

Words of Visionaries

Module: Speeches by Visionaries & Changing World Order

At Dreamers & Innovators, we have two ongoing modules. First, **Speeches by Visionaries**, for our junior Dreamers, strives to inspire them with the ideas, words and achievements of world-renowned figures such as Kalam, Martin Luther King Jr., Steve Jobs etc.

Our module for seniors, **Changing World Order**, demystifies the conflicts and crises of today by identifying the roots and evolutions of these issues, which all go back to events of the 20th century.

This week's newsletter showcases the ideas of three promising Dreamers: Mehar, who writes about the people's president, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. Anadya and Shouryajeet provide their insight into the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and its impact after the turbulent World War I.

Dreamers & Innovators is a knowledge and skill-building platform for 21st century learners. We aspire, design and execute interactive learning experiences where global knowledge relevant to today and tomorrow is brought to young Dreamers. At D&I, 21st century skills are honed, confident communication is developed and independent, informed opinions are nourished.

The Legacy of A.P.J Abdul Kalam



Mehar Arora
10 years

"If you want to shine like a sun, first burn like a sun."

The words of India's People's President: Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam. Do you know how our People's President changed the future of India, DRDO and ISRO?

A.P.J Abdul Kalam's full name is Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam. He was born on October 15th 1931 in Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu. He earned his degree in aeronautical engineering from the Madras Institute of Technology. In 1958 Abdul Kalam joined the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). There he worked on ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons. In 1969, Abdul Kalam joined ISRO, where he was project director of India's first indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III), which did not successfully deploy the Rohini satellite into orbit on the first attempt. But exactly one year later they managed to put the Rohini satellite into orbit. Due to his accomplishments later Abdul Kalam was elected as the president of India from 2002 till 2007. He was called the People's President because he used to interact with his people a lot. Till date his birthday is celebrated as World Students' day.

A.P.J Abdul Kalam has shaped India in such a way that no citizen of India will ever forget him.

The Making of the Middle East



Anadya Mittal
16 years

Did you know that the Middle East as it is today, home to the world's largest oil belt, had never existed? Seems like a big claim to make, doesn't it? However, this cluster of nations was non-existent before World War I.

In the year 1299, Osman 1 founded the Ottoman empire and he showcased his authority and power over the next three years by capturing multiple territories. World War I started in the year 1914 and during it, the Ottomans picked the side of the Central Powers. Little did they know that this would lead to their downfall. Post their downfall Britain and France, like vultures, swooped in to pick up the remains when they secretly signed the Sykes-Picot Agreement, dividing this large empire majorly between them.

This angered the native Arabs. But, Ibn Saud, an Arab leader, joined forces with the Central Powers and in exchange for the holy sites of Mecca, Medina and Jeddah. He helped in silencing the Arab revolt. The internal politics of these nations gave rise to what we know as modern-day Saudi Arabia. The Allied forces were also looking for Jewish support and to garner the same they signed the Balfour Declaration, promising the establishment of a home for them in Ottoman-controlled Palestine. The signing of treaties and the downfall of the Ottoman Empire during WW I led to the creation of the jewel of the modern-day world, the Middle East.

A Ploy to Break an Empire



Shouryajeet Sandhu
13 years

Secret talks were held to determine the share for the three empires: the British, French and Russian, of the Ottoman Empire, which was called "The Sick Man". When native Arabs understood it, Hussein Bin Ali, King of Hejaz plotted a revolution, which was called the Arab Revolution. The aim was to set up the Arab Kingdom in this region. The British got the Arabs to join their allied forces against the Ottoman Empire, and for this the Arabic nationalists were promised an independent kingdom.

They did as needed but here's the plot twist, they never fulfilled the promise. Also, when the King of Hejaz declared himself 'King of the Arab Lands', many didn't accept. Another King named Abdulaziz Ibn Saud, attacked Hussain. Now the smart ones, that's the British, changed their sides from Hussein to Abdulaziz. British started diplomatic relations with Ibn Saud secretly during the war. And Ibn Saud was supported by the British to establish the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which included the holy Islamic sites of Mecca, Medina and Jeddah.

In 1917, to win the support of Jews, the British Balfour declaration promised the establishment of a Jewish national home in Ottoman-controlled Palestine. The root of Israel and Palestine conflict also lies here.

Thus, the Ottoman Empire was partitioned into smaller nations which make up the the Middle East and the Republic of Turkey.