

印度前總統 Dr. Abdul Kalam 演講致詞 (英文)

Fellow Faculty Members, Students, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my honor and privilege to introduce our guest speaker for today, His Excellency Dr. Abdul Kalam, former President of the Republic of India.

As we all know, India is the world's second-most populous country with over 1.2 billion people and the most populous democracy in the world. Its long and rich history can be traced back to 5000 years ago. One of the world's major religions – Buddhism has its origin in India. Today's India has emerged as the one of the world's fastest growing economies.

During Dr. Kalam's term of office from 2002 to 2007 as the President of his country, India experienced rapid economic development and fueled its rise on the world stage. You might think Dr. Kalam must be a politician, but actually he is an aeronautical engineer by training and profession. A graduate from the Madras Institute of Technology in 1957, he was the Project Director and heavily involved in the development of India's first indigenous satellite launch vehicle (SLV-3) which successfully injected the Rohini satellite in the near earth orbit in July 1980, and made India one of the exclusive members of Space Club. Dr. Kalam also played a key role in the development of India's strategic missile systems and its nuclear capability.

As Chairman of Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council and as an eminent scientist, Dr. Kalam led the country with the help of 500 experts to arrive at Technology Vision 2020 giving a road map for transforming India from the present developing status to a developed nation. In order to achieve its objective, he took a mission to ignite the young minds for national development by meeting school students across the country. During the last decade, Dr. Kalam has addressed over five million youth below the age of 17 and inspired them to become an active participant of India Vision 2020.

As a distinguished scientist, Dr. Kalam was awarded with the "King Charles-II Medal" for Science and Technology in October 2007 and the "Woodrow Wilson Award" in 2008. The Royal Academy of Engineering, London conferred on him the "International Medal" in June 2009.

I recognize that this is a rare and extremely valuable opportunity to hear Dr. Kalam's

speech in person. Now please join me in welcoming our guest speaker His Excellency Dr. Abdul Kalam

Closing remark:

We have just listened to Dr. Kalam's powerful and thought provoking speech on the critical role technology can play and impact on the economic development in a country. His remarks inspire and encourage us to look at economic development from a different perspective. It is truly inspiring and visionary.

On behalf of all the audience, I would like to express our heartfelt and sincere thanks to Your Excellency for sharing your vision and knowledge.

Dr. Kalam is about to leave Taiwan this afternoon. We wish him a very pleasant journey back to India. Thanks! Your Excellency!

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, once again I want to state that we are all most grateful to the speaker on this stage. We thank you for being with us this afternoon - it's been a great pleasure.

Thank You Very Much!