

Modern olympics



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The Olympic Games were large athletic competitions originally held in Greece about every four years from 776 B. C. E. to 393 C. E. Demetrius Vikelas, the first president of the International Olympic Committee organized successful early competitions including few sports; from cycling, fencing, gymnastics, shooting, swimming, tennis, weightlifting and wrestling. After many years of planning, the first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens, Greece in 1896.

Based on the documents, many competitors established love for their own sport and loved competing against others from around the world, as well as all of the benefits or what happened because of the new profound Olympics, and the economic situations that some countries faced due to the Olympics. These factors shaped and constructed the modern Olympics from 1892 through 2002. Competitors were vicious and knew how to act when it came to the Olympic games.

For example, a 1972 magazine interview with Bob Matthias, (United States competitor in 1952 games) stated that there were many pressures on athletes with the presence of the Soviet Union team, displaying them as the real enemy. The athletes from the US loved to beat them, no matter what sport the Russians were or weren't strong in. (Doc 4) However during completion, competitors, such as the Germans, brought in their political view of things, thinking that Nazism was better than democracy.

The Germans only believed in victory, for all means were justified. Therefore because the Germans believed in victory, they cheated on the Olympic Games in 1936 and practiced on the ski mountain before it was opened, always giving themselves the advantage. (Doc 3) To competitors who

maintained victory during the modern Olympic games, they gave themselves and their country confidence. Nothing would separate their love and devotion to their country, even if people openly criticize them about their apparel or spirit for their sport or country.

Hassiba Boulmerka, from Algeria, competitor in 1992 games, said that he encourages women to compete in the games. Even though 29 percent of the athletes were women, most women, he felt like, never thought of becoming athletes. Boulmerka also said, “ They have to become stronger in the mind, not just the body. ” (Doc 8) Hassiba Boulmerka leads into the last document of competition with woman, Sybil Newall, a British competitor in 1908 games. The picture depicts her participating in Archery. In the Great Britain Games of 1908, only two percent of the athletes were women.

This time, however, was way before Hassiba Boulmerka’s newspaper interview in 1995; this was taken and published to show what little numbers of women participated in the early modern Olympics, thus, women gradually became apart of world societies and a large part of the modern Olympic Games. (Doc 2) Additional documents that could have been included would be from women to display their point of view on the Olympics and how they were treated and participated, all their restrictions they had because they were women, which would help develop a better understanding of how the modern Olympics were shaped.

The outcome and benefits of the modern Olympics consisted of peace and union throughout the world after the World Wars. Pierre de Coubertin founded the Olympic movement, and in his speech to the Athletic Society of France in 1892 he said that war would never disappear or there would never

be any reduced chance of it. Coubertin thought that to give world peace a chance and have all athletes compete in other lands for the true free trade of the future and peace would find itself renewed and become a strong ally.

This speech was beneficial to the world because it indeed, for a time, brought together people from various countries and many of them got along, even when there were some people who didn't get along. This document exists because people decided to turn around after the Second World War and wanted to express peace and reduce chances of war again by having free trade by athletes competing.

Regions like Moscow, who had deep world history, was benefited by the Olympic games when the city was chosen to host the 1980 games, which was a point that they held consistent and a peaceful foreign policy. It was also an honor of respect for the great Soviet achievements in physical education and sports. (Doc 6) From the Pakistan sports writer Ali Kabir, he wrote that men's field hockey in 2000, which had its ups and downs, also represented their social values, which decreased from the national pride to self-promotion.

People and athletes were exhausted from working hard back in 1956 and 1960, in the late 1900's the national team was clueless and had tarnished the country's name, benefiting the case that if changes weren't going to be made, the 2000 games' era would be known as the darkest period in Pakistan's sports history. (Doc 10) In the graph according to the International Olympic Committee, it can be inferred that over the course of years and time, as technology went up, more (U. S.) dollars would be spent on having live broadcast in TV and radio.

The lowest, in 1980, in Moscow, did not spend over 175 million dollars, whereas contrastingly, in 2000, Sydney, paid just over 1300 million dollars for live broadcast. The cost of the live broadcast benefited the country so that when their athletes competed, they would be able to watch and see how they were doing, if they were winning or losing in the games. (Doc 9) Countries faced economic situations due to the Olympic games, and some countries obtained some after the Second World War.

Japan hosted the Olympic Games in 1964 and were still struggling and trying to bounce off of the impact that they had during that event. Ryotaro Azuma, the mayor of Tokyo in a magazine interview in 1972 said that without the Olympics to their aid, they might have not gotten up on their feet and rise as a world trade power. This economic situation was stressful at the time of Japan, and they figured to hold these games and be optimistic if they would bounce back on their feet, and they did, becoming a world trade power.

Japan was thankful for Olympic games after World War II to help establish peace, and they couldn't think = of how Japan would've survived without it. (Doc 5) In 1988, the Japan Economic Journal said that top sponsors were selected for the Olympic games in South Korea but Korean companies were not on the list. Therefore according to Japan, Korea did not display any kind of industrial or economic power to a worldwide audience. To Japan's conclusion, the United States, Japan and other countries will win more than Korea itself because of its lack of economic and industrial openness to the world.