

Achievements And Contribution Of Olympian Hockey Player Mr. Sumit Valmiki: A Case Study

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research was to examine the accomplishments and accolades of Sumit Valmiki, an Olympian Hockey player, and his role in advancing the sport of hockey through his participation. The study sought to highlight Valmiki as a significant figure of inspiration for both current and upcoming generations of hockey players. Primary sources, including personal records, pictorial records, published materials, interviews, and official records, were utilized to gather data for this investigation, alongside secondary sources. A self-designed questionnaire was formulated to gain insights into different facets of Sumit Valmiki's personality. Following the collection of data regarding his accolades and accomplishments, it was determined that Sumit, as an athlete, has garnered recognition for his outstanding performance in numerous national and international competitions. Mr. Sumit Valmiki earned the bronze medal for India at the 2020 Summer Olympics, also known as Tokyo 2020. He competed in various international events, including the FIH Pro-League 2021-22 in Potchefstroom (South Africa), where he represented India. Additionally, in the 2021 Men's Asian Champions Trophy held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, he achieved the third position. and participated in the XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 in Gold Coast (Australia). Mr. Valmiki also took part in the Sultan of Johor Cup 2014 in Johor (Malaysia). In 2021, Mr. Sumit Valmiki received the prestigious Arjuna Award, a notable honour in India.

Introduction

Sports occupy a unique and esteemed position within human society, imparting valuable lessons that extend beyond the realm of athletics. Integral to the fabric of life, sports install virtues of integrity and morality, shaping individuals and communities alike. Through participation in sports, individuals glean essential values that have the power to reshape societal foundations. Indeed, sports serve as a powerful catalyst for transcending barriers of social, political, and ethnic divisions, fostering inclusivity and unity. At the individual level, engagement in sports promotes overall physical activity and well-being, encouraging a proactive approach to life. Moreover, sports imbue society with a resilient mind set, instilling the belief that any obstacle can be overcome with positivity and determination. They serve as a poignant reminder that one's worth is not determined by socioeconomic status, but by their character and compassion. Furthermore, sports play a pivotal role in bolstering a nation's economy, underscoring their multifaceted significance. In essence, the world of sports serves as a cornerstone in building healthier, more cohesive societies, uniting people from diverse backgrounds under a common passion (Kaur, 2023). Team sports provide a rich environment for social development, offering opportunities for collaboration, relationship-building, cultural awareness, leadership development, and the cultivation of important values such as sportsmanship and resilience.

In India, while numerous games are enjoyed, hockey reigns supreme as the oldest and most beloved sport. With its roots tracing back to ancient times, hockey is played using sticks and balls on a field by two competing teams. Originating in England, modern hockey saw its beginnings with the first documented match between England and Ireland in 1895, leading to the inaugural Olympic Hockey Competition held in London in 1908 (Kumar 2022).

India's hockey dominance reigned from 1928 to 1980, yet the years following 1980 were marred by disappointment as Indian players struggled to secure Olympic medals. Despite these challenges spanning

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from 1980 to 2020, Indian hockey has since reclaimed its esteemed position on the global stage. Mr. Sumit Valmiki demonstrated outstanding proficiency as a member of the Indian Hockey team during the Tokyo Olympic Games 2021, where the team achieved a significant milestone by securing the bronze medal. This accomplishment stands as a noteworthy resurgence for Indian hockey, signifying a remarkable comeback on the international stage.

Concept of case study

The concept of a case study involves a detailed and systematic examination of a specific case to gain insights, generate hypotheses, or contribute to knowledge within a particular field of study. Case studies offer a rich and nuanced understanding of real-life phenomena, making them a valuable research method across various disciplines. It is a qualitative research method that employs diverse data collection techniques to conduct a thorough examination of a particular 'case', which represents a single unit in the study. Case studies concentrate on the intricacies, dynamics, and events of a specific case.

Methodology

A case study was developed to investigate Sumit Valmiki's accomplishments, awards, and contributions to the advancement of hockey as both a player and captain. Primary sources, including personal records, visual records, interviews, and official documents, were used to gather data for this study, along with secondary sources. Before conducting the interview, the researcher directly contacted Arjuna Awardee Sumit Valmiki. To gain insights into various aspects of Valmiki's personality, a questionnaire was created and refined based on expert feedback. The content of the questionnaire was derived from an extensive review of the literature and previous case studies. The interview primarily focused on Valmiki's achievements, awards, and his role in promoting hockey as a player and captain.

Interview of Mr. Sumit Valmiki

The researcher directly reached out to Mr. Sumit Valmiki to arrange interviews, ensuring that each session was scheduled in advance. Over the course of multiple interviews conducted at different times, various aspects of Mr. Valmiki's life were explored in detail. The discussions primarily centred around his family background, the influence of his environment, his childhood experiences, educational journey, participation in sports, and the trajectory of his sporting career. Additionally, the interviews delved into his notable achievements and milestones in the realm of sports.

Sports Career of Olympic Medallist Mr. Sumit Valmiki

Table: 1 Sports Awards of Olympic Medallist Mr. Sumit Valmiki

Year	Award
2021	Arjun Award (India)
2023	Bhim Award (Haryana)

Sports Achievements of Olympic Medallist Mr. Sumit Valmiki Table: 2 Sports Achievements of Olympic Medallist Mr. Sumit Valmiki

S. No	Name of Tournament	Venue	Year	Position
1.	XXXII Summer Olympics	Tokyo (Japan)	2021	Bronze Medal
2.	19 th Asian Games	Hangzhou (China)	2023	Gold Medal
3.	FIH Pro-League	Potchefstroom (South Africa)	2021-22	Third Place
4.	Men's Asian Champions Trophy	Dhaka (Bangladesh)		Third Place
5.	FIH Pro-League	India	2020-21	Fourth Place
6.	Sultan Azlan Shah Cup	Ipoh (Malaysia)	2019	Third Place
7.	XXI Commonwealth Games	Gold Coast (Australia)	2018	-----
8.	Hero Asian Champions Trophy	Muscat (Oman)	2018	Joint Winner
9.	FIH Hockey World League	Bhuvneshwar (India)	2016-17	Third Place
10.	Hero Men's Asia Cup	Dhaka, Bangladesh	2017	First Place

11.	Men's Junior World Cup	Lucknow (India)	2016	First Place
12.	Sultan of Johar Cup	Johar (Malaysia)	2014	Champion

Results and Discussion

The purpose of this study was to investigate the achievements and awards of Sumit Valmiki, an Olympian Hockey player, and evaluate his contribution to the promotion of hockey as both a player and Vice-captain,

with the aim of serving as a source of inspiration for present and future generations of hockey players. Data for this study were gathered from various primary sources including personal records, pictorial records, published material, interviews, and official records, as well as secondary sources.

A self-designed questionnaire was employed to gain insights into different aspects of Sumit Valmiki's personality. The collected data revealed that Sumit has received recognition for his exceptional performance in numerous national and international competitions. Notably, he earned the bronze medal for India at the 2020 Summer Olympics, also known as Tokyo 2020. Additionally, he participated in various international events such as the FIH Pro-League 2021-22 in Potchefstroom (South Africa), representing India. Moreover, in the 2021 Men's Asian Champions Trophy, which was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, he got third place and took part in the XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 in Gold Coast (Australia). Sumit also participated in the Sultan of Johor Cup 2014 in Johor (Malaysia).

Furthermore, in 2021, Sumit Valmiki was honored with the prestigious Arjuna Award, a significant recognition within India. This acknowledgment underscores his remarkable contributions to the sport of hockey and his role as an inspirational figure for aspiring athletes in the field.

Conclusion:- Mr. Sumit Valmiki's achievements as an Olympian Hockey player, along with his dedication to promoting the sport, serve as a testament to his exemplary sportsmanship and leadership qualities. His success not only brings pride to the nation but also inspires future generations to strive for excellence in hockey.

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