



মহাশিক্ষা বিভাগ (সংস্কৃতি)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)

Government of Manipur

Lesson: 9

The Value of Game and Sports

NOTES:

SUMMARY:

The world of sports brings in people of all races, caste and creed together from all over the world. The spirit of competition has been in human beings from time immemorial. In ancient Greece, the Greeks organized competition in sports and games and it was the beginning of Olympics. However the modern times witnessed a different concept of games and sports. Besides physical fitness, other aspects began to be included like unity of world, purity of mind, sincerely, honesty and sense of fellow feeling. When Baron Coubertin revived the Olympic Games he had many other things in his mind and unity of the world is one important aim. The Olympic flag has five rings representing the five continents symbolizing spirit of unity, the Olympic flame is the symbol of purity and the oath affirms fairness in competition and maintenance of the glory in sports. Some glaring examples have been included to emphasise the importance of these aspects. For instance when Francisco Totti of Italy spat on Poulson of Denmark during a match a match of the European football Championship in 2004 in Portugal, because of the strictness of the rules of the game he was banned for three matches. The rules of games and sports teach everyone to have disciplined and proper behaviour. In game there should not be dishonesty and Ben Johnson, a good sprinter representing Canada in the Seoul Olympics was banned from competitions because of he was found using drugs to win the championship. Healthy rivalry and friendly spirit always go with true and real games and sports. In the Olympics 1936, though the Nazis looked down upon the American Negroes as inferior race, when Jesse Owens, an American Negro won the 100m race the German crowd gave him a standing ovation. And in the long jump when he defeated Lug Long of German, Long was the first to congratulate Owens. A glaring example of hard work and indomitable spirit is that of Raymond Clearance Ewry. He had polio and had been confined to the wheelchair but his hard work brought him to the top of the world. He won 10 gold medals in four Olympics. Team Work and team spirit are

essential in games like hockey, football, cricket and track and field events because when it fails, the team suffers. In the Amsterdam Olympics of 1928 women were allowed to take part in the competition for athletics, in the Mexico Olympics of 1968 a woman Enriqueta Basillio Sotela took Oath along with a man, in the Sydney Olympics of 2000, a woman competitor and an aborigine, Cathy Freeman lighted the Olympic flame. These developments send a clear message to the world that in games and sports there is no barrier of colour race, religion or sex. Games and sports also bring the world together. The modern Olympic Games started in April 1896 at Athens with 14 countries and in the 2004 games at Athens there were 203 countries of the world. Thus games and sports can be used as powerful means to bring the whole world together.

WORD MEANINGS:

1. Barrier - something that stops people entering a place or making progress.
2. Immemorial - existing for longer than peoples can remember.
3. Nazi - a member of the far-right National Socialist German workers' Party.
4. Ovation - long, enthusiastic round of applause.
5. Indomitable - impossible to defeat or subdue.
6. Aborigine - a member of one of the original peoples of Australia.
7. Venue - the place where an event or meeting is held.
8. Mankind - human beings as a whole.



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