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DRONACHARYA AWARDEE AND WUSHU COACH SH. KULDEEP HANDOO: A CASE STUDY

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Abstract

The main purpose of this study was to highlight the achievements and contribution of Kuldeep Handoo towards the promotion of sports in the country. A case study has been designed to give proper knowledge about his achievements; secondary data were collected from various websites, previous research studies and news papers. Dronacharya Kuldeep Handoo's personal performance as well as performance and achievements of his trainees have been highlighted. It was concluded that Dronacharya Kuldeep Handoo had rare combination of being an outstanding sportsman and excellent administrator and a coach. The study will be a value able addition to the professional literature in sports and physical education. This study will be significant to motivate the new sports generation.

Keywords: Wushu, Medals, National and International Achievements.

Introduction

Victory in sports at international competitions is viewed as a sign of superiority of a nation and the sportspersons are given the status of demi-gods. Sports are now an integral part of culture all over the world and superiority in the international sports competitions is linked to the national honour. Every country is trying to have modern sports infrastructure, best equipment and the latest technical know-how. Knowledgeable coaches and sports scientists from the advanced countries are imported by the developing countries with the sole aim of excelling in the international competitions. Countries like Cuba, Kenya, Croatia, Ethiopia, which are not economically very sound, have also put their meager resources at the disposal of their sports persons who, in turn, have put their countries on the world map and also won international applause.

Excellence in sports at international level enhances the prestige of a nation. Victory in international sports competition is celebrated throughout the country and the winners are honoured by the people as well as by the government. Lots of incentives are provided to the sportspersons who attain high international standards. The medal winners become national heroes. Youngsters are motivated to take sports more seriously and dedicatedly.

Sportspersons are considered pillars of success when they are recognised by society. It is an established fact that society has influenced them in the pursuit of excellence in sports and, in turn, they have contributed their bit towards creating a conducive culture and atmosphere for sports promotion.



Kuldeep Handoo, as a Wushu player, has represented J&K at national sports events and was the national champion for 11 years on the spin. He won gold medals at the National Wushu Championship from 1995 to 2005. He also clinched a gold medal in 2007 National Games.

The Srinagar-born sporting icon has also represented India at many international Wushu events and championships where he won several medals.

Kuldeep Handoo, the chief coach of India's national wushu team, is the first person from the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir to win the prestigious Dronacharya Award. It is given in recognition of exceptional sports coaching. Indian wushu athletes have won two gold medals at the world championships and one at the World Cup under Kuldeep Handoo's guidance. Over the years, he has also coached Indian athletes to 28 silver medals and 57 bronze medals in various championships. At the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta, India won four bronze medals, and Handoo is determined to improve on that record in future editions. Handoo, a former wushu competitor who won a gold medal at the sixth national wushu championship in Mizoram in 1995, is now a police inspector in Jammu and Kashmir”.

Awards

- Dronacharya Award-2020
- Ficci Coach of the Year 2016
- State Awardee Jammu And Kashmir -2011
- Sher-E-Kashmir Awardee-2013
- Purshoram Awardee-2017
- Dgp Medal-2006

Associated With:-

- Member of National Anti Doping Agency (Nada) Myas)
- Shree Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board
- Member of Advisory Sports Board Of Central University Jammu

Review of Literature

A well-structured literature review is characterized by a logical flow of ideas; current and relevant references with consistent, appropriate referencing style; proper use of terminology; and an unbiased and



comprehensive view of the previous research on the topic.

Singh (2000) in his doctoral thesis “Dronacharya Prof. Karan Singh, Eminent Physical Educationalist and Sport Promoter: A Case Study”, has been studied his biography, educational and professional qualifications, his contributions in the field of physical education and sports. Prof. Karan Singh’s personal performance as well as the performance and achievements of his trainees have been highlighted. Prof. Karan Singh had the rare combination of being outstanding sportsman and an excellent academician. “Hero of Rajasthan” represented India in the first Asian Games, 1951 held in New Delhi and won a gold medal in 400 × 4 m. relay. Academically Master degree holder, professionally M. Ed. (Physical Education) and Diploma in Coaching (Athletics) from the National Institute of Sports, Patiala made his a distinctive personality among physical educationists, coaches and sportsmen of the country. Till date he is the only male athlete in the country who won a gold medal in athletics in the Asian Games as a ‘Student’.

Singh (2004) in his doctoral thesis “Padma Shree Milkha Singh Legendary Athlete Sports Administrator and Sports Promoter - A Case Study” has studies his biography, sports career and his contribution in the field of sports. A standardized opinion rating questionnaire was developed and mailed to his contemporaries, colleagues and other eminent sportspersons and coaches to assess the personality traits of S. Milkha Singh, his philosophy and abilities as an administrator and sports promoter. Interview with S. Milkha Singh, his family members, friends, colleagues and relatives was also conducted. Padma Shree Milkha Singh was among the world records brokers in 400 mt race at Rome Olympics in 1960. He won Gold Medal in Asian Games and Commonwealth Games also. After his retirement as an athlete Mr. Milkha Singh worked as Director in Punjab Sports Department. The study also reveals the contribution and achievement of Padma Shree Milkha Singh towards the promotion of sports in the country, professional career, sports achievements as an athlete. His contribution as a sports promoter, important assignment and achievements as an administrator, his service experience and his viewpoint on different issues of sports in India were also presented.

Parul (2007) undertook a case study of Mamta Kharab a renowned international Hockey player. The study was stated as “Arjuna awardee Mamta Kharab a Golden Girl-A case study. The study was confined to the contributions and achievement of Mamta Kharab in the field of sports. The purpose of this study was to reveal tremendous impact of Mamta Kharab on Indian Boxing Player. The investigator conducted interview with Mamta Kharab, her family members, teachers, friend’s relatives and trainees. The information was collected though primary and secondary sources to enlist leadership qualities. She was honoured Bhim



Award and Arjuna Award for her contribution in the field of sports as an Hockey Players. She was an 11th World Cup Hockey participation. She represented Indian in Asian Games Doha (Quarter). Her team won Bronze Medal and many international tournaments.

Objective of the Study

The objective is to study the performance of Kuldeep Handoo in national and international competitions.

Research Methodology

In the study the following research methodology is used:

Research Design

To investigate the contribution and achievements of Kuldeep Handoo towards the promotion of wushu and sports in the country, a case study was designed in which historical biographical, analytical and interpretive techniques will utilize.

Data Collection

The required secondary data will be collected through personal records (degree, honours, books and articles), published material (books, pamphlets, articles, newspapers and reports on Kuldeep Handoo), pictorial records and official record.

Statistical Techniques

Data was analysed, interpreted and evaluated with required statistical tools like tabulation.



Result and Interpretations

Table-1

National Level Achievements

| S.No. | Tournament | Position |
|-------|---|----------|
| 1. | 6th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Mizoram | Gold |
| 2. | 7 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Hyderabad | Gold |
| 3. | 8 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Nagpur | Gold |
| 4. | 9 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Lucknow | Gold |
| 5. | 10 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Delhi | Gold |
| 6. | 11th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Meerut | Gold |
| 7. | 12 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Chennai | Gold |
| 8. | 13 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Jharkhand | Gold |
| 9. | 14 th Sr. National Wushu Championship, Lucknow | Gold |
| 10. | Wushu Federation Cup (Mandi) | Gold |
| 11. | 2007, 33 rd National Games Guwhati (Assam) | Gold |

Source: Secondary data collected.



Table-2

International Level Achievements

| S.No. | Tournament | Position |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | 9 th Hongkong Wushu International Championship 2011 | Bronze Medal |
| 2. | 2006, 6 th Asian Wushu Championship , Myanmar | Bronze Medal |
| 3. | 2003, 2 nd South Asian Wushu Championships New Delhi (India) | Gold Medal |
| 4. | 2008, 3 rd South Asian Wushu Championship, Dhaka(Ban) | Silver Medal |
| 5. | 2005, 7 th World Wushu Championship (Macau) China | 5 th Place |
| 6. | 1996, 4 th Asian Wushu Championship (Manila) Philippines | 5 th Place |

Source: Secondary data collected.

Table-3

Achievements Of Kuldeep Handoo As National Chief Coach In Official Events Of International Wushu Federation

| S.NO | EVENT | GOLD | SILVER | BRONZE |
|------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. | World Championships | 3 | 11 | 14 |
| 2. | World Cup | 1 | 5 | 11 |
| 3. | Asian Games | | 1 | 8 |
| 4. | Asian Championships | | 7 | 18 |
| 5. | Asia Cup | | 4 | 6 |
| 6. | South Asian Games | 4 Times Overall Champion | | |

Source: Secondary data collected.



The above analytical tables exhibited that in 1995; he won his first gold medal at the 6th National Wushu Championship in Mizoram and never looked back. He won gold medals at the National Wushu Championship from 1995 to 2005. He also clinched a gold medal in 2007 National Games. In his long drawn out career of over 25 years, Handoo has won 11 gold medals in national championships.

At International level, kuldeep handoo took part in 2nd South Asian Wushu Championships New Delhi (India, 2003) and hold for Gold Medal position . In 6th Asian Wushu Championship, (Myanmar – 2006), he won the Bronze medal. In 3rd South Asian Wushu Championship, Dhaka (Ban), he got the silver medal and in 9th Hongkong Wushu International Championship (2011), he won the bronze medal. In the recognition of kuldeep handoo's achievements, the Jammu and Kashmir Government presented him state award for outstanding sports person in the year 2011 and also has been honoured by Sheri-i-kashmir award by the state government in 2013.

After 2006, he turned to coaching and first became the coach of the junior national Wushu team and later in 2010, national chief coach of Wushu team. Under his guidance, the country has had a dream run in Wushu and so far India has won three gold medals in world championships and one gold in the World Cup. During his stint as the national coach, India has also bagged 27 silver and 57 bronze medals in different competitions including Asian Games, World Championship and World Cup. National wushu team coach Kuldeep Handoo is the first person from India's Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir to receive the prestigious Dronacharya Award.

Conclusion

On the basis of analysis it was concluded that Kuldeep Handoo first showcased his talent in the year 1995 where he won his first gold medal at the 6th National Wushu Championship in Mizoram and never looked back. Under his guidance, the country had a dream run in Wushu and so far India has won three gold medals in world championships and one gold in the World Cup. During his stint as the national coach, India has also bagged 27 silver and 57 bronze medals in different competitions including Asian Games, World Championship and World Cup.



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