ABSTRACT

"A Case Study of Indian Volleyball Legend
Mr. T. P. P. NAIR"
(Thekkumpadan Puthenveetil Padmanabhan Nair)

Summary

The purpose of present study “A Case Study of Indian Volleyball Legend Mr. T.P.P. Nair” gives an insight into the factors that were conducive for Mr. T.P.P. Nair’s growth as a volleyball player. Despite a humble beginning, he went ahead to achieve laurels for the game. But today living a lonely and obscure life, he still has the zeal and love for the game. He believes that India has the talent and skills that can make it one of the leaders in volleyball in the near future.

History of Volleyball

William G. Morgan who was born in the State of New York, has gone down in history as the inventor of the game of volleyball in 1895, to which he originally gave the name ‘Mintonette’.

The young Morgan, who carried out his undergraduate studies at the Springfield College of the YMCA (Young Men’s Christian Association). After graduating, Morgan spent his first year at the Auburn (Maine) YMCA, and moved to the YMCA at Holyoke (Massachusetts) during the summer of 1896.

He became Director of Physical Education at this place. In this role he has the opportunity to establish, develop and direct a vast programme of exercises and sports classes for male adults.

His leadership was enthusiastically accepted, and his classes grew in numbers. He came to realize that he needed a certain type of competitive recreational game, in order to vary his programmes. Basketball was beginning to develop, seemed to suit young people, but it was necessary to find a less violent and less intense alternative for the older members. The sport originated in the United States and has now received the popularity on a global basis, where it ranks behind soccer among participation sports.

MR. T.P.P. NAIR was born on 30th August 1934 in Cherukunnu, Kannur in the state of Kerala. He was born to parents Mr. T.V. Naryana Priharody and Mrs. Roolhakutty Amma. He has 10 siblings among which he has 5 brothers and 5 sisters. Mr. Nair was lovingly called ‘Mani’ by his family members. Mr. Nair is from a true rural area and his upbringing was done in the lap of nature.

Mr. Nair’s childhood ambition was to become an engineer, right from his childhood he loved to play Football and Badminton. Mr. Nair had his paternal Grandmother who was very loving and caring. She was very affectionate. Mr. Nair always loved her company Mr. Nair’s ideal right from his childhood were his parents, he
idolized them for their humanitarian feelings and sober and loving behaviour. Mr. Nair was brought in a well bonded family with traditional and cultural values instilled in him. There was a strong support from his family when Mr. Nair wanted to enter in the field of sports. His parents never questioned his ability.

Mr. Nair completed his pre-school from Cherukunnu. He completed his primary and high school from Government Board High School Cherukunnu from 1945 to 1951. Mr. Nair has done Diploma in Mechanical Engineering from Indian Air Force in the year 1959.

In 1962, IV Asian Game, Mr. T.P.P. Nair coached and captained Indian Volleyball team at Jakarta Indonesia where India won a Silver Medal. This incidentally happened to be the best ever achievement in history of Indian Volleyball team at an International competition.

Statement of Problem

The investigator has conducted a study on the renowned personality Mr. T.P.P. Nair and the contribution he made to the field of volleyball.

Hence to achieve this purpose the problem selected by the present Investigator was cited as below.

“A Case Study of Indian Volleyball Legend, Mr. T.P.P. Nair”.

Objective of Study

The study is taken with the following objectives.

- To study T.P.P. Nair’s childhood.
- To study T.P.P. Nair’s family background.
- To study T.P.P. Nair’s educational background.
- To study T.P.P. Nair’s nature behavior and hobbies.
- To study T.P.P. Nair’s practice methodology like style and techniques.
- To study T.P.P. Nair’s training method like physical training.
- To study coach and mentors role of T.P.P. Nair.
- To study the role of media.

Limitations

1. The study is limited only to Mr. T.P.P. Nair’s Contribution to volleyball sports.
2. The investigator has collected information regarding the events and occasions covers the published records.
3. The investigator has collected the information from all possible written sources available from literature.
4. The investigator has collected the information from subject and related persons to the subject.
Delimitations

The present study is delimited in the following aspects.

- The study is delimited to only one person because method of study is a single case study.
- The study is delimited to the official records and reports in institutions office.
- The study is delimited to his present economic conditions his social status, attitude and hobbies, ambitions present family situation, present health conditions.
- The study is delimited to the personality makeup, training method, diet and food habits, family background of the subject and the influence of the family, teammates friends and coaches on the subject and his sporting career in volleyball.
- The study is based on the information provided by the subject and his family members, friends, teammates and students.
- 16 Personality factor test.

Hypothesis

The researcher formulated the following hypothesis for the present study on Mr.T.P.P.Nair.

1. On the basis of the interview taken with Mr.T.P.P.Nair and his family member’s friends, teammates and students, it was assumed that the information provided by them will be true towards the subject’s life and his contribution in the field of volleyball.

2. On the basis of the questionnaire sent to Mr.T.P.P.Nair and the persons related to the subject, it was assumed that the information provided will be true about the subject as a player, as a coach, as a personality and as a manager and administrator in his sporting career.

3. On the basis of the collected information through interviews and questionnaires it was assumed that it will give a clear perspective about the personality of Mr.T.P.P.Nair and his contribution in the field of volleyball.

Definition and Explanations of the Terms.

1) Legend: A famous person in a particular field.
2) Personality: The different qualities of a person’s character that make him different from other people.
3) Case study: Case study is a comprehensive study of a social unit, a person, a group, a social institution of a district or a community.
4) Volleyball: Volleyball is played by 6 players of each team. The purpose of each team is to finish the ball in to the opponent’s court and prevent the other team from scoring.
5) Contribution: The part played by a person in bringing about a result.
6) YMCA: Young Man Christian Association.
The Need and Significance of the Study

The present study is undertaken to answer such questions which promote the volleyball game in India from the lower level to the higher level competitions. The present study contributed to the knowledge in the following ways.

- This study will point out need of case study for volleyball players.
- Result and conclusions of this study will influence the policies and practices in physical education and sports.
- This study may be helpful to motivate the beginner, professional, students, and all physical educationists and this study may be helpful to sports persons, coaches, administrators and officials of volleyball and other sports to learn from his experiences.

The Design of the study:

The Study has been designed to investigate the factors responsible for the successful sporting career of Mr.T.P.P. Nair and his contribution towards his performance and achievement in Volleyball for the country of India. A case study has been designed in which historical and biographical analysis based on the survey were utilized to collect the relevant data. The collected data has been analyzed based on the information furnished.

The study was purely descriptive cum analytical in nature which was based on the survey method. The house held schedule methods along with interview techniques were adapted to employ, the questionnaires, and, thus the investigator gathered the necessary information.

The Selection of the subject:

The selection of subject for primary source: Mr.T.P.P.Nair was selected as the subject for the primary source.

The selection of subject for secondary source: Mr.T.P.P.Nair’s Family Members, Relatives, Teammates, friends and students were selected as the subjects for the secondary source.

Methods Employed for the Collection of the Data

Primary Sources:

Primary sources are eyewitness accounts. They are reported by an actual observer or participant in an event.
Secondary Sources:

Secondary Sources are accounts of an event not actually witnessed by the researcher. The researcher may have talked with an actual observer or read an account by an observer.

Published material

Interview with family members, friends and team mates student of Mr. T.P.P.Nair

Unpublished materials

In order to gather information about Mr. T.P.P.Nair the articles, newspaper cutting, report, unpublished statement, books and journal were also taken into account. The present source is explored as secondary source excluding his own statements and interview about his life, career and sports were taken into consideration.

Survey technique was also used to obtain responses. There respondents chosen for the study of Mr. T.P.P.Nair were his relative, teammates, friends and students.

Methods for Analyzing Data:

The data received was analyzed in four main sections:

Section-1: This section deals with the entire biography of Mr. T.P.P.Nair like birthplace, childhood, education, financial and personal condition and information about his family, friend, and society. Mr. T.P.P.Nair’s sporting career. His training like skill training, physical training, methods of training mental or psychological training and nutrition. His participation in various levels in volleyball. His role of coach and mentor. His exposure, supports from government on his performance and its effect, awarded incentive. His problems and issues. His contribution for volleyball.

Section-2: In this section sixteen personality factors has been analyzed with manual of 16 PF questionnaire and an online test of 16 PF has been taken to get a detailed analysis of the personality factors of Mr. T.P.P.Nair.

Section-3: This section explained the views of family members, volleyball players, friends and team mates and students of Mr. T.P.P.Nair on his contribution to field of volleyball game.

Section-4: This section consist of opinion rating survey of Mr. T.P.P.Nair, which mainly covered four dimensions such as:

Mr. T.P.P.Nair as a player.
Mr. T.P.P.Nair as a coach.
Mr. T.P.P.Nair as a personality.
Mr. T.P.P.Nair as a manager and administrator.
The subject had to respond to each statement in four points rating scale, which was:

- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Analysis of the data was done after administrating the questionnaire to twenty subjects after ascertaining their willingness to participate in these studies (Nine relatives, Seven team mates and friends, four students). Finally, the total numbers of responses received were converted in the terms of percentage and the statistical and graphical representation was done accordingly. The statistical and graphical data is further interpreted to give a clear understanding on the opinions of relatives, teammates, friends and students on Mr. T.P.P.Nair.

**Analysis of Data**

Mr. T.P.P. Nair was born on 30\(^{th}\) August 1934 in Cherukunnu, Kannur in the state of Kerala. He was born to parents Mr. T.V. NaryanaPriharody and Mrs. RoolhakuttyAmma. He has 10 siblings among which he has 5 brothers and 5 sisters. Mr Nair was lovingly called ‘Mani’ by his family members. Mr Nair is from a true rural area and his upbringing was done in the lap of nature.

Mr. Nair’s hobby included reading Newspapers, Magazines. He would do painting in past time. Mr. Nair is a music lover he loved to play drums and listen to classical and instrumental music. Mr. Nair has strong recollection of his childhood days spend in his native village playing with his brothers, sisters and cousins like a normal boy of his age would do. He used to play kabaddi, swimming in tanks, running and jumping etc.

Mr. Nair’s childhood ambition was to become an engineer right from his childhood he loved to play Football and Badminton. Mr. Nair had his paternal Grandmother who was very loving and caring. She very affectionate. Mr. Nair always loved her company Mr. Nair’s ideal right from his childhood were his parents He idolized them for their humanitarian feelings, sober and loving behavior. Mr. Nair was brought in a well bonded family with traditional and cultural values instilled in him. There was a strong support from his family when Mr. Nair wanted to enter in the field of sports. His parents never questioned his ability.

Mr. Nair completed his pre-school from Cherukunnu. He completed his primary and high school from Government Board High School Cherukunnu from 1945 to 1951.

Mr. Nair has done Diploma in Mechanical Engineering from Indian Air Force in the year 1959. Mr. Nair as a student loved both studies as well as physical activities during games period. He liked Science and Social science Mr. Nair was moderate in his studies he fared well. During his school days he was active in many sports like Football, Badminton, Basketball, Volleyball, Athletics etc., he gave equal importance to studies and games. Mr. Nair was a good reader he read English as well as Malayalam literature
books. He reads books like Discovery of India by Pandit Jawahararl Nehru and by many leading Malayalam writers. Mr. Nair actively took part in school co-curricular activities. Mr. Nair’s ideal teacher was his secondary school English teacher.

Mr. Nair with his school badminton team won many inter school badminton competition.

Mr. Nair entered in the game of Volleyball from his school days. In 1948 that is in his 9th standard he used to play volleyball occasionally. But his interest grew to ultimate heights in 1951 as he joined Indian air force at Tambaram in Chennai.

A player named Abdul Rehman in 1949 during inter school championship was the major source of inspiration for Volleyball to Mr. Nair. The reason behind that was Mr. Rehman’s smashing inspired anyone, he had very good jump and spiked well, which helped Mr. Nair to show his potential during practices of Indian Air force’s team.

At the starting of Mr. T.P.P. Nair’s career he was supported by Mr. V.J. Joseph who guided him at his early age, Mr. T.P.P. Nair did not have any personal coach, but was coached and trained under Russian coach Mr. Golomozov and Mr. Pimenov who coached him in shorter intervals between 1955 and 1969 respectively.

Mr. Nair had many influences in volleyball career. But the chief of them were Mr. V.J. Joseph, Prabhakaran, J.I. Shaikh, Bharat Shah, M.G. Nair, Verghese, Rehman, etc. These were some of them who inspired and influenced Mr. T.P.P. Nair a lot.

In the beginning of his career he was supported by Indian Air force Volleyball team captained by Mr. V.J. Joseph.

He got the job in Indian Air force ground Engineering Department and worked for nine years, thereafter in 1960 he joint Indian Railway in a Mechanical Department as he had a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering.

T.P.P.Nair said while in Air force he used to get special diet during daily practices, while in coaching camp before international competition Government of India spent money for training and while in Railway, the Railway Administration spent for him. During his active sport period his annual income was 5000/- to 6000/- per annum.

Indian Railway gave him 3 advance increment in 1989 for his performance at IV Asiad 1962, after 27 years of his achievement. T.P.P. Nair had played badminton, basketball and volleyball, during his school time. During P.T. period student used to play volleyball, basketball and some athletics such as running, throwing, jumping etc. After school hours he used to play either badminton or football in the open field available adjacent to his school. T.P.P. Nair’s favourite songs are light melodious songs in Hindi and Malayalam and of course “Bhajans” and has a special liking for rendering of “Flute”.

He describes his earliest childhood memory when after playing in the evening, he used to cleanse the body and before dark falls he along with his brothers, sisters and cousins should sit with his parents and used to recite Bhajans for about 15 to 30 minutes. In the night after food, he used to enjoy moments of solitude by listening for rendering of Flute which a musician in the neighboring house, not very close used to practice till 11 clock in the night. These memories are echoed in his mind which he says will continue to
be remembered till the last. He also used to enjoy drum beatings during festivals in the temples. Today also he finds time for religious and spiritual activities, and visit holy places outside Mumbai.

In 1962, IV Asian Game, Mr. T.P.P. Nair coached and captained Indian Volleyball team at Jakarta Indonesia where India won a Silver Medal. This incidentally happened to be the best ever achievement in history of Indian Volleyball team at an International competition.

T.P.P. Nair says “The greatest historical event in my sport life is that I happened to be the only person living or dead to get two International Medals at Asiad i.e. A SILVER at IV Asiad and a BRONZE at III Asiad. This has not been broken even after 52 long years. I am sure, the history of Indian Volleyball will always remember me for this feat”.

Conclusion

The following conclusions may be drawn from the analysis of the data gathered from the subject and other associates in responses to the questionnaires served to them and interviews conducted.

Though the subject belongs to a middle class family now, it was the self-interest, willpower, a strong and firm determination of the subject that took him to the present height in volleyball career.

The subject possesses very sound habits, discipline, sincerity, humbleness, regularity, punctuality, calmness, relaxed approach, optimistic attitude, die-hard attitude, aggressive attitude and a very positive and favorable approach towards sports and people, and has shown total dedication, will power, determination and involvement as a volleyball player and coach at various levels.

The exposure of the subject to a number of competitions made him realize his own potentials which gave him the confidence to compete at all levels and defeat opponents during competitions with almost self-confidence. The consistent performance and success in various competitions have not only made him capable for hard training and perseverance in sports, but also made him realize his own potentials of becoming a volleyball player of international repute. All these things have compelled him to work harder during training and the subject has developed a never to give up attitude.

Recommendations
• A systematic scientific study of the physical limitation of Indian sportsmen needs to be undertaken, this becomes particularly important as today the game has become fast and hence needs better understanding.

• A study in relation to impact of various climatic conditions and diet on players also needs to be looked into.

• An appropriate training programme that will develop physical capabilities essential for the game should be studied and developed for Indian conditions.

• An important aspect is to in-corporate motivational programmes for boosting the spirit of winning.

• It is also necessary to train coaches who are aware of the new rules of the games.

• The basic facilities at training camps should be upgraded.

• This game like many other games can look for sponsorships that will not only provide financial support to the players but will also become a motivator for better performance.

• It will be appropriate to make the best use of the experience and skills of a senior player like Mr. T. P. P. Nair and many other players like him.

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