GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE, JAMMALAMADUGU
YSR KADAPA , A.P.
Affiliated to Y.V. University, YSR Kadapa.
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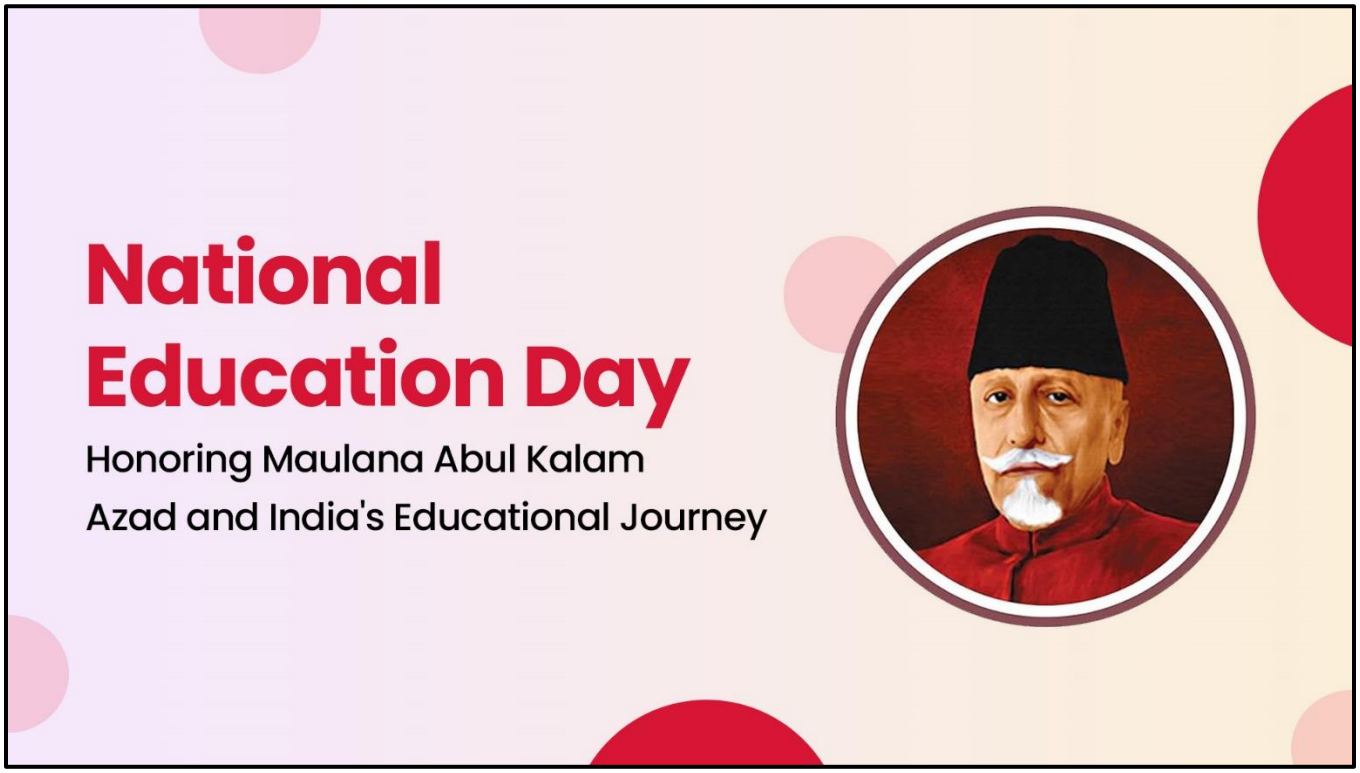
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



"National Education Day"
"Birth Anniversary Day of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

Introduction:

The Department of History of Government Degree College, Jammalamadugu, celebrated **National Education Day** on 11 November 2026 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of independent India. The program was organized to remember his outstanding contributions to the development of education in India and to create awareness among students about the importance of education in building a progressive, democratic and developed nation.

National Education Day is celebrated every year on 11 November in honor of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, whose vision and leadership played a significant role in shaping the educational system of independent India. He strongly believed that education was the foundation of national development, social equality, unity and individual empowerment.

The program highlighted his valuable contributions to higher education, scientific research, technical education, women's education and universal literacy. Students and faculty members were encouraged to follow his ideals and recognize education as a powerful instrument for social transformation.

Objectives of the Program:

The main objectives of celebrating National Education Day were:

1. To commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
2. To highlight his contributions to the development of Indian education.
3. To create awareness about the importance of education in society.
4. To encourage students to pursue higher education and lifelong learning.
5. To promote the values of secularism, equality, national integration and social harmony.
6. To explain the importance of universal and inclusive education.
7. To inspire students to become responsible and knowledgeable citizens.
8. To highlight the role of educational institutions in nation-building.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: Life and Contributions

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was born on 11 November 1888 in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. His original name was Abul Kalam Ghulam Muhiyuddin. He was a great freedom fighter, scholar, journalist, educationist and visionary leader of India. He played an important role in India's freedom struggle and strongly supported national unity, secularism and communal harmony. He believed that people belonging to different religions, languages and cultures should live together peacefully and contribute to the development of the nation.

After India attained independence in 1947, he became the first Education Minister of independent India and served in that position until his death in 1958. During his tenure, he worked tirelessly to establish a strong educational foundation for the country.

His major contributions to Indian education included:

- **Development of Higher Education:** Maulana Abul Kalam Azad gave special importance to higher education and supported the establishment and development of universities and institutions of national importance. He believed that universities should promote knowledge, research, innovation and critical thinking.
- **Establishment of UGC:** His educational vision contributed to the development of institutional support for higher education. The University Grants Commission (UGC) was formally established in 1953 and became a statutory body in 1956.
- **Promotion of Technical Education:** He encouraged the development of technical and scientific education to make India self-reliant in science, technology and industrial development. The first Indian Institute of Technology at Kharagpur was established in 1951 during his tenure as Education Minister.
- **Promotion of Scientific Research:** He strongly supported scientific research and modern scientific institutions. He encouraged young people to develop scientific knowledge and contribute to national progress.
- **Encouragement of Women's Education:** He believed that women should receive equal educational opportunities. He emphasized the importance of women's education for the development of families, communities and the nation.
- **Universal Primary Education:** He supported free and compulsory education for children and stressed the importance of expanding educational opportunities to all sections of society, particularly disadvantaged communities.
- **Promotion of Cultural Education:** He encouraged the development of cultural institutions and the preservation of India's rich artistic and literary traditions. His contributions were also associated with the promotion of institutions such as the Sahitya Akademi, Sangeet Natak Akademi and Lalit Kala Akademi.

Significance of National Education Day:

National Education Day reminds us that education is not merely a means of obtaining employment but also an essential instrument for developing knowledge, values, confidence and social responsibility.

The celebration emphasized the following aspects:

- **Education for All:** Every individual should have equal access to quality education irrespective of caste, religion, gender, economic status or social background.
- **Women Empowerment:** Education plays an important role in promoting gender equality and empowering women.

- **National Integration:** Education promotes mutual understanding, secular values, tolerance and national unity.
- **Scientific Temper:** Students should develop logical thinking, curiosity, creativity and scientific awareness.
- **Social Transformation:** Education helps eliminate illiteracy, poverty, discrimination and social inequalities.
- **Character Building:** Education develops discipline, honesty, responsibility and moral values among students.
- **Nation Building:** Educated citizens contribute to economic growth, democracy, social justice and national development.

Role of Educational Institutions

The program highlighted the important role played by educational institutions in implementing the vision of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Colleges and universities are not only centers of academic learning but also institutions that develop leadership, social awareness, critical thinking and democratic values. Students were motivated to make effective use of educational opportunities, develop reading habits, participate in academic activities and acquire knowledge beyond textbooks. Teachers were recognized for their important role in guiding students and shaping the future of the nation.

The celebration also emphasized the need to provide inclusive and quality education to students from rural and economically weaker backgrounds.

Message to Students:

On this occasion, students were encouraged to follow the ideals and principles of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. They were advised to understand the value of education and use their knowledge for the welfare of society.

The program conveyed that education should develop not only intellectual abilities but also humanity, tolerance, patriotism, discipline and respect for diversity. Students were motivated to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens who contribute positively to society.

Learning Outcomes:

The celebration of National Education Day provided several important learning outcomes:

- ❖ Students gained knowledge about the life and achievements of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- ❖ They understood his role as the first Education Minister of independent India.
- ❖ They became aware of the historical development of the Indian education system.
- ❖ They recognized the importance of universal and inclusive education.
- ❖ They understood the significance of women's education and social equality.
- ❖ They developed awareness about the relationship between education and national development.
- ❖ They were inspired to respect teachers, educational institutions and lifelong learning.
- ❖ They developed greater appreciation for secularism, national integration and democratic values.

Conclusion

The celebration of National Education Day by the Department of History, Government Degree College, Jammalamadugu, was a meaningful initiative to remember the outstanding contributions of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to Indian education. His vision of an educated, united, secular and progressive India continues to inspire generations. His contributions to higher education, technical education, scientific research, women's education and universal literacy laid a strong foundation for the development of modern India.

The program reminded students that education is the most powerful instrument for individual empowerment and national development. It inspired the student community to follow the ideals of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and contribute towards building an educated, inclusive and prosperous India. Overall, the celebration was successful in creating awareness about the importance of education and highlighting the valuable contribution of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to the educational and intellectual development of the nation.





Today, 'National Education Day' was celebrated on Friday under the auspices of the History Department at Jammalamadugu Government Degree College on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of 'Maulana Abul Kalam Azad'. First, the faculty and students paid tribute to his portrait with floral garlands.

On this occasion, Principal Dr. M. Ramesh said that Maulana Azad was a great freedom fighter, a great scholar in Arabic, Persian and English, a great journalist with good proficiency in mathematics and philosophy. He was a great person who served as the first education minister of India for 11 years and was awarded the Bharat Ratna. He played a major role in the formation of IETs in the country as part of the national education policy and explained his services to the students. History Lecturer I. Nageshwara Reddy, Vice Principal Dr. Sanjeeva Reddy, all Teaching Non Teaching staff and students were present in this program.


Dept. of History
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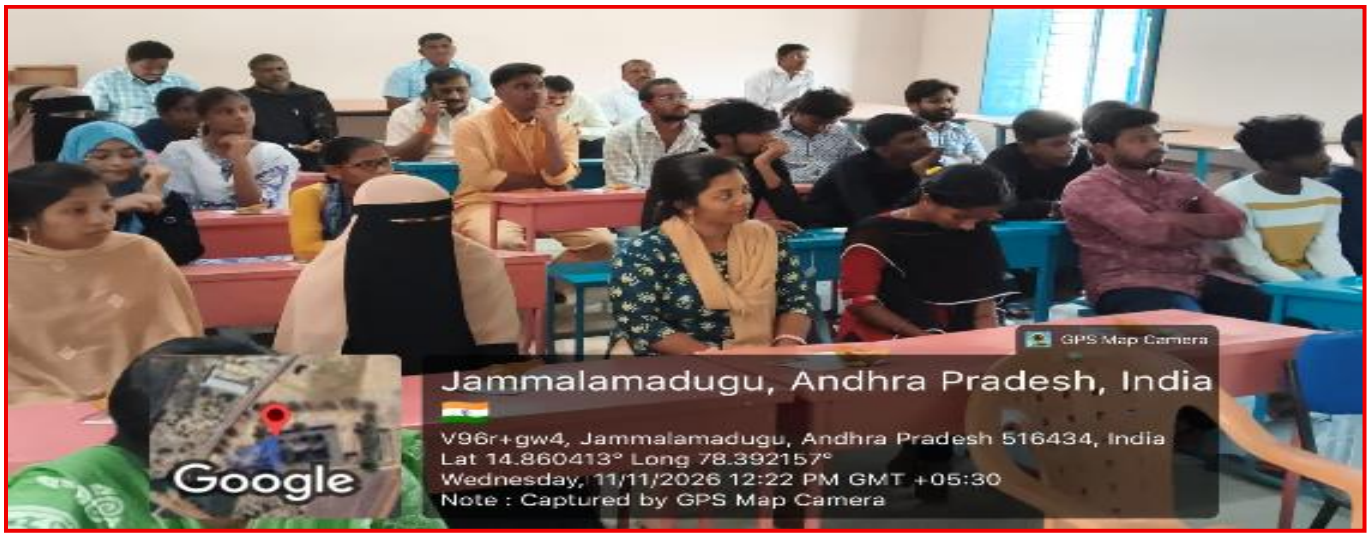
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