

CONCEPTUAL APPROACH FOR OLYMPIC MOVEMENT: PUTTING VALUE TO SPORTS

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this conceptual study was to aware and motivating on the themes and philosophies of Olympics. Olympism is a philosophy of life which places sport at the service of humanity. This philosophy is based on the interaction of the qualities of the body, will and mind. Olympism is expressed through actions which link sport to culture and education. This philosophy is an essential element of the Olympic Movement and the celebration of the Games. It is also what makes them unique. The pursuit of this ideal and the other "fundamental principles of Olympism" [set out in the Olympic Charter] gives rise to a series of values, which are applicable both on the field of play and in everyday life.

Keywords: *Olympism, humanity, Olympic Movement and IOC.*

INTRODUCTION:

The Olympic Movement is the concerted, organised, universal and permanent action, carried out under the supreme authority of the IOC, of all individuals and entities who are inspired by the values of Olympism.

The Birth of the Olympic Movement: Many countries started to realize the importance of physical education and exercise in the 19th century. The athletic movement gained momentum in England, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, and America. The force behind the international Olympic Movement that spawned the revived Games was a French educator, Pierre de Coubertin. Coubertin was desperate to reform the education system of France. This desperation had led to his interest in reviving the Summer Games. With the inventions of railways and the telegraph, interest in international athletic competitions increased. It was the perfect time for the revival of the Summer Games, described by Coubertin as "the logical culmination of a great

movement." When the ancient city of Olympia was excavated, Coubertin started to campaign for the revival of the Summer Games as an international event. His views were accepted and the modern Olympics were born in 1896. This also marks the birth of the Olympic Movement.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT:

Many organizations are involved in the Olympic Movement. At the heart core of the Olympic Movement is the International Olympic Committee. The International Olympic Committee is also known as IOC. This committee can be considered to be the government of the Olympics. IOC takes care of the daily problems, and makes all the important decisions like the host city of the Summer Games. The committee also decides on the programs of the Olympics. In the Olympic Movement, three groups of organizations operate on a specified level. These groups are

- International Federations (IFs) - these are the governing bodies of a sport
- National Olympic Committees (NOCs) - these organizations regulate the Olympic Movement within each country
- Organizing Committees for the Summer Games (OCOGs) - these organizations take care of the organization of a particular celebration of the Summer Games

202 NOCs and 35 IFs are part of the Olympic Movement at present. OCOGs are dissolved after the completion of each Summer Games.

It covers the five continents. It reaches its peak with the bringing together of the world's athletes at the great sports festival, the Olympic Games. Its symbol is five interlaced rings.

The goal of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practised in accordance with Olympism and its values.

Belonging to the Olympic Movement requires compliance with the Olympic Charter and recognition by the IOC.

The three main constituents of the Olympic Movement are the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”), the International Sports Federations (“IFs”) and the National Olympic Committees (“NOCs”).

In addition to its three main constituents, the Olympic Movement also encompasses the Organising Committees of the Olympic Games (“OCOGs”), the national associations, clubs and persons belonging to the IFs and NOCs, particularly the athletes, whose interests constitute a fundamental element of the Olympic Movement’s action, as well as the judges, referees, coaches and the other sports officials and technicians. It also includes other organisations and institutions as recognised by the IOC.

PRINCIPLES OF OLYMPISM

1. Olympism is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind. Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example, social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles.
2. The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity.
3. The Olympic Movement is the concerted, organised, universal and permanent action, carried out under the supreme authority of the IOC, of all individuals and entities who are inspired by the values of Olympism. It covers the five continents. It reaches its peak with the bringing together of the world’s athletes at the great sports festival, the Olympic Games. Its symbol is five interlaced rings.
4. The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practising sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.
5. Recognising that sport occurs within the framework of society, sports organisations within the Olympic Movement shall have the rights and obligations of autonomy, which include freely establishing and controlling the rules of sport, determining the structure and governance of

their organisations, enjoying the right of elections free from any outside influence and the responsibility for ensuring that principles of good governance be applied.

6. Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement.
7. Belonging to the Olympic Movement requires compliance with the Olympic Charter and recognition by the IOC.

The Olympic Charter, International Olympic Committee, July 2011

CONCLUSION:

The Olympic Movement is all about implementing Olympism as a philosophy of life. Olympism uses sports to encourage balanced development of individuals as a vital step in building a peaceful society that attributes high place to human dignity. The Olympic Movement highlighted the bigger picture of sports in human beings lives. In the Olympic Movement, sports became an educative tool and vehicle and not an end in itself. The Olympic Movement grew from the beliefs of ancient Greeks of a balanced development of mankind. In the Olympic Movement hence sports came to be blended with culture and education. The Olympic Movement was initiated to implement the Olympic ideals through a conglomeration of organizations and individuals. It aimed at building a harmonious and better world by educating the youth through sports without any kind of social, economic, political or cultural discrimination. The Olympic Movement hence embraced the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the National Olympic Committees (NOCs), the International Federations (IFs), the International Olympic Academy (IOA), the National Olympic Academy's (NOAs), sports officials, coaches, athletes and educationists who strive to fulfill the above mentioned goals.

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