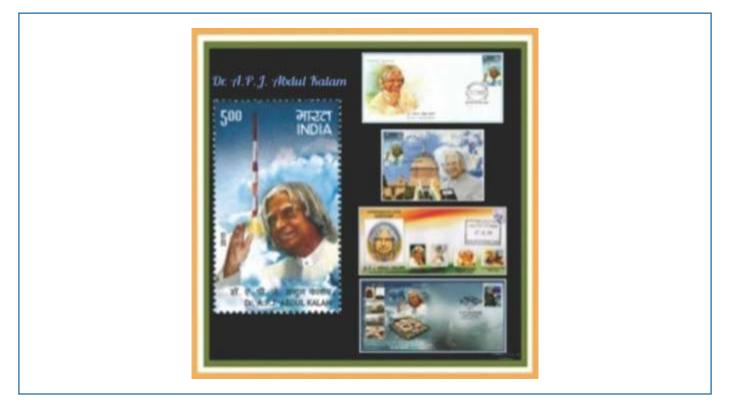


# In History

## The Pride of India

### A tribute to India's most eminent scientist

#### **Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam** Oct 15, 1931 - July 27, 2015



#### His contributions...

- Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was born in a small village at Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu.
- In his school days, he was a brilliant and hardworking student and had a strong desire to learn more. He got graduated in physics and specialized in Aerospace Engineering at the Madras Institute of Technology.
- Thereafter he spent his next four decades as a scientist at the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). In ISRO he was the Project Director of India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III), which deployed the Rohini satellite in earth's orbit in 1980.
- His enormous contributions to the development of Ballistic Missiles like Agni and Prithvi made him consider a "Missle Man of India". He also played a pivotal role in India's first Nuclear test conducted in 1974 and Pokhran-II in 1998, which established him as a national hero.



- Furthermore, he was elected as the 11th President of India in 2002, and widely called as "People's President".
- He also emphasized the application of science and technology for the benefit of the common man. His contributions to the Indian Healthcare Sector were tremendous.
- He further collaborated with a prominent cardiologist of Hyderabad, Dr.B.Soma Raju and together developed a low-cost coronary stent called" "Kalam-Raju Stent". They also designed a Tablet Computer, named" Kalam-Raju Tablet" for health care in rural areas.
- Subsequently, Kalam and his team toiled endlessly and had been instrumental in using carbon-carbon and carbon-polymer materials (lightweight materials that are used in missiles) to produce Orthosis Calipers for polio-affected children with motor disabilities. His lightweight calipers had benefited over 50,000 children, which made them walk with less pain and more freely without much help.
- Moreover, Dr.Kalam was honored with about 40 Doctorates from various universities. Also awarded with Padma Bhusan, Padma Vibushan, and India's most prestigious civilian award "Bharat Ratna".
- In modern Indian history, Dr.Kalam has been celebrated as a scientist, teacher, statesman, and a great human being. Despite his achievements he wanted to be remembered as a "Teacher."
- Although the missing place of Dr.Kalam can never get filled; his words of immense wisdom will be with us forever and inspire us to add value to the world.

Dr. M. Gowri Sankar MD, Senior Assistant Professor in Medicine, Government Medical College & ESI Hospital, Coimbatore