

The Life Flow

CITIUS , ALTIUS, FORTIUS

excellence and grow bigger and bigger. The Olympic Games is a celebration of human endeavors to transcend boundaries, both internal and external. This is an occasion to rise to the occasion. This is a democratization of human spirit, cutting across all petty barriers of class, caste, creed and culture. This is a gala Event unifying human sensibilities across the globe. The Games program consists of as many as 35 sports, 30 disciplines, and nearly 400 event medals.

It is of much historical significance that the ancient

Olympic Games were held at Olympia, Greece from the 8th century BC to the 4th century AD. The first Olympic goes back to 776 BC. Three cheers to Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of modern Olympics. He revived the Games by founding the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in the year 1894 and the first modern day Olympic: the Athens Games of 1896 were a huge success. Today the Olympic has become world's most coveted sporting extravaganza, promoting the spirit of ubuntu among players and enduring

sense of bonhomie among the comity of nations.

The Olympic spirit is a mindset, a diehard approach to life. It is individual's desire to believe new beliefs and think of the unthinkable. It is all about thinking Big and pursuing lofty goals. This spirit resembles the spirit of Ernest Hemingway's old man named Santiago, who refuses to accept defeat. He goes fishing for eighty four days without catching a single fish. His persistence pays and he creates history with his catch, the biggest ever in his life time. The idea finds a beautiful

expression in the novel The Old Man and the Sea:

Man is not made for defeat; a man can be destroyed but not defeated.

This is human struggle at its best. It is this indefatigable spirit that makes a player Olympic material. This is the quintessence of man's craving for glory. It is the insatiable desire of the moth to reach the stars. It is the ultimate test of one's endurance- the capacity to withstand the bark of puppies as well as the thunderbolts of heaven. The Game is all about mental toughness of the players. It is more of a mind game, the alacrity of mind. Rupert Murdoch has a point:

The world is changing very fast. Big will not beat small anymore; it will be the fast beating the slow.

It indeed needs high degree of self motivation to be striving for anything faster, higher, and stronger. We will do well to recall the Coubertin ideals as expressed in the Olympic creed:

The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well!

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Thanks to the World's unique Sporting Event in London, we are revisiting the Olympic motto-Citius, Altius, Fortius, a Latin expression meaning faster, higher, stronger. This is man's indomitable will to chase