

## **ORAL HISTORY OF GRECO-ROMAN WRESTLING IN LONDON 2010 OLYMPIC**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Oral history is one of the modern research methods in history that deals with the explanation and identification of happenings, incidents, events and topics which requires field surveys and collection of historical information on the basis of viewpoints, heard, and the functions of witnesses, observers and activists of those events. The main purpose of the present study was the oral reproduction of Greco-Roman wrestling in the 2012 Olympic Games in London. The present study, through the oral history dealt with how our national team became the champion in the Olympic Games and showed what process our national team have passed to reach such a place. The statistic community of this research includes the members of the national team, coaches, and officials of wrestling federation, and regarding the limitation, the statistic community equals the sample, and no selection has been done therefore the samples have been available and systematic. The research has been descriptive historical, and practical. To collect the data and approach the objectives qualitative research method has been utilized. In the section, the qualitative research methods, using a non-press conference, face – to – face interview, the interviewer, using an interpretive interview tactic, initiated to collect data. The questionnaire to do the interview was made and ready by the researcher and the validity of the questionnaire was confirmed by the physical Education experts. Also interviews were done by a voice recorder and a camera. Then these interviews were transcribed by the Islamic Revolution records office, using computer programs and eventually the discussions were concluded by internal and external critique. The obtained results illustrate that mohammad Baba stays at the top of the success pyramid of the National Team and using factors such as quick resolution of problems, having mutual relations with athletes, establishing a strong and committed technical staff, selecting the athletes in international competitions, not in domestic competitions, not letting the athletes go on hard diets to lose weight, spending the maximum amount of his time, he could raise the level of wrestling. Other factors were the athletes, long – term plans, regular camps; and factors like media, management, encouragement and punishment had no meaningful impact on their success. Therefore It is suggested that regarding the obtained results, the concerned authorities try to decrease the present deficiencies and repeat this championship in the future Olympics.

**Keywords:** *Oral History*

### **INTRODUCTION**

One of the recognizing the conditions and looking into future is evaluating the events which happened in the past and is the analysis of recent events. The scientists believed that analyzing past events could be a suitable tool for forecasting and thinking about the future.

So, this is the way that historical research is forming. By looking to past, the researchers try to learn lessons to present them to future people. Wrestling is one of the traditional and important sports in our country which have athletic roots in the county and have a lot of fans. It's the sport that the wrestlers earning medal and honor in this field.

Looking into past, we will see that there are some expectations and some of those came true, not all of them and the victory not achieved. Analyzing these results can clarify the win or lose reason for officials, athletics, and sport society. Obviously, using past experience could be valuable for future success and honor for officials, athletes, and the sport community. Lack of public awareness of the events in London

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2012 Olympic can cause unfair judgments about the Iranian athletes. In London 2012 Olympic, Iran participates with 6 wrestlers and achieved the first place with 3 gold medals.

While this was that the Iran Greco wrestling exercise for a long time under the supervision of experienced coach. As it was expected, Iran returns to county with bright results in the end. What are the reasons that Iran Greco wrestling team couldn't achieve the desirable results in previous periods, according to the investments? Checking these reasons can be a useful guide for the Iranian Greco wrestling team at the 2016 Olympic Games and next the Olympics in order to achieve the expected results. This study is in order to answer this question that what happened to Iran in London 2012 Olympic and what were the results?

### **Oral History of the World**

When human have the ability to talk, the oral history began and stories and legends told orally among the nations. It was the first type on keeping the cultural heritage safe until exploring and using the paper.

The first oral history writing findings related 3000 years ago. Handwritings from Ro dynasty speak about the people which used for court historian.

Centuries later, Tucyides interviewed with participants in the conflict Plonizi. Typical of oral history and tradition should be searched in Islamic historiography. Islamic historiography begins with oral traditions of Hadith and these oral narrations accepted as a method of providing the information; the greatest historian of all time stated that evidences are two types and there is no third: it should be read in a book or heard from the mouth.

Generally, if we look at our history references in the different centuries, they are collected according to the direct observation (Zafar Nameh Shahi) or asking (Mongolians part in Jahangoshaye Joveini which is written according to the heard). The written form that can be named as chronology was common in Iran more than the West in the middle century and it cannot be known as awareness oral history. European made their first move about the oral history in the America conquest and they used oral history about the people natural history reconstruction, Azteks and Inkas, and the remaining of great civilizations. In 1775, after the Lexington and Cancord which caused the America revolution, the time Congress Secretary of the time, War William Gordon interviewed with Paul Revere about the war that was his first interview in the field.

In 1870, the Californiapublisher of Hubert Howe Bangroft published seven volumes of California history and sends California college students between 1890-1884 on to collect memorabilia, papers, rulers, military, civilian authorities, and the first Mexican-American residents into the community. When the historian do not accept the document of the oral histories, journalists used interviews as a way to gather information. During the civil war in 1859, the New York newspaper editor, Horace Cyril went to salt lake for an interview with the Mormon Brigham.

After the death of Abraham Lincoln, William Herndon his law partner, J. Nicolai had several interviews about the sixteenth president who worked with him or knew him. In the late nineteenth century, oral evidence as well as written sources became important. Leopold Von Rankeemphasize on the point that documents took place during historical events are the most important historical sources. It was his associates who change history from the literary to academic and used oral sources to documenting the information. In the early twentieth century, oral history entered a new era and took a dramatic turn. In 1930, a number of Federal Writer Project (WPA) was employed to record the lives of ordinary people. The most valuable information was theinterviews collecting which descendants of black slaves were brought to America and was about 10 thousand pages.

Other interesting issues forthis group can be referred to how the people face with crisis. During World War II, FranklinD. Roosevelt command military branches of government representatives to register their war experiences. Thus he became the founder of the first works of oral history. In 1942, Joseph Michel collected the stories of ordinary people in New York. As it mentioned until now, it was not only oral history but also gathering oral resources that the scientists was not aware of its nature as awareness oral history. From 1948, the biggest revolution in the oral history took place by inventing tape recorder and using new technology which was the base ofthe first generation of oral history.The first generation of

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professional oral historians led by Alan Nevins and Louise Starr. They emphasized on not written collection of outstanding people and. Don Allen Nevins was an oral historian major political actors who interviewed with economic, political, and social actors. He began the first systematic effort by recording the interview on tape. When he was working on a biography of President Grover Cleveland Cleveland, he found that Cleveland's associates provided some letters, memoirs, and biographies which were used for biographers.

He carefully examined the information and documents and he did his first interview in 1948 with New York City Mayor, George MacAneny. Nevins was the first journalist who formed the first modern form of oral history and created the world's first oral history archives. He founded the Oral History Research Office at Columbia University. Louise Starr was the colleague and student of the Nevins who works in the *Saturday Evening Post* and Chicago newspaper after graduating from the University of Yale in 1940 and here he began his collaboration with Nevins. Then in 1960, he became the Alan Nevins successor in the Oral History Research Office at Columbia University. In 1945, UC Berkeley and the University of Oklahoma in 1958 became the oral history center. The first oral history project was about economic and political and based on interviewed with experienced people. In the 60's and 70's, it examined the social movement and inexperienced people such as workers, cultural and religious, women, and local history. Multi-dimensional oral history affect more on different structures such as economical, political, social, cultural, and religious. People like Paul Thomson, Alessandro Portelli paid attention to various aspects of oral history in this generation. World Association formed in 1967 and opening a new oral history in order to make generalizations about the oral history of the community, standard operating procedures, maintenance of systematic, accurate collection, and preparation of resources. Activities of the generational oral history was (the so-called oral history) interviews from the bottom to up somehow like the 30s. Important books of this period were hard times (1970), working (1974), and good war (1984). The third-generation oral of history emerged. Professional oral history went beyond the conservatism 50s and 60s freedom and established standards more advanced than before. New technologies such as computing research caused oral history collections became more professional. The emergence of new and young generation who was the academic oral history generation, precede oral history much to advance. In the 80's, it was the age of public programs in the oral history. Museums added voice to oral history materials, took them to exhibitions, and using them create a new way in researches about oral history. Libraries also provide training in oral history make close relationship with oral history center and moved particularly independent oral history collections to the library. Radio and virtual shows were the other means of publication for oral history introduction. Oral History of the 90s until now has gone so far towards being multi-dimensional.

Relationship with linguistics as well as folklore is more. Later in this decade, oral history found its own literature and literature teachers are participated in academic programs. They send their students to the nearest center or institutes of Oral History to learn methodology. Internet discussion and oral history archives are the issues that affect the archives. The oral history role became more important by accessing the new technology, society more development which have the sociology and have negative and positive effects on human groups.

Today, we couldn't consider the oral history as a special science such as physics or chemistry but it will include all of them. Physics or medical oral history which gather information about the interviews with experienced people or the press oral history which include all ordinary and outstanding people exceeded the work relationship with other fields. The oral history development process is based on an aggregation of oral history as follows:

1. The transmission of oral traditions and legends, so when the writing began, was the original form to preserve and transmit to future generations.
2. Using oral sources for writing the history books and religious traditions that can be evaluated in line with the oral traditions.
3. Using memories and personal biography to write books, record events by collecting general information that it can be called unawareness oral history.

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4. The emergence of the first generation of oral historians was with the invention of sound recording technology and Followed by interviews with experts in the field of political, economic, social, and culturally.
5. Forming the second oral history generation which had more social approach and it expanded the oral history among the general population. This expansion caused the first global standard for independent co-operation between centers of oral history and oral history. Archive widespread more and systematic efforts in organizing oral history were formed.
6. Biased the third generation to generalization oral history was not only the interviews, but also in terms of identity to community centers and the centers such as museums and libraries play a more active role in their oral history.
7. Fourth generation oral history is academic generation. Oral history development caused a special literature in the academic centers such as elementary school and university for oral history and its development (Abolfazl Hasan Abadi, 1385).

### **Oral History Background in Iran**

Oral resources are important because of cultural and history background enrichment and the oral citation was the main way to keep and transform the social terms but oral history is unknown in recent history and our culture. In recent years, paying attention to oral history and historiography increased, and many books have been published in this field. Beyond all this stuff about how the situation of oral history in Iran is, there are discussions about the nature of oral history, meaning and value, features, and discussion fields. Other important issues are future researchers' judgments about our business, the value and validity of oral history as supplementary evidence. Despite all the doubts and worries, our oral history is valuable which could be used in different categories such as recent political history, cultural history, folklore, religious, etc. The important point in here is evaluating oral history background, oral history center condition, and the problems on the way of oral history development. Oral history background established two decades ago and there were some activities to record the commanders' and soldiers' voice as war began. It's the result of thousands hours of interview which is keep in army war archive. Institutes such as study and research center and evidence Islamic revolution center began their activity in the late 60's and the oral history library office, Iran evidence national institute, and Islamic literature office began their activity in early 70's and each of them worked on oral history in their own field. Moreover centers within the country, centers outside the country worked on oral history and their work are older than the inside institutes. The first center was formed by Habib Lajvardi (1980) at Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

Oral History of the Left movement in Iran began to work by Hamid Ahmadi management since 1983. America's Jewish Oral History Center, left movement Oral History Project in Amsterdam, Netherlands since 1995, Iran study center since 1988 in New York, and oral history research office at Columbia University are the other centers (Abolfazl, 1385).

Oral history is not so old in our country and there are a few oral history centers. There is a long way to achieve the main goal and desirable usage. The number of verbal centers in different areas of political, social, economic, and cultural take action to collect, organize, and preserve oral history projects. There are no project about oral history of sport and this is the first project in Iran which is began about oral history of sport.

### **Oral History Problems**

According to the various factors of oral history archive in the community and its areas, what are the development barriers in Iran? There are several factors for answering this question:

**1. New Oral History:** Development phases of the west oral history showed that this science had evolution during 60 years. Today, there is a different view about it after decades of experiments. If we want to compare the Iran oral history with the west, we are maybe in 40's or 50's compared to the west. Paying attention to the society's high level is considered as a general approach for outstanding people in the centers.

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2. **Lack of communication of the training centers with oral history:** Educational centers are the main part of oral history archive base. Universities, high schools, and even middle schools and primary schools are involved in it. Oral history academic work started from 1948 in the universities and the most of the oral history centers have activity in the world now and they are the subset of universities. This is because of support of faculty and students in research activities. In case of other centers, it's been a long time that effective activities done for introducing oral history in Europe and America. Long-time educational program followed and oral history thought in the elementary schools and high schools as a scientific method. Meanwhile, there is no academic center responsible for conducting oral history, let alone talk about it in schools.

3. **Lack of custodian in oral history:** Oral history work is costly and it requires special equipment and administration establishment. Although governmental issues caused monopolization and it will harm oral history nature because of its freedom realistic nature, but government support is necessary about the oral history. Except for the limited centers related to the special centers, there are no centers affiliated with particular organization responsible for coordinating and organizing center as oral history centers. This is one of the most important issues currently which challenged the role and function of oral history.

4. **Remaining unknown oral history in the community:** Oral history of the today world, especially in the fields of anthropology, customs and dialect, identity and the identity, Therapeutic oral history and Genealogy oral history has found a variety of functions and they used too much. The centers closely related to the society culture and they are custodian to keep and maintain oral heritage did nothing such as cultural heritage organization, Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, and Iranian studies foundation. Remaining unknown in the field of oral history, there is a failure to provide proper shape of it. It can't be said that oral history has no use. Using the memories are veterans or special occasions is the best way to use that can be called ignorant oral history (Hassan, 1385).

### **Olympic History**

In 776 BC, historians and archaeologists believe that it is only clear on the celebration of "Olympiad" that Herodotus and Pindar have something about it. In the 943 AC, the celebrations closed which is written. There are 293 Olympics which were within the games and held every 4 years. All of the explored statues and materials is a sign for heroes which are collected from the scattered ruins of the Temple of Zeus.

### **Revitalize and Revive the Olympiads!**

Explores will result in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. These researches began in 1767 and German archaeologist followed France but there were too much nature transformation in this area and they achieved few results. Gortiuiz, the German archeologist and scientist, finished the unfinished work of his colleagues and achieved the Olympiad hidden materials in 1852. In fact, there was a great sunlight after 458 years and the result was a sign of the celebrations' glory which matched with the historians' written materials.

Beside the explored statues from the Zeus temple, big statues and artistic statues which are made by Phidias, found near the Olympiad desert and the place was for audiences and the chariot drivers. Somehow, Greeks woke up suddenly by all the buried existences, the glorious past make them delighted. They are proud of their nationality, gave his rich for Olympiad resurrection. He wanted that the celebrations held every 4 years in Athena and held official celebrations in the place that Gods looking at it. At that time, the Festival's international thought was not in the brain of people. Zapas held a celebration named Palace Louie in the great Athena square in 1859.

The king and queen were invited to held competitions in the main streets and squares but it was difficult to distinct the audiences and competitors faces. Police was not able to give order to the square. There were no clean sport rules and regulations, but whatever it was, there was a discussion about beginning. Zapas gave his rich to government after his death in 1870 to hold another Olympiad eleven years after the first event. In 1870, several running competition, jumping competition, and disk thrown competition held among the youths. There was still no sign of order but the government decided to construct a stadium for audiences, so the athletes compete easily. But this issue didn't go beyond a common framework in coordinating meetings and Reviews.

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Barone Doukbertun leaved military university and interested in sociology and education 33 years after the first try of Zapas who was a 29 years old mustachioed aristocrat French man. He knew the sport as a factor of robustness and peaceful relationship between the nations. Therefore, the Zapas actions were studied. Doukbertun *et al.*, found that holding the Olympics needs Nations assistance.

Coubertin was diligent and full of effort. He wrote many books about thenation's agreement according to the friendship tournament sports. He held competitions in order to leave notion's disagreements and they compete in a friendly mood to show humanity, power, and wisdom without any grudge and bleeding until the notion found that they can prove themselves in peace and friendship. No one has the right to abuse others' rights; they can compete with each other in chivalry mood. They can also have cultural exchange with each other peacefully.

Finally, Coubertin held a congress with attractive face, hardworking, having friends, and many meetings. Europe and America agents have welcomed the Coubertin's plan; they declared his support for holding the Olympics athlete to hold again.

Three years later in England, Belgium, France, the United States of America, Sweden, Russia, Italy, Greece, and Spain formally agreed to hold the Olympics soon. Ivanglous Zapas idea were met with Coubertin's efforts. In that year, international Olympic committee held a meeting in Sorbonne University. This congress was known as international Olympic congress (IOC) which established a federation in countries without any thoughts, politics, any sides to hold Olympic every four years participating athletes in the Olympic message of peace and friendship, and the first period of the 1896 Olympic Games held in Athena (Greece) (Morteza, 1388).

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This study is a historical method which placed in analytical research framework. Its purpose is to describe and analyze events relating to the London 2012 Olympic Greco-Roman wrestling. This research is qualitative, holistic, and effective.

#### ***The Population***

The population of this research includes the wrestling federation, Greco-Roman wrestler national team members, coaches, and practitioners of Greco Roman wrestling.

#### ***Samples***

According to the limitation of studied populations, so the sample is equal to the statistical population and the choice will not took place.

#### ***Data Collecting Instruments***

Study data will collect by interviews with outstanding people and using evidence. The questionnaire will be made for interviews.

#### ***Data Collecting Method***

In order to data collecting, researcher used tape recorder and video camera for interviews with the population and referring to the evidence related to 2012 London Olympic. This paper believes that the reasons for the success of the national team in the Olympic Greco-Roman wrestling should found. According to the result, it should be noted that Mr. Mohammadbana is on the top of this pyramid and he plays the most important rule in championship. Mohammadbana is chose as coach by the direct idea of the federation managers and praesidium and he had the full authority to choose the co-coaches and colleagues.

According to the data and their analysis, we can say that presses play a little rule in the championship, but they were no effective at all. Feeding quality was normal in the national team camp but this procedure changed to professional and great 4 months before the Olympic beginning. Athletes suffer from the lack of authorized sport supplements and they try to provide the supplements themselves because they believed that we didn't reach the scientific level that we use supplements under the supervision of experienced physician. The results showed that this success was a result of a long-term procedure and we achieve victory by an 8 years program. In the same year, Muhammadbana accept the coaching young national team. From that date, he focused on championship in Olympic. Athletes and managers believed

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that the management is not in a good shape and didn't meet the athletes' needs. Officials never appreciate their hardworking and they only give several gold coins to increase their spirit a few days before the Olympic. It should be noted that the management role is important in this championship and this work was the result of teamwork and the managers tried to provide situations to achieve this goal by co-operating and strategic planning. So the management is a part of this puzzle. Muhammad bana used experienced and educated people to achieve the Olympic championship. This is a new method which operated by the Bana for the first time. There were some objects in the first but it will come to result at the end (correct results showed the correction of this method). Data showed that Bana is the main factor of championship. Bana is a person who has not academic education but he is a great coach. Bana knows the way of treat with an athlete. He knew how to make relationship with athletes, how to treat with anyone, when appreciate or punish. In fact, he's a psychologist. He taught his team to deal with deficiencies and focus on the great aim which is championship in Olympic. They consider chance as a useless factor and they believed that anyone tries more, the more chance he got to act as a success factor. National team entered London four days before the competitions to adapt with England's special weather climate and the housing condition, equipment, and nutrition were at the same level and best for all countries worldwide. The sport community owes this historical event to a great person such as Muhammadbana. His name will be remaining in the Iran's sport. Victory occurred for a team at the first time in Olympic and results is somehow that 3 gold medal in a sport field is not going to repeat. We can describe the success secrets of Mohammadbana as a base of this championship from different dimensions: great psychological power, binary relationship with athletes, avoiding chose action and immethodical weight loose, choosing main team formation in abroad competitions, having ability to solving problems, establishing faithful personnel, and creating co-operational mood among the members based on an aim. Another characteristic which distinct him from other coaches is working 16 hours for improving the team level. Bana stated that loving wrestle is his success secret.

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