

Course Name : Bachelor of Physical Education

Year : Ist

Paper Name : Introduction to Physical Education

Paper No. : Ist

Lecture No. : 7

Topic no. : 3(b)

Lecture Title : Contribution of English People

Introduction

Hello and welcome to yet another episode on physical education and today we are talking about the contribution of English people that is the Britishers for encouraging the modern sports in India.

India's love affair with Western games owes much to its principal Eurasian community, the Anglo-Indians. Their chain of 300 or so English-medium schools have imparted Western sports to diverse enrollments throughout the subcontinent for more than 150 years and continue to do so today.

In 1947, there were perhaps 500,000 Anglo-Indians or Englishman in South Asia, and current assessments suggest an ongoing presence of 250,000–300,000 amid a total Indian population of one billion. Perhaps another 300,000 Anglo-Indians have resettled in the West since India obtained Independence. In spite of the community's microscopic size, it has produced numerous Olympians, as well as coaches, organizers and technical delegates at every level. Anglo-Indian sporting life continues to prevail among emigrants from India now found in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. The aftermath of the 1857 Rebellion and the expansion of India's lower colonial services brought reserved service roles for Anglo-Indians as a useful, English-speaking population that had demonstrated its loyalty through the course of the uprising. This preferment was a

mixed blessing in its long-term result of discouraging economic diversification. Furthermore, Anglo-Indians earned a fraction of what was accorded Europeans in the same services, and they remained ineligible for responsible military service until the twentieth century, although now and then members of this community were conscripted for assorted conflicts. Many Anglo-Indians served with distinction, and their history regularly presents a compensatory ‘magic’ in the outstanding performances of individuals, often at the eleventh hour.

A Compensatory Culture

More creative Anglo-Indian responses to social exclusion and economic limitation helped to generate a culture of great attachment to service, school, church, and communal social life. Sporting divisions were an important aspect of a separate Anglo-Indian or the English way of life. The community’s English-medium schools, many of them directly traceable to the late-eighteenth century experience of racial exclusion had been aided by Christian religious orders that began arriving from the West in the 1830s. Families engaged in service work of regular rotations or remote postings frequently dispatched their children to boarding schools that typically demonstrated an ideal of competitive sports as a natural adjunct of education.

Athleticism became a strong element of Anglo-Indian family and communal life. The colony-born, when writing of their youth, often mention railway colonies or other service enclaves in which there were always sufficient participants to allow for what could be a rather incessant round of hockey, cricket, soccer and other sports as leisure activities. The ‘cult of character’ attributed to Victorian and Edwardian values throughout the British Empire took firm root in an Anglo-Indian community that had come to predominate in British India’s uncovenanted services, led by the massive South Asian railway infrastructure in which Anglo-Indians served into the 1960s and beyond. Anglo-Indians were also very visible in the subcontinent's other transport and communications networks as well as in the police, forest administration and public works. Such involvements further consolidated a distinctive Anglo-Indian world apart in which enclaves became accustomed to making their own fun. As various other Indians often recall, the different service leagues and teams were much followed and particular centres or

services were known for their expertise in one sport or another.

Hockey : India's National Game

At the time of writing, the saga of Anglo-Indian hockey prevailed in India and beyond. Hockey was introduced at the 1896 Olympics and, 20 years later, Indian players, most of them drawn from clubs inseparable from the railways, the telegraphs, customs or port services, were highly visible at the international level. A Bengal Hockey Club appeared as early as 1908, while Karachi and Sind Hockey Association, established in 1920, did much to systematize Indian hockey. The game's modest needs in terms of equipment and facilities rendered it a sport suited to South Asia and, as was the case elsewhere in the British Empire, hockey was regarded as a healthy outlet for both sexes.

Eric Stracey's memoir of Bangalore in the 1920s and 1930s refers to the sports in which he and most other Anglo-Indians were involved. Cricket was played in the summer and soccer belonged to the monsoon season, but hockey had year-round appeal and, as Stracey wrote, it was hockey that his community made especially its own. He might have added that it was the Anglo-Indian fondness for hockey that helped to bring Anglo-Indians into friendly contact with other Indians. Stracey recalled the Bangalore Indians and the Sappers & Miners as regular rivals of the best Anglo-Indian elevens. Indian hockey gained impetus after the 1920s due to its promotion within the Indian Army and the coordinating work of an Indian Hockey Association, established in 1925. Talented players often emerged from the service leagues, many of which were lowly or obscure collectivities of railwaymen and others familiar with sometimes makeshift fields. The encouragement of team sports by the various services rendered hockey a usual aspect of the Indian whirl.

In Bengal, the Calcutta Hockey League's annual tournament was won by Anglo Indian teams 17 times between 1905 and 1924. For many years, Calcutta Customs was considered unbeatable, with other outstanding players belonging to the Calcutta Port Commission or the Bengal-Nagpur Railways. In Bombay, the Aga Khan Tournament was won by Anglo-Indian elevens, year after year. When Bombay Customs played Christ Church School's Old Boys of Jabalpur in 1926, it was an Anglo-Indian showdown between players having many times faced one

another, with victory alternating between them. The All-India Scindia Gold Cup was won repeatedly by elevens chosen from fewer than 50 of the Ajmer railway workshop's apprentices. In 1926, an Indian Army team toured New Zealand, and on the eve of their departure, were beaten soundly by an Anglo-Indian team of the Northwestern military.

A Golden Era of Indian hockey is found in the interval 1928–1956 when India won six consecutive gold medals in Olympic competition (the country again won gold in Tokyo in 1964, and Moscow in 1980). At the 1928 Olympics, eight of eleven male players representing India were Anglo-Indians. The late Anglo-Indian lawyer and parliamentarian Frank Anthony wrote that his community might easily have summoned at least six more teams of equally high standard. The 1932 Olympic team included seven Anglo-Indians (Allen, Tapsell, Hammond, Brown, Penniger, Carr and Sullivan), while R.J. Allen had played on the 1928 team and was regarded as the world's best goalkeeper. At the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Anglo-Indian history was to present one of its many dramatically colourful turns. There were six Anglo Indians on the gold-winning Indian team (Allen, Tapsell, Cullen, Emmet, Michie and Gallibardy). In the final, played amid Nazi Germany's attachment to ideals of racial purity and athleticism, a most 'miscegenated' Indian team defeated none other than Germany.

Most of the 1928 and 1932 players hailed from northern and central India. Several of the day's principal hockey centres were in Bhopal and its environs Gwalior, Jhansi and Indore, as well as Allahabad, Aligarh, Lucknow and Delhi. Early inter-zonal competitions had begun in Punjab, Bengal, Gwalior and Delhi, but also in Bombay and Madras. The international players of the 1930s often knew one another well. Hammond, Penniger, the Carr brothers and Allen were students of Oak Grove, and Cullen and Emmett attended St. George's College, both facilities of Mussoorie, UP. Some players obtained international followings. Broome Penniger, for example, was known outside of India as the world's best centre. Leslie Hammond and Dickie and Laurie Carr were famous arrivals in Australia, where they later emigrated.

The cessation of sport through World War II and the spectre of India's independence in 1947 produced a perfect background for another flourish of

Anglo-Indian history, as the official British departed leaving an Anglo-Indian population firmly designated as citizens of India after some 150 years of discrepancy. In 1948, India's hockey team (including 'the Wizard' Dhyan Singh, Patrick Jansen, Leslie Clausius, Lawrie Fernandes, Gerry Glacken, Leo Pinto, Reginald Rodrigues and Maxie Vas) proceeded to become the World Champions in London. The 1952 Olympic team also won easily, and is remembered as a well-balanced eleven. The same coordination was observed at the 1956 Melbourne games, and again at Rome in 1960, with top-level Indian hockey continuing to be led by Anglo-Indian players and coaches.

Boxing

Boxing appeared in India as an activity of the British Army and was quickly adopted by Anglo-Indian schools. Through the interval in which Anglo-Indians served the Auxiliary Force India (AFI) as a term of their service employment there was much friendly yet heated competition with British regiments' best boxers. Many Anglo-Indians learned to box as part of their growing-up years or by way of service and military life. At the national level, India's middleweight champion of 1934–1937 was Duncan Chatterton of Jhansi, later an undefeated All-India Inter-Railway light- heavyweight champion. Bombay's Edgar Brighte was the Indian lightweight champion for many years. Milton Kubes was another well-known name. Kid d'Silva, a fellow of thin and slight appearance but terrific endurance, became Calcutta's boxing idol. Another legend of the 1930s and 1940s was Arthur Suares who, in his youth, defeated western India's Jack deSouza and Harry Bell of Australia. As an all-Indian champion, Suares made several tours of Ceylon, Burma, Malaya and Singapore, later turning down an American boxing contract. He enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) in World War II, continued boxing and donated his prizes to the War Fund. After 1942, Dusty Miller emerged the Indian Navy's best middleweight boxer.

In the 1951 revival of north India's boxing scene, Miller defeated Capt. Charles Campagnac of the 3rd Gurkha Rifles, another well-known Anglo-Indian who would later lead his regiment in the 1965 war against Pakistan. Miller held India's middleweight title during 1941–1945, was a 1945 title holder of the China–Burma–India service- men's tournaments, and took the India and Ceylon

heavyweight championship of 1951–1952. In 1963, he emigrated to Australia where he resides in Perth. Peter Prince, many times a champion, also became an Australian, as did Gene Raymond after boxing in India and in Britain. Other notables of the time were the lightweight Maurice Monnier, and Aaron Joshua, Dennis Barbaro, Ron Wilmer, and Ralph Janz, the latter belonging to an Anglo-Indian family of Ceylon. In 1948, and again in 1952, most of India's Olympic boxers were Anglo-Indians: Nuttall captained the 1948 boxing team and later emigrated to England, where he emerged a 1950s middleweight champion. The sporting Norrises made their mark, too, as Ron Norris became Madhya Pradesh's lightweight champion and, in 1952, took the All-India championship before heading for the Helsinki Olympics with Capt. Oscar Ward, a fellow Anglo Indian. Rudy Hourigan had various wins while serving in the Indian Air Force after 1944. He had earlier defeated Havelock Norris in the Bombay All-India championship to become India's featherweight champion at the age of 19. Boxing, then, was a popular and successful sport for Anglo-Indian endeavour.

Cricket

Those familiar with contemporary Indian sporting life may find it difficult to envision an India minus this remarkably popular spectator sport. However, Anglo-Indian schools took up cricket before it had any real following in India. Jabalpur's Christ Church Boy's School was among those Anglo-Indian schools to fast develop a reputation for fine cricketers. Bangaloreans, in particular, gave the game much support and the city's Richmond Town's earthen oval facilitated soccer, hockey and cricket, while New Field, purchased by St. Joseph's College in the 1920s, accommodated three pitches. Also in that decade, an Indian Board of Control for Cricket was set up in Delhi, led by Anthony de Mellow.

The post-Independence era has produced much notables as Keith Fletcher and, here and there, Anglo-Indians crop up in a sport that was far from achieving its current popularity in India. In the 1960s and 1970s, Lyn Edwards played for Hyderabad State as one of a great many well-known regional cricketers. Mark Lavender requires little introduction to international cricket followers; born in Madras in 1967, he is now of Western Australia. One of India's best-known cricket coaches is Bangalore's Salis P. Nazareth, a former national selector who organizes

coaching camps in conjunction with St. Joseph's High School. In an example of the Anglo-Indian community's fondness for volunteer activities, Nazareth also coached the All-India Deaf and Dumb Team to play in Australia in 1995–1996. Bangalore's Sir Roger Binny remains an Anglo-Indian and Indian cricket fixture. An ace bowler and allrounder able to bat at any position, he contributed to assorted international victories and was the darling of India's 1983 World Cup triumph. He was a member of the Indian team to tour Australia in 1981, 1984–1985 and 1985–1986, and has since resumed coaching, producing the winners of the 2000 Under-19 World Cup and the national 'A' team. He is a selector for the state of Karnataka and, in rather typical Anglo-Indian fashion, his sporting activities are not limited to cricket; he is a weekend golfer and is currently engaged at Bangalore's National Cricket Academy when not representing his state's 12,000 or so Anglo-Indians as a member of the Karnataka legislature.

Track and field

India's first Olympian Norman Gilbert Pritchard was born an accountant's son in Calcutta in 1875, attended St. Xavier's College, and taught in Lucknow for some years. At the 1900 Paris Games, Pritchard finished second in the 200 metres to J.W.B. Tewksbury of the United States to become India's first Olympic medalist; he finished second again in the 200 metre hurdles. Pritchard received a hero's welcome on returning to India and was later appointed an honorary secretary of the Indian Football Association. It was well known that, on the eve of Pritchard's departure for Europe, he had been opposed by authorities who pronounced that he must compete as a Briton. However, the Anglo-Indian Mr. Pritchard insisted on representing India. In keeping with an historical multitude of multi-talented and unconventional persons to find their places in the history of his community, he later went off to California to embark on another career—in silent film!

A further step forward was heralded by the 1927 formation of the Indian Olympic Association in the expectation that Indians be encouraged to compete abroad. The 1932 Los Angeles games saw an Anglo-Indian hurdler, Mervyn Sutton, reach the semi-finals in the 110 metre hurdles. At the 1948 Olympics, the sprinter Eric Phillips competed, as well as hurdler John Vickers. Henry Rebello was born in Lucknow in 1928 and, after his family relocated to Bangalore, became a regular

1940s winner of what were then called Hop, Step and Jump competitions. He was the favourite of the 1948 Olympics in triple jump, but was injured before he could compete. Rebello also excelled in the high jump. Derek Boosey of Karnataka's Kolar Gold Fields (KGF) superseded Rebello's record in the Hop, Step and Jump and, in 1960, and became India's national champion just as his father, Leslie Boosey, had been 20 or so years before. Derek Boosey emigrated and reappeared on the British team at the 1968 Mexico games. Another native son of KGF was Kenneth Powell who ran in the 1964 Olympics. Powell had broken the Indian national and Asian records at the 1964 All-India Open Meet and, at the Olympics, gave a good performance in the 200 metres and the 100 men's relay. In 1965, Powell and also Barry Ford set new Indian records for the 100 and 200 metres at Pune. Other Anglo-Indians competing in track and field events at the national and international levels have been Larry Pinto and Edward Sequeira; N. Nugent represented England in 1952 at Helsinki and won a bronze.

Conclusion

So we have discussed in this episode how English people or we can call them Anglo-Indian have helped local people, the natives to learn about modern sport and the techniques that they taught us and the playground facilities that they have provided which have led to very good performance of native people at International levels. I hope this information provided was of some use to all of you. Thank you so much for watching.