

**A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM: “PATRIOTISM BEYOND  
POLITICS AND RELIGION”  
FROM *IGNITED MINDS*  
*UNLEASHING THE POWER WITHIN INDIA***

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# EPIGRAPH

**“I do not care for liberation, I would rather go to a hundred thousand hells, ‘doing good to others (silently) like the spring’, this is my religion”.**

**Swami Vivekananda**

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**Dr. Abdul Kalam's legacy does not limit to his immense contributions to the nation's Scientific and Technological development but it extends beyond that.**

**The fifth chapter of 'Ignited Minds – Unleashing the Power within India' is titled 'Patriotism Beyond Politics and Religion'.**

## **DR KALAM'S WORDS**

**Three factors are invariably found in a strong nation; a collective pride in its achievements, unity and the ability for combined action.**

**For a people and a nation to rise to the highest, they must have a common memory of great heroes and exploits,**

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**All nations which have risen to greatness have been characterized by a sense of mission.**

**Unfortunately for India, historic forces have not given a common memory to all communities by taking them back to their roots a millennium down the ages. Not enough effort has been made in the last fifty years to foster that memory.**

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**Our past is there with use forever. It has to be nurtured in good faith, not destroyed in exercises of political one-upmanship.**

**The second vision of the nation will bring about a renaissance to the nation. The task of casting a strong India is in the hands of a visionary political leadership.**

# MESSAGE

There are success stories among failures. There is hope among chaos, promise among problems.

We are one billion people with multiple faiths and ideologies.

In the absence of a national vision cracks at the seam keep surfacing and make us vulnerable.

There is a need to reinforce this seam and amalgamate us into one national forum.

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