



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

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| Title of the Event | Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Jayanti Commemoration: Seminar and Themed Reading Day | | |
| Date of the Event | October 15, 2025 | Place of the event | Library Reading Room, St. Vincent College, Pune |
| Objectives of the Event | To honor Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's legacy by inspiring students to embrace scientific temper, ethical leadership, and nation-building through a thematic seminar and reflective reading session centered on his vision of youth empowerment and holistic development. | | |
| Name/s of the Resource Persons | Dr. Anil Adsule and Dr. Yogesh Mate | | |

A short narration of the program

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Jayanti Commemoration: Seminar and Themed Reading Day

In reverent celebration of the 94th birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam—the visionary scientist, beloved educator, and former President of India—St. Vincent College, Pune, organized a distinguished academic commemoration on October 15, 2025. Held in the tranquil and intellectually vibrant Library Reading Room, the event featured a thematic seminar followed by a silent, reflective reading session, embodying the college's steadfast commitment to nurturing scientific temper, ethical leadership, and nation-building through education.

Theme of the Event

The program was anchored in the theme “Ignited Minds, Empowered Futures: Cultivating Scientific Temper and Moral Leadership for National Transformation.” Inspired by Dr. Kalam's seminal work Ignited Minds, the theme emphasized his core belief that “Empowering the youth with knowledge, vision, and integrity is the surest path to a developed India.” It invited participants to explore the synergy between scientific reasoning, ethical responsibility, and civic imagination—cornerstones of Dr. Kalam's life and legacy.

Seminar Proceedings

The seminar commenced at 10:00 AM with an opening address by Dr. Yogesh Mate, Librarian, St. Vincent College, who highlighted Dr. Kalam's unique identity as a “people's president” and lifelong learner whose personal library and voracious reading habits were central to his intellectual vitality. Dr. Mate underscored



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the library's role as a crucible for innovation and moral reflection, aligning with Kalam's vision of educational institutions as "temples of knowledge and character-building."

The keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Anil Adsule, Principal of St. Vincent College, titled "From Dream to Duty: Rekindling Kalam's Vision for Youth-Led Nation Building." Dr. Adsule traced Dr. Kalam's journey from Rameswaram to Rashtrapati Bhavan—not as a tale of individual triumph, but as a testament to the power of purpose-driven education, humility, and service. He emphasized Kalam's "Five Pillars of Development"—Education, Technology, Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Healthcare—and argued that in today's context, these must be reimagined through sustainability, digital equity, and inclusive innovation.

Dr. Adsule particularly focused on Kalam's concept of the "Evolution of a Unique You," urging students to cultivate not only technical competence but also emotional intelligence, resilience, and a sense of social duty. He cited Kalam's collaborations with students across India as evidence of his unwavering faith in youth as co-creators of national destiny. "Dr. Kalam did not just inspire dreams," Dr. Adsule remarked, "he equipped dreamers with the discipline to turn vision into reality."

Themed Silent Reading Session

From 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM, participants engaged in a silent, contemplative reading session dedicated to Dr. Kalam's writings and speeches. Curated selections included excerpts from *Wings of Fire*, *Ignited Minds*, *India 2020*, and his parliamentary addresses on education and innovation. Special emphasis was placed on his letters to students, reflections on failure, and his "Vision 2020" roadmap for India's development.

The Library Reading Room was thoughtfully arranged with biographical displays, timelines of Kalam's scientific contributions (including his role in India's missile and space programs), and quotes such as "Dream, dream, dream. Dreams transform into thoughts and thoughts result in action." Soft instrumental renditions of patriotic and classical Indian melodies played in the background, fostering a reflective yet aspirational ambiance.

At the conclusion of the session, several students shared personal insights, noting how Kalam's humility, work ethic, and unwavering optimism offered a powerful counter-narrative to cynicism and apathy. Many expressed renewed motivation to pursue interdisciplinary learning and community-oriented projects.



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Outcomes and Significance

The event transcended ceremonial tribute, functioning as a dynamic pedagogical intervention that connected scientific excellence with ethical citizenship. By situating the commemoration in the library—a space symbolizing inquiry and integrity—the college reaffirmed its mission to produce graduates who are not only skilled professionals but also conscientious contributors to society.

The seamless integration of scholarly discourse and reflective reading mirrored Dr. Kalam's own life, where deep study and public service were inseparable. Post-event feedback indicated strong resonance among students and faculty, with several proposing the formation of a "Kalam Innovation Circle" to mentor student-led projects in STEM, sustainability, and social entrepreneurship.

Conclusion

The Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Jayanti commemoration at St. Vincent College on October 15, 2025, honored a national icon not through ritual, but through recommitment—to curiosity, to character, and to the belief that every student holds the potential to ignite change. Under the guidance of Dr. Anil Adsule and Dr. Yogesh Mate, the college transformed remembrance into resolve, ensuring that Dr. Kalam's message continues to echo not just in memory, but in action.

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| Name of the Collaborating Agency | Library St. Vincent College |
| Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants | Participants deepened their understanding of Kalam's philosophy linking knowledge, integrity, and social responsibility, and were motivated to cultivate resilience, interdisciplinary curiosity, and a sense of civic duty in their academic and personal pursuits. |
| Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team | The organizing team enhanced their ability to design intellectually enriching, values-based commemorative programs that integrate scholarly insight with experiential learning, while reinforcing the library's role as a hub for character formation and visionary thinking aligned with national ideals. |
| No. of Participants | 50+ Participants |
| Faculty in Charge | Dr. Yogesh Mate |
| Documents Attached | 1. Attendance Sheet 2. Geotag photographs |



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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Resume of resource persons if any4. Copy of remuneration paid if any5. Notice of the event6. Thank you letter to the resource persons |
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