikarumbu here after being brought from his family mosque where special prayers were offered.

The "People's President" was accorded full military honors, including gun salute and playing of the Last Post as the members of his family and local *Jamath* lowered his mortal remains into a trench as slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" rent the air.

The funeral of the "Missile Man" was attended by a galaxy of leaders including Prime Minister Narendra Modi who placed a wreath, offered his final salute and stood in silence in front of Kalam's body that was draped in national flag. He also went around the casket with folded hands.

The Prime Minister later went up to Kalam's eldest brother 99-year-old Mohammed Muthu Meeran Lebbai Maraicker, who was seated nearby, and offered his condolences.

Congress Vice-President Rahul Gandhi also paid his last respects to Kalam, who died of cardiac arrest in Shillong on July 27.

Besides some foreign dignitaries, several leaders including Tamil Nadu Governor K Rosaiah,

Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar, his cabinet colleague M. Venkiah Naidu and state Finance Minister O. Panneerselvam were present.

Congress leader Gulam Nabi Azad and Chief Ministers of Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh Siddaramaiah Oommen Chandy and Chandrababu Naidu and CPI-M veteran V S Achuthanandan were also among those who paid their homage. The three services chief also paid their respects to their former Supreme Commander.

Did Kalam sense his end was near? Did former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam have a premonition of his death? His close associate for 33 years and co-author of five books, Arun Tiwari, suspects he did. Talking to *The Hindu* from Delhi on Tuesday, he said Mr. Kalam made a prophetic statement in the latest book "Transcendence: My Spiritual Experiences with Pramukh Swamiji", which he co-authored with the former President. The book was officially launched on June 29.

The second paragraph on page 50 reads: "Now, finally, Pramukh Swamiji has put me in a God synchronous orbit. No maneuvers are required any more, as I am placed in my final position in eternity."

Mr. Tiwari said the words were haunting him now. "Reading them now, I feel he had some sort of a premonition."

He also referred to a conversation he had with Mr. Kalam as they were returning in a car from Sarangpur, Gujarat, after handing over the book to Pramukh Swamiji on June 20. He asked the

former President what writing project he would be tasked with next. "He surprised me by saying 'whatever has to be written has been written.' May be he knew in his sub-conscious mind," Mr. Tiwari said.

Mr. Tiwari co-authored four other books with Mr. Kalam: 'Wings of Fire' (1999), 'Guiding Souls: Dialogues on the Purpose of Life' (2005), 'You Are Born to Blossom' (2006) and 'Squaring the Circle: Seven Steps To Indian Renaissance' (2011). While three of them — 'Wings of Fire', 'You Are Born to Blossom' and 'Transcendence' — are autobiographical, the other two are in the form of conversations between Mr. Kalam and Mr. Tiwari. Mr. Tiwari said his association with Mr. Kalam gave him a fairly good understanding of the latter's "inner world" and how he felt and thought.

A Bihar farmer repents his protest against

Kalam: - Bhola Mahto is a farmer. He has been fasting ever since he came to know that A.P.J. Abdul Kalam is no more. He will eat only after the former President is laid to rest. Manas Bihari Verma, a scientist friend of Mr. Kalam, vows to keep running the Mobile Science Laboratory (MSL) vans in the interior parts of Bihar to realize his dream that "every child should have some knowledge of science."

Bhola Mahto, 60, of Pilkhi village in Nalanda district was one of the hundreds of farmers who had thrown mud balls and slippers at Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who accompanied Mr. Kalam, as they visited the village on February 8, 2008, to inspect the land earmarked for the revival of Nalanda University.

"I was part of the group of villagers who protested the inadequate compensation for 446 acres acquired in the village for the university," Mahto told local journalists.

"But since then I've been repenting my action, looking for an opportunity to meet the great scientist and express my regret. I'm shocked to know that he is no more, and since the news came in, I'm not able to eat. I want to atone and will not take food until he is laid to rest," Mahto said.

After the protest, Mr. Kalam invited Mahto and three other villagers and heard their grievances, before explaining why the university was "necessary for them and their children." "He also assured us of an adequate compensation for our land acquired by the State government," Mr. Mahto recalled. Later, the government distributed compensation to the farmers by organizing special camps in the area.

"We should have showered flowers on him, instead of mud balls," said Saryug Prasad, who also took part in the protest.

Manas Bihari Verma of Darbhanga district recalls how his friend inspired him to roll out MSL vans in the remote areas of the State to educate school children on the importance of science. "The MSL was the dream project of Mr. Kalam, and he regularly used to enquire about its working," said Mr. Verma who was Mr. Kalam's colleague in the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bengaluru. He also worked for over three decades in the Defence Research and Development Organization.

To Honor His Vision, a Global Satellite Will Be Renamed After APJ Abdul Kalam :

- Since no single country can develop a complete set of technologies needed for forecast and control of natural disasters like floods, earthquakes, typhoons, etc., GlobalSat will create a globally interconnected disaster and environmental management system.

Kalam had envisioned nations joining hands to find solutions for mankind's big problems in his 'World Space Vision-2050'. And UN GlobalSat shares the same goal.

The satellite will be renamed UN Kalam GlobalSat to honor the great visionary.

After the formal approval, the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs will finalize the implementation of the new name at the proposed UN-India Workshop in early 2016.

The CANEUS team also hopes that this step will inspire many more people in science to find low cost solutions to disasters. (Collected and contributed by Sri R.K. Rao with thanks)

HC for Check on fruit markets: - A division bench comprising Acting Chief Justice Dilip B. Bhosle and Justice S.V. Bhatt of the Hyderabad High Court on Friday directed the Chief Secretaries of A.P. and Telangana to conduct surprise checks at fruit markets in major cities of both the states to prevent ripening of fruits artificially.

The bench was dealing with a taken up case based on news reports relating to use of prohibited chemicals in ripening fruits at

Gaddiannaram fruit market of Hyderabad and also at several other fruit markets in both the states.

While expressing concern at rampant use of calcium carbide to ripen fruits in various fruit markets in both the states the bench directed the Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries of Medical and health and District Collectors of Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts to depute their subordinate officers forthwith to inspect fruit markets without waiting for the court orders. (Deccan Chronicle dated 15-08-2015)

City Fruit markets raided after H.C. Order:-

Officials of the Hyderabad district collectorate on Friday evening raided fruit markets across the city and picked up samples for testing following a Hyderabad High Court directive ordering the crackdown on fruit markets in AP and T to check the use of calcium carbide for ripening fruits.

Earlier in the day, the division bench comprising acting Chief Justice Dilip B Bhosale and Justice S V Bhatt took cognizance of a news item in a vernacular daily on the use of this chemical by fruit vendors, the dangers it poses to people's health and the inaction on the part of government authorities. "Don't wait for the copies of the court orders. Direct your district officials to launch flash raids and inspections on fruit markets at Gaddi Annaram, Jambagh, Darulshifa, Mozzamjahi in Hyderabad as well as market yards in Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Tirupati immediately," the bench told the state counsels appearing for AP and Telangana.

The bench directed the counsels to orally

inform the principal secretary of AP medical and health wing, chief secretary of Telangana and the district collectors of Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts to order the raids.

"Seize the carbide from traders, collect fruit samples from them and send them to laboratories," the bench said. Seeking separate reports from the Telangana and AP authorities on their inspections, the bench told them to state the penal provisions under which action can be initiated against the erring traders. "Also inform us about the action plan to ensure fruit sale without the use of calcium carbide," it said.

"Tell us what punishment can be awarded to the errant players under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 and the AP Marketing Act 1966" the bench told the authorities and posted the case to August 19 for further hearing. The bench also sought to know from the counsel for the Centre to state its action plan as envisaged under the relevant central Acts.

Following the order, raids were conducted on the fruit markets at Mozzamjahi, Jambagh and Darulshifa Fruit godowns were inspected and samples sent to laboratories for inspection. (Times of India 15-8-2015).

Those who ripen fruits with chemicals are worse than terrorists HC: Calling fruit traders who use the carcinogenic calcium carbide to ripen fruits "worse than terrorist" the Hyderabad High Court on Wednesday ordered a thorough probe into the use of this poison and pulled up the authorities for turning a blind eye.

Six days after the High Court had asked the

respective Governments to conduct immediate raids in fruit shops across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, a division bench comprising Acting Chief Justice Dilip B Bhosle and Justice S V Bhat appointed senior counsel S Niranjana Reddy as amicus curiae to find out more on the illegal practice and come up with a solution.

For earning some extra rupees you are putting scores of lives at risk. Such traders are worse than terrorists killing generations of people with slow poison," the acting chief Justice said. Calcium carbide is a chemical compound whose two, main products-acetylene, a colorless gas widely used as fuel and calcium cyanide, used as fertilizer in agriculture are extremely harmful to the human body.

Farmers pluck fruits before they ripen naturally and ship them to the markets where these are treated with calcium carbide which acts as hormone stimulator and thereby hasten the ripening process.

While doctors have said for decades that calcium carbide is a proven carcinogene which contains traces of arsenic and can cause cancer, kidney disorders and other neurological disorders, successive Governments have done little to stop the illegal practice.

Worse, many traders inject harmful chemicals (sweeteners) in mangoes, papaya, and apples to make them taste unnaturally sweet.

On August 14, the court asked authorities in the twin states to immediately raid fruit markets after it took cognizance of a local news report which said most of Hyderabad's fruit markets

were selling artificially ripened fruits.

Following raids conducted on three markets, the Telangana Special Government pleader A. Sanjeev Kumar told the high court bench inspection teams found rampant use of calcium carbide. The inspecting officials found calcium carbide wrapped in papers and kept in the middle of heaps of fruits. We seized the carbide, sealed shops and sent the fruits to labs" said Kumar. "The reports from the labs stated that these fruits are unsafe for consumption" he added.

When senior counsel P Gangiah Naidu intervened on behalf of the fruit merchants and tried to defend them, the bench retorted that traders would do well to sell raw mangoes leaving the job of ripening to consumers, but could not use calcium carbide. The only way to allow fruits to ripen is through the natural process, it observed.

The bench also asked amicus curiae S. Niranjan

Reddy to study the issue and inform the court about the impact of carbide on the health of human beings and their nervous system especially children.

"Till now we were asking children not to eat junk food. We have now reached an unfortunate stage where we have to ask them not to eat fruits also," Justice Bhosle said.

The bench also snubbed AP Counsel D. Ramesh who told the court that their inspections have found no presence of carbide in Andhra Markets. The errant traders have to face penal action apart from suspension of their licenses; the bench said and directed the AP, Telangana as well as the Centre to file affidavits within two weeks detailing inspections carried out and steps taken to prevent the use of carbide in fruits.

(Source Times of India dated 20-8-2015, with thanks. Readers are requested to refer Editorial of August 2015))

NOTICE

The 77th GENERAL BODY MEETING of the Association of Retired Forest Officers of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh will be held on 13-09-2015 (Sunday) 11 a.m. at *Aranya Bhavan*, Hyderabad. Sri S. Appa Rao, a member of the Association will be felicitated on completion of 90 years of age (D.O.B. 18-08-1925) Dr. Sreekanth Vemula, MD, DM. an eminent Neurologist will be the Chief Guest and will deliver an informative and useful talk on "MEMORY LOSS AND FORGETFULNESS" followed by INTER ACTIVE SESSION.

All the members of the Association are requested to attend the meeting with their spouses. Sri M. Purushotham Reddy, a member of the Association will host lunch

B. M. Swami Dass
SECRETARY

LEGAL NOTES

Sare Laxmaiah Naidu vs The State of A.P and Ors

Machupalli Ramanaiah @ Pottabbi S/o Venkataiah, aged 35 yrs. R/o Jandlavaram village in Mydukur Mandal was a habitual smuggler of red sanders wood. Cases were booked against him on 30.12.2012, 23.04. 2013, 08-05-2013, 30-06-2013. and 02.07.2013. Apart from booking cases under the Forest Act 1967, Wildlife Protection Act 1972, Biological Diversity Act 2002, the Forest Department wanted the culprit to be detained under Sec.3 of the A.P.Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Dacoits, Drug Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders and Land Grabbers Act 1986 (for brevity hereafter referred as Goondas Act). The Forest Department took up the matter with the Collector and District Magistrate, Kadapa district. The Collector and the District Magistrate, of Kadapa district, having been satisfied with the matter, issued orders, for detention of the culprit under the Goondas Act.

In the grounds of detention it was stated by the Collector that there are five cases booked by the Forest Department against the culprit for committing offences punishable under the various Acts as aforesaid. The main theme of the detention order sets out that the detenu along with several others has been indulging in a spate of illegal red sanders tree felling and then smuggling the logs from Siddhout, Proddatur and Kadapa Range forests to unknown destination in India for their eventual transfer abroad. Apart from stealthily felling trees in

reserved forests un authorizedly, the detenu has been indulging in organized crime. The Collector passed order on 11.07.2013 and the detenu was detained from 20.07.2013 onwards. The State Government once again independently confirmed the order in G.O. Rt. No. 3819 dated 26.08.2013.

The correctness of the order of detention was challenged by Sare Laxmaiah Naidu, father-in-law of the detenu, by filing W.P.No.6317 of 2014 in the High Court at Hyderabad. The writ petition was heard by The Hon'ble Justice Nooty Ramamohana Rao.

The District Collector filed a detailed counter and the Advocate General appeared on behalf of the Respondents. The Collector justified the detention order and explained the action taken by him so as to prevent him from indulging in the illegal activities. In all the raids conducted by forest officers resulted in recovery of logs of red sanders wood of great value and only a few people could be nabbed while others made good their escape. The persons arrested revealed involvement and complicity of the detenu.

The counsel for the petitioner argued the matter. The sum and substance of the submissions of the Counsel for the petitioner is as follows:

1. The order of detention does not contain anything in that the detenu was indulging in any dangerous activities.

2. Offences relating to red sanders wood are triable by competent criminal court and detention under the Goondas Act is unwarranted.

3. There is no proximity between the offences as the first one allegedly took place on 30.12.2012 while the second one took place on 23.04.2013.

4. The material placed before the Collector was not properly considered.

5. The detenu obtained bail from the criminal court but this fact was not placed before the detaining authority and for this reason the detention is vitiated.

6. The detention order is intended to prevent the detenu from securing his interests and liberty being protected by criminal court.

7. The forest officers have apprehended the detenu merely on the confessional statements of the other accused.

8. Provisions of Goondas Act cannot be invoked for forest offences.

The counsel cited many case laws in support of his arguments.

The Special Government Pleader, who represented the Advocate General, argued for the respondents; a gist of the arguments is stated below:

1. The definition of the expression 'Goonda' found in Sec. 2 (g) of the Act is applicable to the case of the detenu.

2. If a person has been frequently and consistently indulging in one serious offence or the other affecting the tranquility and social order; such person therefore deserves to be detained preventively.

3. The detaining authority has taken into consideration before he decided to pass the order.

4. Indulging in red sanders tree felling is a grave crime against the society and it spells doom to the environment and therefore a serious approach is needed in this regard.

The Government Pleader relied on many of the judgments of Supreme Court and other courts to support his argument.

Red sanders is an endemic timber which occurs naturally in Kadapa, Chittoor, Nellore and Kurnool of Andhra Pradesh. It is listed as endangered species in red data book of IUCN. Hence His Lordship formed an opinion that to prevent the detenu from further indulging in dangerous activities of looting national wealth, the detention order was passed. Penal laws have failed to curb the illegal activities which are detrimental to public order and therefore required to be prevented by detention. On the importance of red sanders, the court observed that the activities of the detenu are capable of posing a danger to the society at large and the delicate balance amongst flora and fauna which have symbiotic relationship among them gets disturbed by the illegal felling of endangered species. It takes a few decades for a tree to grow and attain the requisite girth. Illegal felling of trees and the resultant plunder of such wealth does not get confined in its impact on the economic front, but transcends beyond the tangible spheres.

For the reasons stated the writ petition failed and it was dismissed on 09.05.2014. **Source:** Internet

K.B.R

స్ఫూర్తి దాతా! విశ్వవిజేతా! కాలాం ! నీకు సలాం!

-కవిత, మరియు చిత్రం రాజవరం ఉషా వినోద్

పుట్టుక, చావులు - దేవుని చేతిలో
మధ్యలో బ్రతుకు మాత్రం భారత మాతకే, అంకితమిచ్చిన కలాం! నీకు మా సలాం!
శాస్త్ర విజ్ఞానం కై అహరహం శ్రమించిన కలాం! నీకు శాస్త్రవేత్త లందరి సలాం!
వింగ్స్ ఆఫ్ ఫైర్, ఇగ్నైటెడ్ మైండ్స్, ఇండామిట్ బుల్ స్పిరిట్స్
ఇండియా 2020, మై జిల్డ్ వంటి అద్భుత రచనలను ఆందించిన కలాం!
నీకు స్వదేశ, విదేశ మేధావులందరి సలాం!
అమాయకత్వం, చైతన్యం, మూర్తిభవించిన కలాం!
నీకు ప్రతిసామాన్యుని సలాం!
విద్యార్థులకు ప్రేమతో ఎప్పుడూ చక్కని బోధను చేసే సలాం!
నీకు, చిన్నారుల, విద్యార్థులందరి సలాం!
“కలలు కనండి, వాటిని సాకారం చేసుకొండి” అని సందేశమిచ్చిన కలాం!
దేశాభ్యున్నతికై కలలు గనే ప్రతి ఒక్కరి సలాం!
రామేశ్వరం నుండి, రాష్ట్రపతి భవన్ వరకు... జీవన సాహస యాత్ర చేసిన కలాం!
నిన్ను ఆదర్శంగా భావించిన ప్రతి భారతీయుని సలాం!
విజయాల నుంచే కాదు, అపజయాల నుండి కూడా
ఎంతో నేర్చుకోవచ్చని నిరూపించిన కలాం!
జ్ఞానమనే రత్నాలిచ్చే సముద్రంలో బుత్తం మెరవాలని
పిల్లలను ఆశీర్వదించే కలాం!
నీకు రత్నాల, ముత్యాల సలాం!
ప్రా. సారాభాయి, సతీష్ ధావన్ లచే తీర్చి దిద్దబడిన కలాం!
నీకు శాస్త్రజ్ఞుల, ఇంజనీరులందరి సలాం!
విజ్ఞానంతో బాటు, విశ్వశాంతి పరిమళాల నూ
సమానంగా అందించిన కలాం
నిన్ను ప్రేమించే ప్రతి హృదయం సలాం!
తేలికైన “క్యాలిపర్” లను రూపొందించి అవిటి తనానికి ఊరట నిచ్చిన కలాం!
నీకు (శారీరక లోపాలతో పోరాడే) వారందరి సలాం!
అతి చౌక ధరకే గుండెలో అమర్చే “స్టెంటు” ను అద్భుతంగా పని చేయించే కలాం!
నీకు హృద్రోగులందరి హృదయ పూర్వక సలాం!
భువి వీడి స్వర్గం చేరిన మహా మనీషీ!
శత్రువే లేని ఓ అజాత శత్రు! కలాం!
నీకు శ్రద్ధాంజలి ఘటిస్తూ మా అందరి అశ్రు నయనాల సలాం!!





Sri S.D. Mukherji IFS (Retd) with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam



President and members of National History Society of India (NHSI) meeting Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam



APJ Abdul Kalam receiving 'Bharat Ratna' award from President K.R. Narayanan

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