Chapter — II
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REVIEW OF LITERATURE

INTRODUCTION

Sport as an activity is not a new phenomenon, and not an unique activity of any particular society per se. In other words, sport as social activity can be seen and witnessed in almost all societies and at all given points of time. However historically these activities have differed considerably in terms of degrees, intensities, involvement and patronization leading to different levels of development. The present chapter attempts to provide a comprehensive picture of the nature, development causes, consequences and other varied dimensions of sports as a vital social institution of human kind through history as presented in this survey of literature. While an attempt is made to look into these studies deeply and analytically, the virgin field of ‘Sociology of Sports’ makes the task difficult and problematic.

Survey of literature or an over view of the available literature is almost mandatory in researches like this and particularly in the sociological researches. Through the purpose of this attempt is intended to familiarise the researcher to the field and also the work already combed out so far, it has a larger agenda underlying beneath; that is, to identify the research gaps which facilitate furthering research on these lines continuing on these lines. The present chapter aims at collecting a major sample of literature of sports in the academic world as available now under a few important headings.

After making a brief surfing of literature available it was found that studies in the sociology of sports are made only in the recent past of three to four decades. Earlier studies in this area basically concentrated on the events of sports per se and they were only reported as activities and not in association with other aspects of
life and society. However, with the emergence of the branch called sociology of sports in the 1950s and the recent studies have explored many more areas connected to sports. Majority of the studies in the initial period concentrated on the physiological aspects of sports and some of them towards the history and development of specific sports. Of late, the studies concerning sports have taken a significant shift realizing the importance of socio-cultural, psychological, economic and political dimensions. Many of the recent studies point towards this direction.

It is interesting to note that these dimensions of sports as a social institution of vital importance have a significant role to play around the globe or they are playing the catalyst role either to aggravate or reduce the process and growth of the same. It also may be noted that depending on these aspects the polices and progress both in terms of technology and practice is changing tremendously altering the conventional and earlier general notion towards ‘Sports’.

It is with these understandings the present chapter aims a survey of literature, arranged and explained under the following broad subheadings: a) History of sports in India and elsewhere in the other parts of the b) Sports and health, covering health behavior, practice and health culture. c) Sports and culture d) Sports and Gender. e) Sports and individual psychological make up, The above mentioned list of aspects or areas are not in any order of preference but only systematic arrangement for the proper understanding of the existing literature in the area.

History of Sports: In India and elsewhere

Sports has gained immense importance today. As it has been already noted early. Sports existed from the beginning of human civilization. Food gathering activities and security skills of the early humans have now become sports in varied forms. The games which we are playing at present had been played in the early
period on one or the other form. We have only made some changes according to our needs and systematized them.

Since people have understood the beneficial effects of sports, they have become popular and lifetime activity. Evidences could be found in various resources to show that sports existed in all most all the countries in the ancient period. Some of the sports, which are played all over the world now had their origin in India. They are chess, badminton, kho-kho, kabaddi and ball badminton.

Sports has been played by all people irrespective of class, caste, sex an age. Since most of the games are not financially burdensome. People can take part in them through out their life. Sports is a panacea for correction of societal ills.

Miguel Villamon, David Brown, Julian Espartero and Carlos Guierrez (2004) in their study “Reflexive modernization and disembedding of Judo from 1946 to the 2000 Sydney Olympics” discuss about the modernization process in sports as institutionalization and commodification of Judo over this period. They argue that each of this contributes to a reflexive modernization process. This is concluded as evolution of this activity.

Andrew C Billings and Fabio Tambosi (2004) in an interesting study of football observed U S network Bias in 2002 world cup that “Portraying the united status vs portraying a champion” This has created not only an audience bias but also a player bias as an actor in the field.

Michall P Sam and Steven J Jackson (2004) in their article “Sport policy development in Newzelnd” investigate how a policy paradigm shaped the findings and recommendations on Newzealds ministerial taskforce as sport, fitness and leisure.

In an interesting article entitled ‘Hot bodies and cooling substances’ (1999) Smriti Srinivas has said the folk dance of Karaga in Karnataka State is a sports and
leisure event of the public. This form of folk performing art has helped to establish a physical rhythmic activity as a vehicle for cultural forms.

Mick Green and Barrie Houlihan (2004) have published an interesting paper “Audocacy coalitions and Elite Sports Policy change in Canada and United Kingdom”. This paper explores the process of elite sports on sport policy change in two sports (Swimming, Track and Field and Athletics). The ACF has proved useful in drawing attention to the notion of changing values and belief systems as a key source of policy change as well as highlighting the need to take into account factors external to the policy subsystem under investigation. Potential additions to the framework’s logic are suggested for future applications.

Johnathan A Long and Mike J Mc Namee (2004) in their study “On the moral economy of racism and racist rationalization in sport” discuss sports as an arena aimed to offer a clearer conceptual scheme for evaluating beliefs and behaviour in this highly charged arena.

Gny Ben Porat and Amir Ben Porat (2004) in their article “Bounded Soccer: Globalization localization of the game in Israel” This work examines the specific effects of globalization on soccer especially on its three major components mobilization of capital, mobilization of labour and cultural flows.

Emma Poulton (2004) “Mediated Patriot Games: The construction and Representation of National Identities in British Television Production of Euro 96”. This article explores the relationship between national identity and media sport focusing specifically on the construction and representations of national identifies in T V Coverage of the 1996 European football championship. The article concludes that the foundation of culture relations identity politics and the construction and representation of national identities.
“Good Sports and Right Sorts: Guns, Gender and imperialism in British India”. (2001) by Mary A. Procida is a discussion on Anglo Indian women, how they use guns for hunting animals. The paper reveals how women forged a place for themselves in that putative bastion of manliness. This shows use of firearms and women’s participation, which indicate that they are willing partners in sports and in active participation.

Green Mick and Oakley, Ben (2001) discuss in their article “Elite sport development systems and playing to win. Uniformity and diversity in international approaches”. This talks about supremacy in developing elite sporting excellence and traces the flow of elements of such systems to selected western nations. This reveals many antecedents of the former Eastern Bloc’s managed approach to elite sport as are increasingly apparent.

Michel F Collins and James R Buller (2003) in the article “Social exclusion from high performance sport” Are all talented young sports people being given an equal opportunity of reaching the Olympic Podium? deeply examine social exclusion in high performance youth sport to see whether all talented young sport people in England have equal opportunity to reach the Olympic podium. They conclude that there is little opportunity for all and the path to Olympics is a difficult one to tavern.

Anthony Synnott (2004) in “Muscular Christianity: Manhood and Sports in Protestant America” writes that Christians have tended to have a vexed relationship with the persona of Christ. Constructing him in various ways as warrior, king, pacifist, worker, proto feminist or victim is concluded by the author as ‘Paganism as religion”.

Tomilirson Alan (1992) in his paper “Whose game is it any way? The cultural analysis of sport and media consumption” writes on the nature of the relation between sport in its non-media and media forms. He argues that this can
be understood only on the basis of an integrated analytical framework in which social history and sociology are co-terminous with ethnography.

James A Crone (1999) “Towards a theory of Sport” proposes an interesting conception on combining a number of independent and dependent variables to form a group of interrelated propositions that can empirically tested.

J A Mangon (2001) in the article “Soccer as moral training: Missionary intentions and imperial legacies” writes on the intentions and the programmes of the colonisers. They certainly offer the opportunity to place the grand discourses of colonial knowledge and control in the context of their often partial and ironic realisation.

In his paper “A most remarkable community Anglo-Indian contributions to Sports in India” (2001) Megan S Mills writes on postcolonial India that tends to conflate colonial exploitation with western cultural domination. Researchers who tend to condemning every British innovation in colonial India must concede to the fact that constructive phenomena were also in progress that had precious little to do with politics or economy. It is argued that a visit today to an Anglo-Indian school in any part of India will present immediate evidence of sport.

Gray Armstrong and Crispin Bates (2001) in the article “Sleves and other: reflections on sport in south Asia” write on the Olympic as an elite sport event. They argue that it is above all a rich man’s sport dependent on individual sponsorship by private charities and the state. Echoing the nature social relationship, India excels in team games played on the open field. The paper argues that it is unlikely that the lobby will be successful in the Indian case but there can be little doubt that if games. Such as cricket, polo, kabbadi, kho-kho are included, India can hope to do much better.
Sports Events /Activities in India

James Heitzman (1999) in the article “Sports and conflict in urban planning” focusing on the study of the 1997 National Games in Bangalore discusses the intersection between urban planning, sports infrastructure and social organization. The paper attempts to establish a relationship between the development planning in Bangalore city and a national-level sports event.

Rob Beamish and Ian Ritchies (2004) in their article “From chivalrous ‘Brothers in-Arms’ to the eligible Athlete” poses questions concerning the legitimacy of the IOC’s current banned substance list and polices on the basis of studies it present about history that the article present a strong case for a through non-partisan review of the IOC’s policy on performance enhancing substances in world class, high performance sport.

There are a number of articles on various dimensions of sports in India. Explain many aspects on sports it gives information on different traditional games, martial arts, popular sports, Federations, developments and awards in India. The history of sports in India dates back to the vedic era. Physical culture in ancient India was fed by powerful fuel religious rites. This article cote a mantra in Atharva-Veda as “Duty is in my right hand and the fruits of victory in my left” in terms of an ideal these words hold the same sentiments as the traditional Olympic Oath: in India the body way is defined as “one of the ways to full realization.” In the age of Rigveda Ramayana and Mahabaratha men of stature and circumstance were expected to be competent in chariot racing, archery, horsemanship, military tactics, wrestling, weight-lifting, swimming hunting etc., The guru shisya relationship has always been an integral part of Indian sport. From time immemorial Indian sport reached a peak of excellence in Buddhist period. It describe about many fascinating games. It is more than likely that many of today’s Olympic disciplines are sophisticated versions of the games of strength and spread that flourished in ancient India and Greece.
Lyoyed L wang and Ricardo Trumper (2002) in this article “Global Celebrity Athletes and Nationalism” write as Globalization scholars have pointed to a world of increasing transnationalism and deterritorialisation that contributes to new meaning of identity and citizenship at the nation states declines. Sports and their transnational labour migration. Play an important role in both undermining and strengthening nations and national identities.

**Sports and Health: Health Behavior and Health Culture.**

It is universally acknowledged that ‘Health is Wealth’ Health is primary need of human being. Without health there is no happy life. Man’s way of living depends upon his physical health considerably. Every part of the body must be healthy along with mental health and social behavior.

So physical fitness is most important in one’s life. It is already said in the earlier chapter that physical fitness was essential for survival and existence in the ancient period. But today it requires for maintaining good health and for leading stress free life. In the modern style of living, people suffer from many diseases and problems. This may be controlled and cured by involving in physical fitness activities and games and sports.

Physical fitness cannot be purchased. It has to be earned through a daily practice of physical exercise. These exercises are the most important aspects of physiological growth and development. Games and sports also provide opportunities for the growth of mental health and social behavior. They also bring us knowledge and expose us to varied culture.

The study of Bryan E Denham (2004) on sport and health related to drug test in his “Hero or Hypocrite?” examines the press coverage of track and field athlete Carl Lewis amid reports in April 2003 that he tested, positive for three banned stimulates prior to U S Olympic trails in 1988.
Andrew Smith, Kengreen and Ken Robert (2004) in the article “Sports participation and the obesity/Health crisis” argue for the need to examine young people’s lives in their total context while noting in particular the continuing significance of broader social processes and the network of relationships in which they are involved.

Peretti Watel Patrick and others (2003) in an article “Sporting activity and drug use, alcohol, cigarette and cannabis use among elite student athletes” highlights the relationship between sporting activity and alcohol use among adolescent and young adults by focusing on elite student. It can be correlated negatively with cigarette, alcohol and cannabis etc.

**Sports, Society and Culture: Class Status, Race, Ethnicity, Grouping, Symbolic Representation.**

Sports and games are an integral part of our culture. A society has its own culture heritage which provides base to it successive generation. Every one takes part in sports and plays one or the other game. Sports and culture of a society are interrelated. Man in a civilized society need to posses good culture. More over each man is interdependent on the other. Therefore he has to lead his life respecting the norms of society. Man has to respect law, respect customs and practices to live peacefully in a society. He has to have love and affection, friendship and good health. All these can be had and practiced in life by taking part in sports.

Sports can be treated as a mode of human interaction. It is the language of communication. The language of sports pervades our everyday existence. Sports provide a common ground and a safe arena for interaction in a wide variety of school settings because sports is constant in the cultural milieu. Sports pervade culture not only in terms of media content and converge, but also in terms of language and common metaphor. We all know what sports is and we are all exposed to its influence, whether we like it or not.
Sports contribute greatly to the social interactions of everyday life. In addition to enabling discourse and interaction sports have a number of functions in society. Sports aids in the process of cultural and social reproduction.

John D Home and Wolfram Manzenreiter (2004) in their study “Forecast and actual impact of the 2002 Football world cup finals on the host countries Japan/Korea” discuss the contrast between discourses that forecast and the actual event. The study described the actual impact of the 2002 world cup on its host societies in terms of changes in certain cultural practices, Food habits, nature of reception, some peripheral values and the like.

Nilam Ram, Joanna Starek and Jay Johnson (2004) in the article “Race, ethnicity and sexual orientation” argue that these factors have a considerably strong correlation. The purpose of this study was to determine how race, ethnicity and sound orientation have been addressed in the recent sport and exercise psychology literature. The study comes out with some interesting observations.

Robert and Karen David (2001) in “Sport and Society” write on sports and culture. They suggest that sociologists need to attend more closely to how leisure products and practices are produced and distributed and how they intersect with educational, political and cultural institutions.

An interesting article on “Race relations, sociology of sport and the new politics of race and racism” (1997) by Jarvie.G and Reid.I talks about racism and race relations, black identity and black feminism. This paper argues against the notion of any one body of thought being viewed as a form of universalism.

Frey James and others (1991) discuss the relationship between “Sports and Society” They argue that sport is a very prominent social institution in almost every society because it combines the characteristics found in any institution with a unique appeal only duplicated by perhaps religion and cultural studies,
functional and conflict perspectives are reviewed on how sport is related to the process of socialization and social change.

Leifer Eric (1990) writes an interesting article “In equality among equals, Embedding market and authority in league sports”. This paper argues the practice of certain sport events as inequality among unequals as the support of a rootless national audience replaced rooted and unequal local audiences, altering the opportunity context of owners.

Grant Farred (2004) makes an interesting observation on “The double temporality of Lagaan cultural struggle and post colonialism”. This presentation explores the ways in which temporality constitutes a crucial element of a Hindi movie. It tells how political moment in the present Indian society functions as a problematic backdrop to Lagaan. Here cricket is posited as pivotal to the anti colonial project.

Jan Ove Tangen (2004) is an article “Embedded expectations, Embodied knowledge and the movements that connect” makes a system theoretical attempt to explain the use and non-use of sport facilities. He writes that as sport facilities as embed expectations observable to individuals who are forced to meet these expectations or not, movements connect the embedded expectations and embodied knowledge and eventually mediate changes in both these structure.

Ian Mc. Donald (2000) writes on “Physiological Patriots: The politics of physical culture and Hindu nationalism in India”. The study says that the most influential protagonist in this movement in RSS (Rastriya Swayam Sevek Sangha) a uniformed male voluntary organization in India. By primary research it was found that a combination of exercises, games, sports, yoga and prayers is used to inculcate its members with an instinctive sense of loyalty towards the country and an ideology.
Alan Law and others (2002) write on “Global Sport Mass Media Oligopoly” This focused on media, an media and sport complex concludes that unless democratic interventions are enabled at the national and global level sport media consumers will remain easy targets of the global media/entertainment oligopoly.

Joseph Bradley (2002) in “Patriotic Game: Footballs famous Tartan Army” tells that through complexity of the Scottish national Football side’s supporters we find that popular notions of Scotland can often be incomplete and consideration requires to be given to ethic, religious and geographical factors.

The article “The economics and politics of sports facilities” edited by Wilbur C Rich (2000) writes on professional sports, economics development and public policy. The economic and politics of sports facilities is designed to provide a readable introduction to sports politics in America. A sport stadium is one of only a few possible projects capable of bringing thousands of citizens together in one place. It gatherings are capable of promoting civic identity and pride excitement and enthusiasm more than typical economic development project.

Manu Madan (2000) in an article “It is not just cricket world series cricket Race, Nation and diasporic Indian identity” writes as in promoting both global, consumerism and postcolonial nationalistic patriotism, World series cricket requires its audiences to negotiate a rationalize affiliations and allegiances that exists outside national boundaries through the construction of spatial neighborhoods.

Dunning Eric (1992) in an article “Culture civilization and sociology of sports” discussed sport in relation to culture or what the late Norbert Elias (1939) called the theory of the civilizing process. This article elaborates on this issue by commenting on the history of sociology of sport and current states of play in the field. The notion of culture is problematic on account of its particularistic connotations. It tends to be relativistic and associated with work of a mainly
descriptive character. This paper identifies the distinction between culture and social structure.

Sohila Sakib and others (2004) highlighted “How high school, Athletes talk about maternal and paternal sporting experience” and communication can shape gender stereotypes. The majority of physical activity studies employ social influence frameworks that ignore this important dimension of influence. The author discussed the role of family in communicating to learn parental role model and how adolescents talk about maternal and paternal sports participation. In conclusion it was said that communication is an important modifiable social process for physical activity interventions that influence a family influence component.


An interesting interview with David Lawrence by Ismond Patrick (2000) about cricket reveals insights into the ways that black people construct specific black British identities and how these are affected by processes of racialization. This study has focused on the impact of racism in each as sports represent only a small but vital fragment of the black experience for Lawrence.

Shanthi Jacob Johnson (2004) has published a significant study “status in sport teams: Myth or Reality” It was found that the status as attributably identified through the open ended approach were sub-stantially different and generally more
important than attributes identified in earlier studies that used a structured approach. This psychometrically sound instrument should further be used to examine the perceptions of status in sport teams and their relationship with the interaction and communication among group members group leadership and cohesion.

Scott Barefield and others (1997) write on "Socio-cultural aspects of physical activity" The social support has been identified repeatedly in the literature as being beneficial to individuals suffering from injury or illness. Because of the frequent interaction between athlete trainers and student athletes, the athletic trainer is placed in a unique position to provide a variety of different types of social support to the athlete. The findings also provide insight for the certified athletic trainers in regard to supervising and assigning the student athletic trainer duties and responsibilities.

**Sports and Gender: Harassment, Neglect, Discrimination, Media exposure.**

Gender acts as a predominant role in sports. Like in all other fields, masculine superiority and hegemony can be found in the field of sports also. However, there are certain circumstances where gender boundaries can be crossed. Sports has been played by both sexes from the ancient period. The toughest and the dangers games are usually played by masculine gender. The female participated in safest games. The early men did not encourage women take part in sports. There were social taboos and religious restrictions.

However, women now take part in sports crossing the boundary of masculinity and other cultural boundaries. Like in all other fields, women are claiming gender equality. Therefore, many changes have taken place in sports. Women have been encouraged to take part in sports by the governments and respective societies.
Oliver Aubel and Fabien Ohl (2004) in their study "The Denegation of the Economy" argue that free climbing is used as a privileged way of studying the positioning generated by the meeting of the symbolic economy of sport and a market that is trying to extend its hold on it. This article analyses how it symbolic economy and its market are organized.

As well known study by Nancy L Malcom (2003) on “Paradoxes Youth and Sports” proposes that sport can build both character and promote antisocial behaviors. Sport as a tool for building character, mediated representation of gender, race and social class in sports and the problem of violence in sport.

According to Dan Sabo (2004) in his article “Athletic intruders: Ethnographic research on women. Culture and exercise” relates the understanding of the value of traditional ethnography for the study of gender, sport and physicality. This is known as ‘Reflexive Ethnography’. This reflects on the issues women political, cultural and transformative experiences in relation to sport and physicality.

Kari Fasting (2004) in his paper: “Prevalence of sexual harassment among Norwegian females Elite Athlete in relation to sport type”. This focuses on whether the experience of sexual harassment varies from sport to sport. The data based analysis show that sexual harassment occurs in every sport group. Specially more in masculine sports. When it comes to female athletes experiences of sexual harassment, sport type matters far less than sport participation per se.

Santhosh Sharma (2004) in “Sports, Society and the Women” concludes that women are not lagging behind the men in any sphere of life. They do not lack in any muscle or amount of grit or endurance capacity as compared to the male counter parts. If women are given the same sports opportunities and social sanction as men their performance is bound to improve considerably they may come up over and above other men in their performance.
Jennifer Hargreaves (1994) in an article “Sporting Female Critical Issues in the History and Sociology of Women Sports” highlighted on the neglect of gender. Sports feminism presents the importance of gender in sports from the feminist perspective. The legitimization of female exercise in recreative and competitive sports, changing images of female sports, gender relation of power, Olympic women etc., are discussed here. Author throws light on different aspects on these issues. Some important impressions like in the lives of women with working class and middle class background single parents and living with are also presented in this paper.

Emma H Wensing and Toni Bruce (2003) in their article “Bending the Rules: Media Representations of Gender during an International Sporting Event” write as the media coverage of Cathy Freeman during the Sydney 2000 Olympics points to an instance in which gender lost its place as the primary media framing device because of Freeman’s importance as a symbol of National reconciliation.

Rebeccu Ann Lock (2003) in the article ‘The Doping Ban Compulsory: Hetero-Sexuality and Lesbophobia” focuses on whether the social order is specifically hetro sexual. An understanding of sex, gender and sexuality as mutually dependent on one another is considered important. This article proceeds to illustrate that female dopers are one category of women who disrupt the hetrosexual matrix. This argues that doping is an ethical issue that should also consider athletes and non-athletes who are affected by the implications of anti-doping attitudes and bans.

Time Crabbe (2003) in an article “The public gets what the public wants” concentrates on England Football fans ‘Truth’ claims and mediated realities”. This article utilises media content analysis interview, material and participant observations to argue that sports starts often play to the tune of the public expectations.
Toby Miller (2003) in his article “The over production of US sports and the new international division on cultural labour”. Finds out how US professional sports utilises the new international division of cultural labour to supplement an overly costly local labour pool and over supplied local market.

Agnes Ellings (2003) “Gay Lesbian sport and clubs and events” argues on an interesting issue tried over the last two decades the founding of sport clubs and organizations of sport events specifically for gays and lesbians. This population in sports has increased in the Netherlands and most other western countries considerably. Different, often tenuous and ambiguous, integrative meanings of sports are discussed in this study in relation to mainstream and gay lesbian sport clubs and events.

Wellard Ian (2002) in his writing “Men, Sport, Body performance and the maintenance of exclusive masculinity” reveals the nature of gender performance within the sports field as assessed in relation to the wider inequalities faced by various sections of society.

Krauchik Vivian and Ranson Gillion (1999) in an article “Playing by the rules of the Game women’s experience and perceptions of sexual harassment in sport” have discussed an important aspect of the sports activity. This study suggest that women in sport are not only unwilling to take formal action against their harassers but they are also unwilling to label as sexual harassment transformation of the power relations which enable sexual harassment in the sporting world causes also be affected of changing women.

**Sports and Violence**

We have observed that sports plays a dominant role in the development of society. Sports has been used to bring international peace and understanding. They have helped to overcome misunderstanding between two nations. However there is also the other side of it. Many games are aggressive and such games may increase
aggressive nature of players. But rigid regulations have been implemented to check violence in sports. Boxing and wrestling appear to be violent. Sometimes these games lead to physical violence between the players. However by imposing restrictions violence can be checked. On many occasions the result of sports competitions and wrong judgments give rise to violence but these incidents are very rare and insignificant in the context of beneficial effects of sports.

Sports have played a decisive role in establishing peace, friendship and brotherhood. The best example is cricket match between India and Pakistan, which has been played since a decade and these matches have helped in improving Indo-Pak relation. The recent international test and one day matches between India and Pakistan have contributed to the improvement relation between the two countries. In fact Pakistan president and Indian prime minister witnessed one of these matches in the Indian pitch at Delhi.