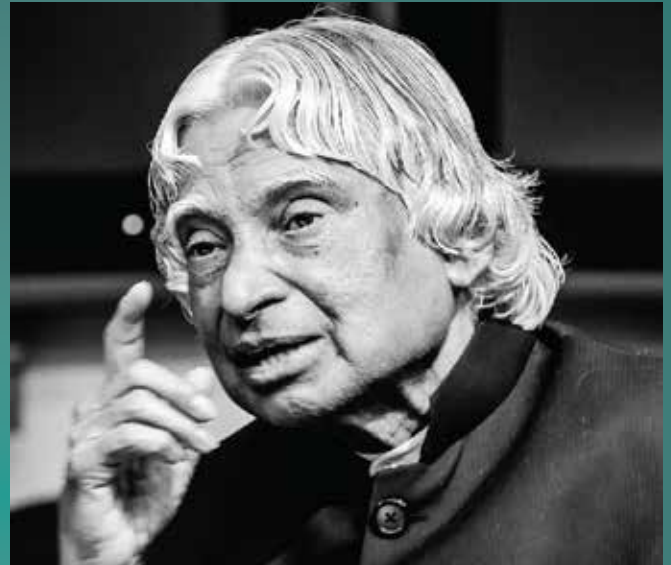


Genius Kidz Newsletter August 2015

KNOWLEDGE 360°

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October 1931 in Rameshwaram to a very middle class family. He graduated from Saint Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli in 1954. He left for Madras later next year to study aerospace engineering at the Madras Institute of Technology. After graduating from the Madras Institute of Technology in 1960, he joined the Aeronautical Development Establishment of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) as a scientist. The profile didn't appeal Kalam much so he shifted to the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) where he was the Project Director of India's first Indigenous satellite launch vehicle.



A milestone was achieved when locally built Rohini-1 was launched into space, using the SLV rocket. He played a pivotal role in developing missiles under the missions Agni and Prithvi. So, he is fondly known as Missile Man.

He was honoured with many awards, some of them are— Padma Bhushan (1981), Padma Vibhushan (1990), Bharat Ratna (1997), Veer Savarkar Award (1998), Ramanujan Award (2000) etc. He has also served as 11th President of India from 2002 until 2007.

We lost this precious gem of India on 27th July 2015. His death is an irreparable loss to our nation.

We pay our holy tribute to this great man. Besides all he has given to our country, he was a guide, a teacher and an inspiration to all of us.

May your soul rest in peace, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Sir. You will always remain immortal in our hearts.

A great saying by him...

"A dream is not that which you see while sleeping, it is something that does not let you sleep".

Awards

- The 16th International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards 2015 were presented in the first week of June 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (June 2015)
- On 1st July 2015, Sanjeev Galande was selected for G.D. Birla Award 2014 for Scientific Research. Prof. Galande is professor of Biology and Team leader at the Indian Institute for science Education and research (IISER), Pune.
- Nobel Prize Winner Professor Peter Higgs won the world's oldest scientific prize, the Royal Society's Copley Medal on 20 July 2015 for his fundamental contribution to particle physics and his pioneering work on the theory of the Higgs Boson that explains the Origin of mass in elementary particles.
- Mathematician Doctor Amalendu Krishna on 3 August 2015 won the Ramanujan Prize for year 2015. He was bestowed with this award for his outstanding contributions in the area of algebraic cycles, algebraic k-theory and theory of motives.
- Prof. Mustansir Barma on 14 August 2015 won the prestigious Gujar Mal Modi Award for Innovative Science and Technology for the year 2015. He was awarded for his commendable contribution in the field of Science and Technology.
- Sania Mirza won Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2015. She is the only second tennis player and the first woman tennis player to win this award.
- 14 Year old Prabhroop Sekhon of Lucknow won 2 Gold Medal at special olympic world games.



Kangana Ranaut

- Darshan Jain, an Indian - American teacher from Illinois, US in July 2015 was named for Prestigious Presidential Award excellence in Maths and Science Teaching by President Barack Obama in July 2015.
- Sanjeev Chaturvedi and Anshu Gupta have won the Ramon Magsaysay Award (or Asia's Nobel Prize) on 31st August 2015.
- Best Film – Queen
- Best Director – Rajkumar Hirani (PK)
- Best Actor – Shahid Kapoor (Haider)
- Best Actress – Kangana Ranaut (Queen)
- Best Supporting Actor – Ritesh Deshmukh (Ek Villain)
- Best Supporting Actress – Tabu (Haider)



Sania Mirza

Sports

- Mumbai Indians won IPL 2015. This is the second time victory of Mumbai Indians in IPL. Its owner is Neeta Ambani wife of Business tycoon Mukesh Ambani.
- Indian Hockey appointed Roelant Oltmans as coach of Men's national team on 30th July 2015.
- India on 7 August 2015 decided to boycott the 61st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference which is slated to be held in Islamabad Pakistan from 30 September to 8 October 2015.
- Indian women hockey team qualified for Olympics after 36 years. India's latest participation in Olympics was in 1980 that was held in Moscow, Russia.
- India's ace shuttler Saina Nehwal on 16 August 2015 became the first Indian to win silver in the World Badminton Championship.
- Air India's Hockey team on 27 August 2015 won the Guru Tegh Bahadur Hockey title, in the finals played at the MHA-Mahindra Stadium in Mumbai.

Science and Technology

- Union Government launched Mobile Blood Bank Locator App on 14 June 2015. The app was launched on the occasion of World Blood Donors Day with an aim to ease access of information regarding the nearest blood bank in the country.
- Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh has launched a weather alert service named NOWCAST on 18 June 2015. SMS alerts on extreme weather data like hailstorm, thunderstorm and squall, originated by India Meteorological Department (IMD) to over one crore farmers whose mobile numbers are registered on government's mkisan portal
- Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), the self regulatory body for content in Indian advertising, launched the country's first consumer complaint mobile app named ASCI online on 19 June 2015.
- An Unmanned American Space X-rocket dubbed Falcon-9 broke apart inflames minutes after lifting off from cape Canaveral in Florida on 28 June 2015. Pressurization in the liquid oxygen tank of the rocket was the main cause of the blast.
- Former President of India Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on 9 July 2015 launched the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA) in New Delhi. RAA is a concept developed by the ministry of Human resource development. Under RAA, government schools will be mentored by Institutes like IITs/IIMs/IISERs and other Central Universities and reputed organisations through innovative programmes. The Union Minister of Human Resource Development Smriti Irani announced that Phase II of RAA will be launched in January 2016 for higher education.



- NASA on 5 August 2015 signed a contract worth 490 million US dollars with Russia's space agency Roscosmos for carrying the US astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS).
- Bharti Airtel launched Pan-India 4G high-speed data services on 6 August 2015. It will be available to customers through 4G-enabled mobile phone, internet dongles and Wi-Fi routers. With this the largest telecom company of India became the first company to rollout the Pan-India 4G network which is built on an open partner ecosystem model. (Science and Technology).
- GSLV-D6 successfully launched GSAT-6 communication satellite on 27 August 2015, from the Second Launch Pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR (SDSC SHAR), Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- Microsoft corporation rolled out a free evaluation version of Windows 10 Enterprise edition for 190 countries.
- South Korea's steel giant POSCO have signed a memorandum of agreement with Uttam Galva group to set up an estimated \$3 billion steel plant in Maharashtra. This will be the first integrated steel plant for POSCO in India.
- The Union Cabinet have given permission for building and launching of GSAT-17 and GSAT-18 communication satellites. The satellites will augment and support existing communication, television and very small Aperture Terminal services in the entire mainland of the country.
- Chennai-born Sundar Pichai, who is a graduate from IIT Kharagpur and Stanford University was appointed as the CEO of the Google.



Sundar Pichai

Business

- Amitava Ghosh appointed as Vice President Engineering of Domestic e-commerce portal Snapdeal on 6 August 2015.



Amitava Ghosh



- The Computer Science Corporation (CSC) and Hindustan Computer Limited (HCL) on 23 July 2015 signed an agreement to form a joint Venture company to provide technology services and solutions to be banking industry. According to the agreement, CSC will provide its core banking expertise for software and product development. HCL will provide funds, its banking sales, client engagement expertise and its experience in product engineering and application implementation services.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on 28 July 2015 cancelled the certificate of registration of Sahara Mutual Fund. The market regulator in its order said that the company is not fit and proper entity to carry out the business of mutual fund.

- Former Infosys executive Sanjay Jalona was appointed on 11 August 2015 as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of L&T Infotech, subsidiary of Larsen and Toubro (L&T). Infotech is sixth largest IT company in India which provides solutions, services and consultation.
- Rekha M Menon was appointed as the chairperson of Accenture India on 7 August 2015.



Rekha M Menon

Miscellaneous

- Ashish Bahuguna appointed as Chairman of food safety regulator FSSAI on 27th July 2015.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15 August 2015 launched a new campaign Start up India, Stand in India to promote bank financing for start ups and offer incentives to boost entrepreneurship and job creation.
- Ram Sewak Sharma appointed as Chairman of TRAI on 27th July 2015.
- Tamil Nadu Government instituted youth award in name of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on 27th July 2015 in Shillong.
- Swati Maliwal took charge as Chairperson of Delhi commission of women in 28th July 2015.
- 1993 Mumbai serial blasts one death row convict, Yakub Memon was executed on 30 July 2015 at the Nagpur Central Jail.



Ram Sewak Sharma

- Rural Development Minister Chaudhary Birender Singh on 4 August 2015 launched SAMANVAY, a compilation of all schemes of both union and state governments for Gram Panchayats. SAMANVAY was launched with an aim to help MPs in utilising relevant schemes in the planning and implementation of Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY).
- Kochi on 10 August 2015 became the first Indian city to be a member of Beijing headquartered world tourism cities, Federation (WTCF) council and join its league of leading tourism cities across the world.
- Union Government on 10 August 2015 launched the School Nursery Yojana, an initiative to bring students closer to nature. The Yojana was launched by Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar in New Delhi.
- Om Prakash Rawat a 1977 batch (IAS) officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre, on 13 August 2015 was appointed as the Election Commissioner of India.
- Ajit Kumar Seth was appointed as Chairman of Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) on 14 August 2015.



- The Union Cabinet on 20 August 2015 approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Australia on cooperation in the fields of education, training and research.
- The Union government on 25 August 2015 launched a telemedicine initiative 'Sehat' in collaboration with Apollo Hospitals to provide healthcare facilities in rural areas.
- The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar on 27 August 2015 launched an e-payment module to accept compensatory amount for diversion of forest land in the country.

Important Days of August

August 12 – International Youth Day

August 15 – Independence Day of India

August 29 – National Sports Day



Historical Dates

1 August 1916 – Annie Besant launched the Home Rule League.

2nd August 1858 – The Parliament passed a bill to take over the administration of India from the East Indian Company by the British Crown.

3 August 1998 – India fired its most sophisticated medium range surface-to-air missile named Akash (which means sky) from a test range at Chandipur on sea.

5th August 1991 – Justice Leila Seth became the first Indian woman Chief Justice of a state High Court.

7th August 1941 – India's Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore passed away in Kolkata, West Bengal.

8th August 1942 – Mahatma Gandhi launched the Quit India Movement for freedom from British rule in Mumbai

9th August 1925 – Members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) looted the government treasury from the mail train near Kakori, 22 km from Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).

11th August 1961 – The former Portuguese territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli were merged to create the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

13th August 1997 – The Women's Reservation Bill which had been introduced in 1996 was put on the back burner under Prime Minister I.K Gujral's government.

14th August 1947 – Pakistan separated from India.

15th August 1947 – India got freedom from British rule.

16th August 1958 – Satyajit Ray's acclaimed film Pather Panchali won the top five awards at the Vancouver Film Festival, including an award for Feature Length Motion Picture.

17th August 1947 – The Radcliffe Line was declared as the boundary between India and Pakistan, following the Partition of India.

18th August 1945 – It was reported that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was seriously injured and badly burned in a plane crash in Taihoku airport, Taiwan and is believed to have passed away in a nearby Japanese military hospital.

20th August 1828 – The first session of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's Brahmo Samaj was held in Kolkata.

21st August 1972 – The Wildlife Protection Act was passed.

22th August 1639 – Madras (Chennai) was founded by the East India Company.

23rd August 2004 – The Lok Sabha passed the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which ensures a livelihood for millions of poor living in rural areas.

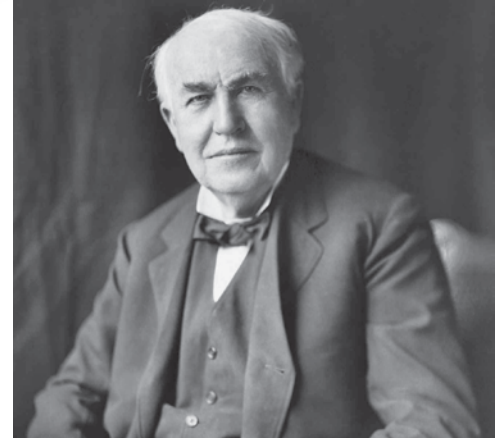
24th August 1608 – The first representative of the East India landed in Surat for purposes of trade.

25th August 1917 – The first concrete step towards the Indianisation of the Army was initiated when seven selected Indians, serving the Army, were granted King's Commission in the Infantry and the Cavalry.

26th August 1303 – Alauddin Khilji of the Khilji Dynasty attacked and captured Chittorgarh in a historic battle.

31st August 1956 – The President of India gave his assent to the States Reorganisation Bill, which is now known as the States Reorganisation Act.

**“Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.”
- Thomas Alva Edison**



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