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# The necessity of considering the challenges facing Olympic Movement

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## ABSTRACT

Mohammadi S, Keyvan AD. The necessity of considering the challenges facing Olympic Movement. *J. Hum. Sport Exerc.* Vol. 6, No. 1, pp. 1-11, 2011. From the beginning that the modern Olympic Games formed, Coubertin had decide to establish and governance of amateurism in the Olympic Games. He always tried to keep Olympics Games far from issues such as professionalism in sport, issues and political tensions, seeking power of some countries, racism and political supremacy. So, by studying problems that threatens Olympic movement, can step important pace to identify the main objectives and Olympic ideals more accurately and give proper strategy to deal with these problems to withdraw its advance. In this present study we evaluate problems that threatening Olympic movement. The method used in this study is historical. So by using the documentary papers, magazines and internet, we evaluate the main problems of the Olympic movement with its details. Because the method used in this study is documentary and library-style, so it hasn't statistical population and sample. Also the research materials was articles, internet and thesis and etc. that has been done by studying sheets, classification, formulation and analyzing the data content. Finally we can say perhaps because of far away from the Olympic ideals, caused to today's threats. So by approach to those aims that was due to founders thought, Olympic movement would be saving. **Key words:** OLYMPIC, GAMES, THREATS.



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## INTRODUCTION

Olympic Games was a religious celebration initially that was held in respect to Zeus in his tomb. These tournaments were held since 776 years BC every four years at Olympia. Pierre Du Coubertin believed that "growth and development" are very important in people's lives today. Sport forms main and spiritual parts of this nurture. Sport not only makes muscles strengthen but also it completes personalities of people (Chalip, 1991). He believed that the most important point of the Olympic Games is not winning, but is participating. As the most important work in life is not winning, but is trying, and the most fundamental principle is not overcome, but is good battle (Lekarska, 1992). Also founders of the National Olympic Committee and the new period Olympiad believed that the Olympic Games are not just consider as a sport event, but also is a milestone in the broader social and cultural movement (Lynn, 1992). The movement that through play and exercise provides growth and development of humans and it can convert the world to a place for healthy living (Behmanesh, 1366). He stated values of Olympic despite the general desire for superiority some cases such as self-sacrifice, fairness and international peace as the main ingredients of Olympic (Airia, 1364). The purpose of the Olympic Games is not only a few sports world championship. In the present 203 countries participate in Olympic competition. This figure is more than of 193 countries that UN recognized (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Statutes). IOC Unlike other international organizations allows the countries that have not political independence to participate in the Olympic competitions. Gathering athletes from all over of the Earth in a specific place every four years create the biggest and the most unique sports festival which originated from the foundations and principles of Olympics Charter (Shantz, 1998). Coubertin and other recent experts had many ideals and hopes for Olympic movement and tried to decrease problems and threats that this movement will face with them to the least rate (Haig, 1995). Olympic rings implies to implicit of marvelous set of ethic values and this is the reason that public support is formed based on it (Schneider, 1999). In the early twenty-first century important problems will threat Olympic movement and Games (Dacosta, 1992a), that if the International Olympic Committee decision makers and experts and all those interested to Olympic Movement do not study and analyze them, there is no doubt that Olympic movement will be far away from its aims and purposes stated in the Olympic Charter and this would be a big threat to continue pure and holy life of Olympic movement that its founders had thought, and fundamental principles such as "sincere friendship match" would become hostile match; "equal opportunities" would become "routine discrimination and inequality"; "independence and impenetrability of sport" would becomes dominant strong political interference and would make such huge problems and threats for Olympic movement (Dacosta, 1992b). Therefore, present study was done in order to study factors which threat Olympic movement to take advance strategies to face with challenges and problems that threat this movement.

## MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

Method of present study was historical documentary which by use of documents in articles, books, magazines, thesis and internet has been trying to study Olympic status and problems facing the Olympic movement. Because the method used in this study is documentary and library-style, so it hasn't statistical population and sample. Also its studying materials are articles, books, magazines, Internet, thesis and etc. which have been done by use of studying sheets, classification, formulation and analyzing the data content. The cases which covered in this study are:

- 1) The Olympic Movement
- 2) Problems of amateur and professional athletes
- 3) Professionalism in Olympic Games
- 4) Doping

- 5) War and sanctions
- 6) High growth rate of participating countries
- 7) Political problems and issues
- 8) Seeking superiority of governments
- 9) Victory and participate in Games
- 10) Number of sports events

In some cases, there was not sufficient documentary evidence to study issues completely, so perhaps can be one of the limitations of this study.

## RESULTS

The findings of this section evaluate the various aspects of challenges and problems which facing to Olympic movement.

### ***Olympic Movement***

Several organizations are involved in the establishment of the Olympic Games. They will form the Olympic Movement together. International Olympic Committee (IOC) makes up the heart of the Olympic Movement and be mentioned this Committee as a government Olympic because it is responsible for resolve problems, doing critical decisions such as choosing the host for the Olympic tournaments and planning for Olympic Games. In the professional levels, three organizations form Olympic Committee:

- 1- International Federation (IFs), controlling boards of sport (e.g. FIFA or the International Football Federation and the FIVB, or International Federation of Volleyball);
- 2- National Olympic Committees (NOCs), which control and direct the Olympic movements in each country (e.g. USOC, or National Olympic Committee in the United States);
- 3- Planning Committee for the Olympic Games (OCOGs), that is responsible for controlling the special events at the Olympics (Chu, 1994; International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics).

### ***Problems of amateur and professional athletes***

Olympic Games since its beginning were considered as a tool for social changes (Heinemann, 1992). Pierre Du Coubertin from the beginning that the modern Olympic revived, was following the establishment and governance amateurism in the Olympic. He always tried to prevent the scene of Olympic Games safe from some issues such as professionalism.

But later he knew that these are just dreams and unfortunately amateur sport is probably impossible. During the decade 50 to 60, Avery Brundage (the chief of International Olympic Committee) always was trying to keep the environment of Olympic healthy and also he was prevented professional athletes entering to the Olympic Games (Sajadi, 1379). Later, Lord Kilanin (Irish chief of IOC) also tried to solve professional athletes problems in the Olympic by the amendment in article 26 Olympic Charter was done. It was said that amateurs athletes can decided to collect money by National Olympic Committees or International Federations (Sajadi, 1385). Jim Thorpe, an American Indian athlete was a champion in Stockholm Olympic Games in 1912 was not accepted because in age of 19 he had received a few dollars for baseball. In Los Angeles Olympics Games in 1932 two athletes expelled. One French and one Finnish because of received money for sport expelled from Games (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Mission). Today, National Olympic Committees of countries give valuable awards to their Champions for their

victories. For example, after the Atlanta Olympics in 1996, pay awards by National Olympic Committees was considered as a record. Greece paid 260,000 dollars to the winners of gold medals (Magdeleine, 1994; Spyridaki et al., 2004). But still, all those who can really follow sports and those who think present in Olympics is as a dream for them or their children and all those who feel Olympic has important lessons about the character and integrity, they are real shareholders of Olympic (Shantz, 1998). International Olympic Committee decided to give awards to match winners to maintain this popular support (Gills, 2005). Because of circumstance and events occurred in 1999, many believe that the International Olympic Committee had failed to achieve its aspiration. According to the bribery scandal in determining the host city of the Games and the use of drugs, this concept is noting that Olympic lost its real intended meaning and forgotten its intended purpose (Schneider, 1999). Today, because of the attractions material of the Olympics Games, displacement records are not comparable with the first periods at all (Magdeleine, 1994). By a short checking in field of records and the results obtained during the Olympics more than a hundred years, clearly showed the growth and displacement of records has been very rapid. Certainly, different motivations lead to this displacement rate of records. If there was not the material incentives in Olympics and world sports, athletes may do not try so much and spend their efforts to such a severe exercise and they would pay to other works (Heinemann, 1992). Professionalism in sport has influenced to Olympic Games and also it has quite attendance on many courses and this is one of the threats that threaten the Olympic Games and it cause to create anti-moral problems in sport (Lekarska, 1992).

### **Professionalism in Olympic Games**

Coubertin thought athletes should be a gentleman. Initially everyone thought that just amateur athletes have this specificity; professional athletes were not allowed to attend at Olympic Games (Lekarska, 1992). Fencing coaches that expected to be a gentleman was an exception in this field. Demur about the professionals has been caused many debate and controversy in Olympic Games (Young, 1992). When determined Jim Thorpe in Olympic Games in 1912 before getting his medals as a semi-professional player was played baseball his medals was taken of him, But the International Olympic Committee in 1983 because of humanitarian considerations gave back his championship to him. In 1936 Winter Olympics Swiss and Austrian skiers boycotted that tournament in support of their coaches that were banned because of income through sport and exposure in professional athlete's row (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Mission). Gradually this issue became clear for everyone that amateurism rules have been outdated. However the International Olympic Committee was remain committed to its traditional rules relating to amateurism (Lekarska, 1992). In decade of 70 amateurism circumstances were removed from Olympic charter and make decisions about the presence of professionals in every sport were assigned to the International Federation of each sport (Schneider, 1999). Example of this shift was the America Dream Team which was formed from National Basketball Association expensive Stars and became Olympic champion in 1992. From 2004 the only field which does not participate any professional athlete is boxing (of course with a simple definition of amateurism because even boxers received awards from National Olympic Committees of their countries (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Statutes "Olympism-in-Action).

### **Doping**

One of the main problems facing the Olympics (and in general all of the international sports competitions) is doping and use drugs. Since the early twentieth century, many athletes being encouraged to use drugs to boost their performances (Spyridaki et al., 2004). For example, the winner of marathon competition in the 1904 Summer Olympic was used drugs by their coach; even he did doping during his competition. By intensifying use of these methods, gradually this knowledge formed that use of such methods are not safe in sport. The first and the last deaths because of Doping in Olympic Games occurred in 1960. In bicycling

Square or Rome, Mark Enne fell down from his bicycle and then he died. Forensics review showed that his death was due to use of Amphetamine. In the middle of 60 decade sports federations were banned doping and in 1967, the International Olympic Committee followed the same procedure. Hans was a Swedish was the first Olympic athlete that his doping test announced positive, and he lost his bronze medal due to smoking and alcohol. During the next 38 years, also seventy-three athletes suffered that fate like him and among them there were too many medal winners. The most famous disqualification because of doping was related to Ben Johnson (sprint runner of Canada). In the 1988 Seoul Olympic, he won two hundred meters sprint running competition, but his Stanazolol test was positive. Despite this tests conducted, many athletes continued to use of doping without being caught. In 1990, some documents revealed that many East German female athletes have used anabolic steroids as part of their government's policies by commands of their coaches (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Mission). In late 1990, the International Olympic Committee organized a movement against doping that lead to form the International Agency to global fight against doping in 1999 (Schneider, 1999; Spyridaki et al., 2004). In the 2000 Summer Olympic and 2002 Winter Olympic turned out that these battles are not still ended because many of Weightlifting and skiing courses athletes were disqualified and they expelled due to doping. Recently, in the 2006 Winter Olympics, in doping test only one athlete failed and his medal's canceled. In the other case, hemoglobin levels of 12 athletes were diagnosed above and its fined was a five-day suspension due to health considerations. During these Games, International Olympic Committee launched blood test project for the first period (Sønksen, 2009). In the first congress "Europe Sports Medicine" in 1963 was discussed about doping issue. In 1961 IOC was decided to establish the doping Commission. At the beginning, work rate of this Commission was too low, but since 1967 its activity became higher and during the 1968 Mexico City Olympic and the Winter Olympic took 753 samples of participated athletes (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Mission). Doping would affect adverse effects on all athletes, both those who are clean and those who are doping (Schneider, 1999). Doping despite of threats athletes lives cause elimination of integration of athletes in sports. Won that obtained by fraud is never a won. Inner satisfaction because of win that achieved by doping is not never comparable with a won that achieved by fair match (Pleket, 1992). Even this can be concluded that doping is considered as a big threat to destroy the Olympic Movement (Dacosta, 1992b). Public support for Olympic Movement is based on this belief that Olympic is symbol of highest set of values. If people come to this believe that the Olympic Games is infected systemically, result of this believe would be public dissatisfaction around the world towards the Olympic Movement that lead to reduce Olympic moral values and would threat its wide acceptance and this is not primarily a drug crisis or science crisis but it is a moral values crisis associated with Sport (Dacosta, 1992b). In the study of Olympics years 1968 to 1988 conclusions clarify that during these years use of drugs to doping in sports was in the peak rate and the same proportion that sports benefited from various sciences; considerable progress has been carried out in sport science and the doping has had an important role and determining part in this context. For the prevention and control of doping international sports federations should be cooperate more close along with National Olympic Committees, and they should pay more attention to outstanding national athletes. We can hope that in this case, do serious action. According to the letter agreement between the IOC and international federations, the federations must take samples from four players in the official tournaments and they should test them to doping (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Statutes "Countries"). In the group matches, two players are randomly selected in each game and samples will be taken from them. The samples are pouring in two container "A" and "B" and would be sealed in the presence of athlete and after the coding process, it would be sent to laboratories of IOC. To determine the new methods of doping and find ways to identify doped people with more accurately and simply and also to prevent and more control of doping, World Anti-Doping Association (WADA) has been established in recent years. This forum was established



at the national levels in most countries that were member in IOC with named the National Anti-Doping Association (NADA) (International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics; Magdeleine, 1994).

### **War and sanctions**

Despite what Coubertin had hoped, the Olympics could not prevent from war (Lynn, 1992). In fact, due to war three Olympics were not held; Because of World War, Olympic in 1916 was not held, and also 1940 and 1944 Olympics Games due to World War II was not held. Also, the victorious nations of World War I prevented from attending defeated countries in the 1920 Olympic. Because of suppression of Hungarians rebellion by the Warsaw Pact, some countries including Netherlands, Spain, and Switzerland boycotted the 1956 Melbourne Olympic. Also some countries including Cambodia, Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon due to Suez Canal crisis boycotted these Games. In 1972 and 1976 a large number of African countries to force the IOC to exclude South Africa and New Zealand have threatened to boycott Games. IOC was cooperate in two first cases, but did not act about 1976 because the threat to boycott the Games was from tour of rugby team of New Zealand to South Africa and rugby was not considered as a part of the Olympic Games. With the beginning of the Games, threatening countries returned their teams to their countries, while some athletes of South Africa had begun their competitions. With these athletes did sympathy because their governments were forced them to leave the Olympic Games. However, outside of Africa were treated cold to this government move. The Montreal Olympic Games boycotted by 22 Nations because New Zealand was not banned from these games. Also in 1976, Canada due to forces that imposed from China was announced to Taiwan that this team cannot participate in Montreal Summer Olympics with the name "Republic of China". However, they agreed that if Taiwan uses Flag and National Anthem of Republic of China, it can participate in these games, But Taiwan Opposed to this decision and refused to attend in Games until 1984 and then once again back to Games with its own flag and the name "Chinese Taipei". In 1980 and 1984 Olympic Games, countries that were in the Cold War boycotted the Games. United States with 64 Western countries boycotted 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow due to the Soviet invasion to Afghanistan; while the 16 West countries attended the Moscow Olympics. Because of this sanction only 80 countries participated in this Olympic. Since 1956 this was the lowest number of countries that has been participated in the Olympics. Soviet and 14 members of East Bloc (except Romania), because of this issue that security of their athletes is not providing were not presented in 1984 Los Angeles Olympic. Boycotters of 1984 Olympic Games began a friendship Cup in the months from July to August. In 1988 North Korea did not participate in the Seoul Olympics in protest to not being shared-host with South Korea. Three other countries including Cuba, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua (mostly due to economic problems and not being able to send their athletes) were not participate in Olympic Games, but for prevent of sanctions by IOC, they officially boycott this Olympic Games. After it turned out that the Chinese government has bought 800 thousand meters of tropical and endangered forests of Papua Province in Indonesia for the 2008 Olympic Games cost one billion dollars, environmentalists groups boycotted the 2008 Olympic Games (Johnson, 2008; Sharp et al., 1998).

### **High growth rate of participating countries**

One of the problems that Organizers of Olympics are facing with is significant growth rate of participating countries. After the new division and geographical changes in decades 1990, the International Olympic Committee has been serious crisis multiplicity of candidates to participate in Olympic Games (Schneider, 1999). The first period of the Olympic Games was held in Athens in 1896 while just 280 athletes from 13 countries were participated in that period. In the eleventh period of Olympic in 1963 in Berlin, i.e. until Coubertin was alive, the number of countries that participating in the Games arrived to 49 countries and the number of athletes that participating in the Games arrived to 4076 athletes. Perhaps not Coubertin nor any members of the IOC did not imagine this game such being welcomed from the world's nations that forced

them to make some inevitable limitations about participate athletes. In the beginning of twenties Century, one of the problems and issues that threaten the Olympic Movement is the rate of participating countries in Olympic Games. Considering the number of National Olympic Committee's members in Olympic Games Athens 2004 that reached 202 members and compared with the 1988 Seoul Olympic that was just 167 National Olympic Committee, we are clearly seeing very rapid growth in this field. The International Olympic Committee intends that the number of participating athletes at the Olympic does not exceed than ten thousands humans, while the number of team's fellows be 50 percent of participating athletes (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Statutes „Olympism-in-Action“). On the other hand today the participation of women has increased in all areas of sport and now we are seeing many competitions of women in various courses. These features are related to a lot of athletes, media employees and spectators. So the high cost of supports and large corporations is need. To this, National Olympic Committee is dependent to be supporting by international companies and also to TV broadcasting rights (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Rules).

### **Political problems**

In several cases the policy has created disorders in the Olympics Games (Dacosta, 1992b) that the first one took place in 1936 in Berlin Summer Olympic. German Nazi Party used of these Games as a advertising tool. In these games Lu Zlang by his help to Jecy ovence (a black runner and jumper) in long jump competition cause to his won. So Jecy ovence stood in the first place and Lu Zlang stood in second place himself and thus he demonstrated the spirit of sportsmanship at the Olympic. Jecy ovence in this tournament despite of common thoughts about white supremacy which especially was introduced by the National Socialist Germans won four gold medals and recorded one of the big victories of blacks in sport and did an important movement against blacks discrimination. Soviet Union until 1952 Summer Olympics in Helsinki did not participated in these games. Instead, this country was launched international games called Aspartakaid from 1928. Many athletes who were members of trade unions or the Communist parties or their supporters have boycotted the Olympics or were had prevented to participate in these games, and instead they were participating in Aspartakaid Games. Another political story that occurred on a smaller scale was about 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City. Two American athletes named Tommy Smith and John Carlos after their wins in the 200 meter running competition gave military with fist salute nodes to sign their supports of black's rights. In response Avery Brundage (the chief of International Olympic Committee) announced that the National Olympic Committee of United States if they do not return these two athletes to their countries, he would expelled their running team. U.S. sports officials also forced to return them to their countries. In response to this movement of IOC, in 1973 some of newly independent nations, in the movement called Ganfua began the new formed countries games called Ganfua which were clearly pro-intervention politics in sport. IOC announced that participants in the Ganfua games would not allowed attending in Olympic Games. South Africa had been deprived attending the Olympic Games from 1964 to 1992 because some countries were opposing to apartheid policies in this country. Presence of Afghanistan athletes in the Olympic and the world and Asian sport competitions had suspended from 1999 to 2002. After the fall of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan in 2001, Afghanistan athletes attended again in the 2004 Summer Olympic Games (Johnson, 2008). World Wars and the Cold War are forms of display superiority, dominance or nationalism. Perhaps can say sport in politics is somewhat interesting, but politics in sports is not interesting at all. In methods of the former government the same as Soviet government and East Germany and now in Brazil, Cuba and Argentina, sport has a decisive role in political issues of society. The Olympics Games never have been separated from political issues. So that political issues sometimes force the IOC to be alongside the political issues. In general, many periods of Olympic Games became scene updates of political issues (Dacosta, 1992a, 1992b). Due to these issues can be acknowledged that the ultimate success of Olympic Games is not achievable only by technical or business factors. Therefore



make decision about place that Games should be hold simply cannot be taken just based on technical or business factors of a country (Schneider, 1999).

### **Seeking superiority of governments**

In the most of Olympics, the U.S. based on planned programs will gain the highest medals of these Games and is located in the first place in medals ranking table of Olympic s periods. During the 28 period that Olympics holds U.S. has ownership the highest medals and this is due to thinking to seeking superiority in all areas including in sport (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Statutes "Olympism-in-Action"). After entering the former Soviet Union countries in 1950 to international sports competitions, always competitions between these two countries were very close and intensive. These two countries that were Seeking superiority and domination in the fields of economics, politics, military and etc. and this thought had transferred to their sports, therefore to achieve the victory they were using any tools. After the Soviet collapse, the U.S. continues its lone greyhound in the sport like other areas and thus seeks superiority and its consolidation (Sajadi, 1379).

### **Victory and participate in Games**

Olympics Games has the high degree of credibility in sight of millions of viewers. Therefore participate in these Games is so important for all participating countries (Magdeleine, 1994). The International Olympic Committee aim was based on presence of participant's countries in these tournaments and was not based on their victories. When Coubertin founded the modern Olympics, his goal was pay attention to this issue that: "Important concept of Olympic is participating and victories or failures are not so important" (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Statutes "Olympic-in-Action"). Today, the scene of Olympic Games has been differing in compared with past and beginnings of Olympic Game completely. Now success is measured by number and color of medals and not by participates in the tournament. Therefore, each victory will be celebrated with flag and anthem of Nations. If a country cannot win a medal, its name will not be listed in standings table and will not be record in the history of world sport as a participant. But countries that are acquiring medals will have a place in medal standings forever and their names will be record in history of each period (Haig, 1995).

### **Number of sports events**

The first period of the Olympic Games that held in Athens in 1896 had 9 sports and 43 events (Young, 1992). In the third period of Olympic Games in 1904 in Switzerland, the number of events had reached 85 events that had one hundred percent growth rate. Increase of sports and events in the Olympic Games has had a huge growth rate. The 2004 Athens Olympic Games was held with 28 sports and 301 events (International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission's Rules). Number of new sports and events has had ascending garlic. This means that in addition to increasing the number of sports, also its events was added to the program of Olympic. Olympic Movement experts states that increasing the sports in program of Olympic is one of the seriously threats for Olympic movement and IOC members seriously realized this threat during recent years and they always opposed with entering the new courses to Olympic Games. Perhaps in future periods displacements occur between sports or some sports in exposure in Olympic program as one period in between (Dacosta, 1992a).

### **Some questions**

1. Is not participation in Olympic the main concept of Olympic movement to makes a better world with worldwide peace and away from political issues?
2. In the present world, whether sports roles as a tool that serving politicians to gain their purposes?

### 3. If sport wants to maintain its life, it must involve in international issues?

An issue that should be attention is including decisions and clear international actions, struggle with corruption of groups and listing a series of actions to eliminate and prevent of corruption (Dacosta, 1992b). Some believes that in the new position of international politics sport may apply as a tool to policy issues. Others have this idea that along with being unipolar domination of world, this risk is felt that this thinking affect on sport (Shantz, 1998). In 1932, Eddy Tollan, a black American athlete defeated the Olympic record of one hundred meters running match in Los Angeles Olympic. In general, on those Games blacks had shined significantly. In those match Tollan said: "Blacks are not recess in the Olympic Games" and when he went on the platform, he protested to the bullying to blacks in their communities with fist nodes. In 1936 Berlin Olympic, Hitler did the greatest insult to black athletes. He said: "blacks are like monkeys" and at the time of giving medals to Jecy ovence, black American runner, leaving the scene and he did not gave medals to him, because he objected to why a German could not reached the first place. Hitler with this action showed the height racism and this action was clearly against the Olympic Charter (Young, 1992). These cases and the same examples have a serious warning to Olympic Games that if such situations continue the same samples will be repeated again in future Olympics.

#### *Samples*

1916; First World War

1936; insult to black athletes by Hitler who called them monkeys.

1940 and 1944; do not hold two periods of the Olympics because of World War II

1956; Melbourne Olympic and the Soviet - Hungary match due to political involvement and its effects on this tournament and the bloody pool

1976; Montreal Olympic and African countries boycott because of racial discrimination in South Africa

1980; Moscow Olympic and West Bloc countries boycott

1984; Los Angeles Olympic and East Bloc countries boycott

### DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Pierre Du Coubertin and his wife Baroness Du Coubertin were present in the first period of modern Olympic Games in Athens very enthusiastically. Considering the numerous problems of travel in those days, this couple could not participate in many periods of Olympics. They were present in 1900 Paris, 1908 London and 1912 Stockholm Olympics. Paris Coubertin and his wife had celebrated during the 1920 Antwerp and 1924 Paris Olympics. Coubertin were present in the first period of the Winter Olympic in February 1924 but "this first Olympic family" in the convoluted story of their long lives just saw these games one day, and then they did not attend in any other period of summer or winter Olympic Games. Coubertin had died in September 1937 at the age of 84 years and his body was buried in Lausanne. Baroness Du Coubertin in 1936 at the age of 103 years in an interview about her husband said "he was crazy ... crazy for Olympic dreams; crazy about sports for all and for elite people". He believed that trying to achieve goals is surely trying to achieve sustainable peace (Sajadi, 1379). If Coubertin was present in the early twentieth century in the 2008 Beijing Olympic, perhaps his feelings was drowned in the waves of satisfaction and confusion. Today Olympic Movement has become an epidemic movement and the present of more than 120 members at the last meeting of IOC with various color, religion and social-economic classes in Olympic conference showed welcome from all the countries of this important phenomenon (Behmanesh, 1366; Spyridaki et al., 2004). As a final conclusion we can be stated that taking away from the Olympic ideals cause to today's threats and by proximate to those purposes that were result of founder's thoughts we can save this great movement. In fact, In order to maintain public supports, do fair competitions and create equal opportunities

needs to pay more attention to the main and spiritual fields of sport to prevent occurs again some cases such as professionalism in sports, political issues and tensions, racism and political superiority and etc. And Olympic Movement returns to its main route, which is create the spirit of friendship and international peace.

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