The above quote sounds apt from a man who rose from very humble beginnings and went on to become modern India’s ‘missile man’. He was the country’s eleventh President, a scientist, and a poet. An inspiration during his lifetime, he continues to enthuse even when he is no longer in our midst. After all, it is not often that we come across someone of his stature especially in a country like ours!

An amazing man who inspired millions of people with his incredible achievements and personality, he was a favourite of both Indians as well as others across the globe. For me personally as a member of the youth brigade of this country, Dr. Kalam was representative of what ‘Young India’ stood for. What was it about him that at the age of seventy and eighty years could have made him connect with school children and college kids alike? Perhaps it could have been that he embodied the ‘New India Story’, born into a poor Muslim family in Tamil Nadu, who sold newspapers to support his family financially when he was a kid. However, he refused to let his background stand in the way of dreaming big and achieving the pinnacle of success. And the kind of success he pursued was probably another reason why the youth of the country looked up to this man from a poor family. He had a different perspective on success. At a time when success was measured in terms of the amount of wealth amassed and material possessions acquired, Dr. Kalam stood apart and was a stark contrast to his contemporaries. He was not after material success but that what was acquired with the help of knowledge. For, according to him,

“Learning gives creativity
Creativity leads to thinking
Thinking provides knowledge
Knowledge makes you great”

It was this greatness that he aimed for and encouraged others to aim too. For him there was no limit to the infinite power of knowledge. And he had also said that in order to be successful one needed to have single minded devotion towards one’s goal. These words have also been very helpful to me personally when I fail to achieve my goals as I am filled with courage to attempt it over and over again.

Dr. Kalam was a prolific writer. He wrote poetry and motivational books. His best-selling autobiography Wings of Fire was written in a charmingly simple style and told the story of a journey from hardship to professional success in a way that mirrored the aspirations of India in the twenty first century. In the book Dr. Kalam has stated that he had wanted to become an officer in the Indian Air Force but failed to clear the interview. After this failure his prophetic words were “accept your destiny and go ahead with your life. You are not destined to become an air force pilot. What you are destined to become is not revealed now but it is predetermined. Forget this failure as it was essential to lead you to your destined path. Search instead for the true purpose of your existence. Become one with yourself my son; surrender yourself to the wish of God.” Truly inspiring words!

After reading these lines I realised that we always looked at failure in a negative way but if we approached failure from the viewpoint as put forward by Dr. Kalam then it was so inspired by these lines that I too was encouraged to pen my own poems.

Dr. Kalam was the epitome of humility and simplicity so much so that he became an urban legend for a generation looking for home grown heroes. There are innumerable accounts of the simple life he lived. For example, when he first moved into the Rashtrapati Bhawan, he asked all the luxurious rooms to be locked up as he didn’t want to use them. Another instance was when during his term as President he decided to give away all his wealth and life saving towards a fund that worked towards providing urban amenities to rural population. It revealed his personal integrity and the fact that he never forgot his humble childhood and remained grounded always made him an endearing figure for everyone. However, he always downplayed his contribution in terms of inspiring the youth. In his own words, “I will not be presumptuous enough to say that my life can be a role model for anybody; but some poor child living in an obscure place in an underprivileged social setting may find a little solace in the way my destiny has been shaped.”

As one who came from outside the political spectrum, he brought a refreshingly new face to Indian politics. This was perhaps his biggest asset for changing India that he was resolutely non-political, while at the same time being open and inclusive in his approach. Unlike our several uneducated, corrupt ministers and other public figures, Dr. Kalam came across as a genial person who embodied the joy and adventure of learning. His messages were so attractive to the young precisely because they were so simple and straightforward. Here was a man who spoke out of experience and conviction; someone who really believed in the potential of the youth of this country.

He has always been the reason I try hard to achieve victory over failure, fear and disappointment. He was a simple, secular, inspiring humanitarian. He will always be an example of innovation for ages to come. He not only inspires me to strive for my goals and if it had not been for his motivating words I would not have been the person I am today. To conclude in the words of the great man:

“Don’t resort to imitation
Look for inspiration,
To further your own creation,
In pursuit of innovation.”
CHILD LABOUR - ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY
- Chandni J. Mehta, F.Y.B.A.

Please sir, I want some more." Six words that sparked a revolution. For the first time, people were brought out of their cushioned Victorian homes, and forced to see the brutality of the London streets, the 

though in its truest sense translates into child exploitation and extreme inhumanity. Such treatment not only poses a hazard to child’s mental and physical development, but also stunts his social, educational, emotional and spiritual growth. It is also hugely detrimental to the development of the society and a personal affront to humanity.

The Indian Constitution has framed a number of laws regarding child labour. Article 24 in particular prohibits the employment of any child below the age of fourteen, in a factory, mine or other hazardous workplace.

So why then, are the hands that hand you your paper bags at the supermarket so small and innocent? Why, after so many laws have been made to curb this menace, thus child labour still run rampant under the guise of civilized society?

Poverty. When their survival depends on the work that work they do, then what basis can there be for the bettered kids do but work? When their parents can barely support themselves, let alone the legion of hungry mouths waiting back home, what can the poor kids do but work?

Poverty, ignorance, lack of exposure, exploitation of cheap labour-all poisons racing through the veins of the system. And then we wonder why society is plagued by child labour?

For all the good that the Industrial revolution did the world, had major negative effects as well, by giving rise to circumstances that encouraged child labour. Children who could hardly raise any objection to even the most inhuman treatment, children who hadn’t have the experience to demand what they deserved. Children who were perfect candidates for exploitation, had no option but to spend their entire lives in the backrooms of smoky factories.

But the most onerous form of child labour is perhaps that of bonded labour, which falls just an inch short of slavery and just as illegal. The child, young and vulnerable, is sold like some sort of commodity to his ‘master’. His labour is exploited- he toils for hours and each day and gets only a handful of the coarsest grain at the end of it all to keep him alive.

Child labour is rampant everywhere. For a measly 300 to 800 rupees, children work non-stop - in the world famous Karnataka silk factories, in the cracker factories at every corner in carpenter’s area, in the zari industry of Mumbai, and in countless small sweet shops all over the country. The exploitation of these children by their employers is nearly tantamount to slavery.

Our country, the society rests on its children. What society will be if more than 200 million future individuals are exploited and tortured?

Let the government wake up and realize that there must be no ambiguity in its laws. The right of each child to education and the promise of our constitution to each and every Indian child must be realized. The current negligence in child labour offices and employment circles must be dealt with in the strictest way possible.

But all the efforts of the Government will be rendered useless unless we, as a society, wake up to the social evil that is child labour. It is us to raise our voices against the industries that exploit minors, boycott their goods and ensure that this evil forever eradicated.

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“Whiplash,” is the case study of an abusive relationship. The film takes place at an elite, NYC college of music. It depicts intense, whiplash dynamics between an ambitious student drummer and his teacher, an influential bandleader at the school.

These two powerful characters engage the audience from the first moments of their meeting. Bullying is widely recognized to involve three central elements: repeated aggressive behavior, a real or perceived power differential between the individual victim and the bully, and the sense of threat. All of these exist in the relationship between Andrew Neiman, the student drummer, and Terence Fletcher, the bandleader. And all three elements are present in those first minutes of their engagement, stark and troubling.

But these three features do not fully explain why someone would tolerate mistreatment over time. Why not leave? Why not tell? Why remain attached, even loyal to an abusive teacher/partner? What gives the bully so much power?

Two additional dynamics help to account for behavior that seems incomprehensible to those who are outside the abusive partnership; these elements are covert and less widely recognized than the central three.

WILLINGNESS AND SELFLESSNESS ARE THE INGREDIENTS FOR ROBUST SOCIAL WORK.

KNOW YOUR PERSONALITY

Q: Tell us something about yourself.
A: I am Prajakta Prakash Kamble from First Year B. A. Though I have keen interest in social work my dream is to become a clinical psychologist professionally. I also like to read books and go trekking.

Q: How did you get interested in social work?
A: It was my first field trip from school to N.A.S.E.O.H which is an institution for the physically and mentally challenged people. There the people made small handmade articles to earn a living. Despite their disability, their will to live life with content smiles sparked my interest in helping such disadvantaged people.

Q: Who is your role model?
A: Dr. Prakash Baba Amte who works for the uplift of the people inspires me the most. He has overcome several challenges in his life with great determination and dedication, without expecting any reward or recognition in return.

Q: What made you decide to work with the NGO ‘We Are Special’?
A: ‘We Are Special’ is an NGO where we deal with the parents and doctors of mentally challenged people. The exploration of the potential of having excellent musicians. Terence needs to be boss, in part because he needs to distract the band members from realizing how much he depends on them for his own success. He doesn’t want the band members to think about the fact that he is a bandleader and not a ‘Charlie Parker.’

First, each individual in the pair derives benefits from the relationship that are not obvious. Andrew sees Terence, not only as a bandleader who will teach him how to be the next Charlie Parker, but also as a father figure who is more successful than his own and, perhaps, also as a replacement for his mother who left when he was young. One might speculate that Andrew also needs someone who is music-savvy to believe in him. Given Andrew’s ability, to muster a strong self-defense when bullied by family members in one scene of the film, perhaps he is also in need of a worthy sparring partner to test his grit. Andrew seems to need everything. Terence appears to need nothing.

Yet, Terence does need players. The exploration of the potential of having excellent musicians. Terence needs to be boss, in part because he needs to distract the band members from realizing how much he depends on them for his own success. He doesn’t want the band members to know that they actually have all the power. He doesn’t want the band members to think about the fact that he is a bandleader and not a ‘Charlie Parker.’

This gets us to the most powerful dynamic in an abusive relationship. The bully sets himself up to be the one who determines what is true and what is not true. The bully manipulates truth, sowing confusion in the mind of the less-dominant person in the pair. This is how a bully gains real power because confusion is paralyzing. Taking action requires an individual to have clarity about the nature of reality.

In one of the most telling scenes of the movie (minor spoiler alert), Terence detects that someone in the woodwind section of the band is off key. Who is it? He demands that the offending player make himself known. When no one confesses, Terence focuses in on one member of the band and drills him about whether he was or wasn’t the one who was off key. Under the assault of Terence’s interrogation, the player in question is summarily dismissed. At this point Terence gloats, revealing that it was actually a different player who had been off-key. In justification of his cruelty, Terence adds that, far worse than being off-key, is the offense of not knowing whether one is “on key” or “off key.”

Under the assault of Terence’s interrogation, the player in question is summarily dismissed. At this point Terence gloats, revealing that it was actually a different player who had been off-key. In justification of his cruelty, Terence adds that, far worse than being off-key, is the offense of not knowing whether one is “on key” or “off key.”

Willingness and selflessness are the ingredients for robust social work. Terence sets the pace; the drums are to follow exactly. No rushing. No dragging. When Andrew disappoints, Terence rages. If you live in Terence’s world and see through Terence’s eyes, then he is the master and he can dictate your very existence. In this context, Terence’s harsh and uncompromising treatment is intended to get you from “good to great.” Ah, the power of a wish to be great! Andrew is willing to give up almost everything for this: his girlfriend, his physical wellbeing, and his sense of dignity.

The audience buys into the version of reality that Terence has sold to Andrew. They debate whether Terence’s behavior toward Andrew was justifiable. Terence argues that, without a demanding instructor, Andrew might have simply settled for a “good job.” “I push people beyond what is expected of them.”

This audience’s debate is a false one. One might speculate about the nature of reality that Terence has sold to Andrew, starkly and unquestionably, sees Terence’s destructive power.

In order to escape, Andrew and others who are in abusive relationships must first dispel the fog of abuse.
I lay down my head on her lap. Her soft hands slipped through my hair as she looked down at my face. She noticed me watching her as she looked deep into my eyes and blushed. Oh! What a perfect face she had; those rosy lips, sky blue eyes and skin so clear. She looked like a princess just out of a Disney movie! She leaned down and kissed me. It was just a “Spiderman kiss” and it wasn’t really as difficult as people claimed it to be; or maybe it was her that made it effortless for me. I lay on her lap for what seemed like an hour. Neither of us made any effort at conversation; it was all through the eyes. That’s when the clock struck nine and she got up to set the table for supper. She looked amazing as she walked towards the kitchen with her black hair cascading down her back curling up at the end. All through supper we held hands. After that, she placed the dishes in the sink and we sat in the balcony together. She sat close to me and lit her cigarette. That was our daily after supper ritual. We sat there gazing at the stars in the sky. After this ritual we went to bed together. She lay down and placed her head on my chest as I played with her hair. She loved to lay down with her ear resting on my chest. She said she liked to hear my heartbeat because she knew it beat only for her. Neither of us knew when we fell asleep. When I woke up in the morning she was gone. That’s when I realized it was just one of my drunken evenings that had given me a chance to spend time with her again. That was the sole reason I drank, just so I could relive my moments with her. She had died a year and a half ago. Cancer had eaten her up, slow and steady. There was nothing I could do but watch the person I loved die in pain. The cause of her disease, SMOKING! The only flaw she had in her. But I loved her the way she was! That is one good thing, loving people the way they are; something she had taught me among many others. She had never intended to start smoking but it was the heavy work load that made her reach out for cigarettes. After all, she was an independent woman who managed both her home and career way better than others could think of. She was perfect for me in every sense. She had faced a lot of criticism for marrying me but she had stood by me like a pillar of strength and support. A support I lacked today. While on her deathbed she had made me promise her, that her loss would never disrupt my daily routine. A promise I have kept to this day and will always keep; a promise that reminded me to get to work daily. And in keeping this promise I was able to hold on to the job that I had. I got up from bed and delved into my daily chores for I knew I wasn’t going to be away from her for long. I would meet her again, in the evening when I got back from work, DRUNK!

**A PAGE FROM A WIDOWER’S DIARY**

*Aniket Lanke, S.Y.B.A.*

**ENGLISH...**

1: Unscramble the synonym of BELIEF
A: Erlyp  B: Poinon  C: Midat  D: Ays

2: Spot the verb
A: And  B: Sleep  C: Think  D: Singing

3: Odd man out
A: I  B: Me  C: They  D: Myself

4: The antonym of FOOLISH
A: Clever  B: Silly  C: Sad  D: Jolly

ANS: 1- B  2- D  3- C  4- A

**WHO’S THIS?**

1: The Picasso of India
A: Rabindranath Tagore  B: M.F Hussain  C: Amitabh Bachchan  D: Ustad Zakir Hussain

2: Five Point Someone was authored by
A: Arvind Adiga  B: Chetan Bhagat  C: Shobha De  D: Arundhati Roy

ANS: 1- B, 2- B

**ENGLISH RIDDLES**

1: Can you name any three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday or Sunday?
ANS: 1: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

2: Which vehicle is spelt the same forwards and backwards?
ANS: 2: Race car

3: What English word retains the same pronunciation, even after you take away four of its five letters?
ANS: 3: The letter M.

**CAREERS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE**

- Accountant
- Carpenter
- Court Reporter
- Disc Jockey
- Electrician

**WORD PUZZLE...**

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*Editors: Dr. Sindhu Sara Thomas, Dr. Raji Ramesh*