

AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF 1<sup>st</sup> ASIAN GAMES HELD IN INDIA DURING 1951**Arun Motghare**Dr. Arun Motghare Mahavidyalaya, Kondha-Kosra, Tal. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara  
drrarunmotgharecollege@gmail.com**Abstract:**

4<sup>th</sup> March 1951 is the day to be written in the golden letters not only for Indian sports history but for the history of Asian games. The first president of Indian republic Dr. Rajendra Prasad inaugurated the first Asian games in the newly constructed National stadium at New Delhi in the great enthusiasm. 600 male female players of the 11 countries in Asia saluted it. The researcher has studied the following tools for his research, International game and India (book), Asian games 1951, Asian Games; Statistical Digest. In first Asian games India was on 2<sup>nd</sup> number. Japan got the first place. India got 15 Gold medals, 16 silver medals and 21 Bronze medals in the game. Iran got the third place. 24 players from Japan Iran India and Bramhadesh participated in it and Japanese player in 5 hours 22 minute 226 seconds. 40 players participated in it and Iran players outplayed all in this event. 6 nations participated in this. In the finals India beat Iran team in a thrilling match by 1 goal. Five nations participated in this. Games were played in league system. Philippines team scored the maximum points and was the winner. Water polo game was played between India and Singapore and India beat Singapore by 6 goals to 4 goals. India's K P Thakkar scored maximum points in diving and stood first. 114 (37 female) selected players from 11 countries participated in this. Japan and India were the tough competitors till the last moment. Japan was the overall winner in this category. India stood second, Philippines third and Singapore stood fourth

**Keywords :** Asian Games, Cycling, Athletics, Swimming, Football.

**Introduction:**

Importance of games and sports: Sports is the natural tendency of human being. It is the process created through the physical activities. Since ancient times man is related to some or other activities. Man deems it as entertainment and competition. Sports have an important place in a person's life. Before seeing its importance it is essential to see what are sports? According to sports psychologist Prof. J. D. Lothar Sports word is derived from the word 'Disport'. Meaning of this word is running away from work. A sport is defined by many experts as follows. Lay A game occurrence institution and as a social situation or social system. J. A. Coakely, Sports is an institutionalized competitive activity that involves vigorous physical exertion or the use of relatively complex physical skills by individual motivated by a combination of intrinsic satisfaction, associated with the activity itself and the external rewards earned through participation. Life of a modern man has become very competitive. Science has developed man's life and it has become mechanical. The speed of work has increased due to machines and man gets leisure time. How to utilize this time is the problem he faces. If he uses this time for sports there is no doubt that overall development of man will take place. Sports are the media to clear the boredom in man's life. To make a person happy, enthusiastic is the work of sports. Sports make the life of a person happy and satisfied. He becomes eligible to wander in the society. Team

spirit, brotherly emotions, cooperation, thinking ability, obedience, respect about others, truth, patriotism, development of character, etc. is developed through sports.

**First Asian games arranged in India**

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**Material Method:**

"An analytical study of Indian player's performance and efficiency in Asian games held in India during 1951" to see this through research the researcher has selected 7 games. How the Indian players performed in these games in Asian competition and how was there quality is tried to be seen in the research. The following 7 games were selected.

1. Hockey
2. Volley Ball
3. Foot Ball
4. Kabaddi
5. Basket Ball
6. Badminton
7. Table Tennis

In the above games only the performances of Indian players are considered.

Sources and tools of Research

a) Primary Sources; in research methodology the earlier research is to tested with the data available and it has to put into right perspective. While doing this the primary sources have immense importance. Those who experienced the events and noted the information in writing is included in primary sources. It mainly includes Biographies, letters, diaries, publications, notes, Contracts, news papers, Books etc writing tools. The researcher has studied the following tools for his research.

- a. International game and India (book)
- b. Asian games 1951
- c. Asian Games; Statistical Digest
- b) Secondary Sources; without participating in the event the information collected fall in this category. The writer is not the direct spectator. The event is noted in the form of information. The following secondary sources were used by the researcher.
  1. Press information bureau of India
  2. Encyclopedia of Football, Hockey
  3. Complete handbook of Kabaddi
  4. India and sports world Information and broad cast ministry India government

#### **Data Collection**

After collecting all the information the researcher edited the information. The information required for the research was gathered. The information was based on quantitative and qualitative principles. The selected 7 games information from the Asian competitions since 1951 to 2002 was collected, the Indian performances, their position in the competition, medals and their skills were checked and the evaluation of Indian player's performances was done.

#### **Result and Discussion:**

The Asian games began at 4.00 pm on 4<sup>th</sup> March 1951. The opening ceremony was based on the Olympic Games. After the Indian national anthem was played on the tune of band the players of 11 march-pasts in alphabetical order and saluted Dr. Rajendra Prasad. Then he announced the opening of the games officially. Trumpet and band were played at the same time and the clap of thunder was done by spectators. The flag of Asian games was hoisted. The flag is of white colour and glowing sun appears on it. It has 11 blue coloured circles entangled in each other the words ever onwards are printed on it. Along with the flag hoisting the peace spreading pigeons were freed in the sky and 11 cannons were fired.

At the same time the Asian game flame entered the stadium. This flame was lighted at the red fort and selected 50 players had carried it by relay method through the main roads of New Delhi and after travelling 11 miles it reached the stadium. 50 year old Brigadier Daleep Singh who had participated in world sports got the honour of bringing the flame to the stadium. With the help of the flame he lighted the fire on the stadium. The flame was burning till the games ended. Then captain of Indian team took the Olympic oath on behalf of Indian players.

Program of the game continued for one week with the fanfare. In first four days the primary rounds of the team games were played, and then the final rounds were played. The results were as follows.

1. Cycling: This included individual as well as team games. 24 players from Japan Iran India and Bramhadesh participated in it. Japanese players were ahead in all games. They won first second and third places respectively. 190 kms (Approx. 118 miles) cycle race was won by Japanese player in 5 hours 22 minute 226 seconds.
2. Weight lifting: This has different weight groups and 40 players participated in it. Iran players outplayed all in this. Mohammad Namjo of Iran bantam weight (112 pounds to 118 pounds) category lifted total 700 pounds weight and created world record. Earlier record of 693 was also made by him. In two hand snatch category he equaled earlier record of (214  $\frac{3}{4}$ ) pound.
3. Football: 6 nations participated in this. In the finals India beat Iran team in a thrilling match by 1 goal. Before that India had bitten Indonesia and Afghanistan. Captain of Indian team was Sailen Mana and the credit of goal went to Mewalal. Apart from hockey India showed their skills to the entire world in another western game.
4. Basketball: Five nations participated in this. Games were played in league system. Philippines team scored the maximum points and was the winner. They defeated Iran, Japan and India by many points. The skills and team strength of their team was commendable.
5. Swimming: in this individual competitions of different distances and water polo games were included. Water polo game was played between India and Singapore and India beat Singapore by 6 goals to 4 goals. India's K P Thakkar scored maximum points in diving and stood first. In other competitions Indian swimmers Sachin nag and Kranti shaha

won in their respective games. Overall Singapore was the outright winner in this category. 19 year old Nioivi Coke of Singapore won in 400 meters, 1500 meters, and 4\*100 meter relay and earned 4 gold medals. Philippines won some medals. World class Japanese didn't participate in this category so the quality of the competition was not so good.

6. Athletics: 114 (37 female) selected players from 11 countries participated in this. Japan and India were the tough competitors till the last moment. In male category both the countries got 10 gold medals each. Japanese women participants earned gold in all the competitions therefore Japan was the overall winner in this category. India stood second, Philippines third and Singapore stood fourth.

### Conclusion:

The researcher studied Indian players performance and skills in Asian games from 1951 analytically. While doing this he used different research tools and collected required information. With the received information he analyzed the performances of Indian players. While doing this with the help of paragraphs of related books, explanations, and tables the information tables and graphs were prepared and following conclusions were drawn.

With the view of Harmony, brotherhood, love, Friendship and confidence building on the basis of Olympics and commonwealth games the movement of Asian games was started in India. With inspiration of Jawaharlal Nehru Pt. G D Sondhi started the movement of Games. The decision of conducting Asian games from 1951 was taken. The Yadvendrasing of India was selected as the president of Asian Game federation. With the efforts of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru the first Asian games were inaugurated at National Stadium New Delhi by Indian President Dr Rajendra Prasad. This day was written in golden letters in Indian history. After this the games were organised every 4 years. In first Asian games India was on 2<sup>nd</sup> number. Japan got the first place. India got 15 Gold medals, 16 silver medals and 21 Bronze medals in the game. Iran got the third place.

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