

Ritual Of Sports Fire In Uzbekistan - As A Socio-Motivational Basis For The Three-Stage System Of Mass Sports And Health Work

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Annotation. The article discusses the impact of the sports fire ritual on the formation of social and personal motivation of youth to physical activity and sports, as well as its use as a tool for involving students in national mass competitions.

Keywords: Olympic flame, ritual, symbol, ceremony, zoroastrianism, sport, system, relay race, competitions, three-stage, torch.

Introduction. The ritual of sports fire in Uzbekistan is a symbol of motivational energy, as well as a tool that feeds and moves the country's students to achieve high creative goals through physical, intellectual and social development.

Among the Olympic rituals, the ceremony of lighting a fire in Olympia and delivering it to the main arena of the games is particularly emotional. This is one of the traditions of the modem Olympic movement (2). Currently, the Olympic flame is lit in the Greek Olympia a few months before the opening of the games. Eleven women, mostly Actresses portraying priestesses, perform a ceremony in which one of them lights a fire using a parabolic mirror that focuses the Sun's rays. This fire is then delivered to the city hosting the Olympic games. Therefore, the Olympic flame is without exaggeration the most important symbol of the Olympics, it always accompanies the competitions at the main starts of the quadrennial since Ancient Greece. Colorful opening ceremonies, a parade of flag bearers and festive fireworks appeared much later, and are of a different nature, and the fire of the Olympic games has not been changed. It is simply impossible to hold Games without its support.



Main part. 1. History of the sacred fire. Many scientists believe that life on our planet was born at the junction of two elements: water and fire. Fire worship in one form or another can be found in many cultures, where myths about the origin of fire are widespread, most often associated with the motive for kidnapping or precedent (1)

Fire played a significant role in the religious beliefs of various peoples, it was considered a symbol of life, a cleansing and punishing force for sins. All this gave rise to a belief in fire as a divine power or in God himself in a special form. The Bible tells us that God the Creator sometimes appeared in the form of fire. Buddhist monks believe that today's people came to earth to atone for their sins after a fiery purification.

In the East, the Sacred fire was the main symbol of all Zoroastrianism, which played an important role in the religious history of mankind. The doctrine of Zarathustra is one of the oldest religious systems of human civilization, which is recorded in the book of A vesta, Dating from about the XII-X centuries BC. the book is particularly detailed ideas about the creation of the world from the original allpervading light and fire. As noted by M. Boyce, a well-known researcher of Zoroastrianism, fire, having a bright and lively appearance, attracts people's worship much easier than idok made of wood or stone (2). Religions such as Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam have borrowed important doctrines from this religion.

According to the canonical requirements of Zoroastrianism, the world consists of four elements: fire, water, earth, and air. Fire was a sacred element, in the image of fire they saw all the most important, living, i.e. all-encompassing force. In Zoroastrianism, it was believed that in the moonlight-fire, grass grows, fire is transmitted through food to the body. (Modern science has proved that living organisms cannot exist without energy. Lifeis a processofGorenje).



Огонь как главный символ всего зороастризма, по значимости разделялся на несколько уровней: -солнечный огонь главного правительственного храма; - огонь храма местного значения; -огонь алтаря каждой семьи(3).

Fire was also an important component of many rituals: socio-religious and household rituals. The significance of fire in ritual practice is emphasized by the temple cult of fire, whose roots date back to the second Millennium BC.

With the domestication of fire, man begins to acquire intelligence, fire takes the most honorable place in the human home. Later, they will make a red corner for him, where an unquenchable lamp will bum at the Pantheon of new "gods". With the arrival of fire in a person's home, human civilization begins, perhaps that is why light will become a civilizational reference point for people, and the main civilizational component of the world of people will be culture (culture-in Sanskrit means " cult of light»)

2.The appearance of the symbol of the Olympic flame. At the turn of the third and second Millennium BC, the first famous sports games dedicated to the hero Bilgamesh (Gilgamesh) are established in the city of Nippur. Sports games were held at the end of the summer, in July and August, according to modern ideas, and consisted of wrestling and athletic competitions. By torchlight, athletes from among the city's most powerful men marched in front of a statue of the legendary Bilgamesh, son of the goddess Ninsun and ruler of Uruk named Lugalbanda. The games lasted nine days and ended with a mandatory ritual visit to the graves of the ancestors, emphasizing the unshakable link between generations (4). The "proto-Olympic" games of the ancient Sumerians suggest that the sporting history of mankind also begins in Sumer.

The ancient Olympic games were also competitive in nature and were excellent examples of mass organized sports social action. Of all the variety of ancient holiday traditions of the peoples of the world, the tradition of lighting a fire existed in



Ancient Greece, during the ancient Olympic games. The Olympic flame served as a reminder of the feat of the Titan Prometheus, who, according to legend, stole fire from Zeus and gave it to people. In the Olympic competition program were "the torch race (lampadedromy)". Especially for the opening of the Olympic games, the fire was lit and 40 trained young men in the relay carried the torch from the altar of Prometheus to the Athenian altar. The distance was 2.5 kilometers.

In recent history, the Sacred fire from Olympia has only a symbolic meaning. In 1912, Pierre de Coubert in proposed the idea of lighting the Olympic flame from the sun's rays at the temple of Zeus in Olympia and delivering it by torch relay to the Olympic stadium for the opening ceremony of the Games. In 1928, an employee of the Amsterdam electric power company lit the first Olympic flame in the bowl of the Marathon tower of the Olympic stadium in Amsterdam, and since then this ritual has been an integral attribute of the modern Olympic games.

The fire of the winter Olympic games in 1952, 1956, 1960 and 1994 was lit in the Norwegian village of Morgendal in the fireplace of the house where the founder of Norwegian skiing, SondreNordheim, lived. The organizers tried not only to deliver the fire to themselves in one piece, but also to make it as memorable as possible.

The Olympic torch relay was first held during the 1936 Olympic games in Berlin. More than 3 thousand runners participated in the delivery of the torch from Olympia to Berlin (5). The Olympic relay gave birth to a new symbol and a new Olympic ceremony.

3. Fire ritual of the small Olympic games in Uzbekistan. The Olympic movement, starting from the most ancient times in the history of mankind, is developing towards the unification of children's, youth and adult mass sports in the country. thanks to the independence and development of the Olympic movement, an integral national system of mass involvement of students in continuous sports activity



was created (6). Three-stage consecutive and continuous "small Olympic games" -"UmidNihollari", "Barkamolavlod", "Universiade" (7) (school - Lyceum, College -University) were formed for students on the basis of this system).

Since 2000, in the regional centers of the country, the final stages of these competitions have gradually begun to be held, which have become a national-scale cultural event that goes beyond sports games. Over time, the fire tradition and the opening ceremony of the games began to take on the significance of a motivational holiday for the population, especially for the younger generation, uniting them around the ideals of physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.

For children and young people of the country, the lighting of the fire and the opening ceremony of the games, as well as competitions, became a bright holiday and a catalyst for new emotional impulses to sport. The sports and youth festival became a national event aimed at stimulating millions of students to engage in physical activity, uniting young people with the bonds of community around a single idea, generating a sense of collectivity, and socializing individuals, which eventually became a cultural and health "barometer". The results of the survey showed that during the holiday, students more than anywhere eke feel their involvement in their country, openly demonstrate themselves and see others in the same quality (8)

Relevance of the topic. In the post-industrial period, physical culture and mass sports become an important social tool for the formation of human capital, which is the Foundation of the country's socio-economic development. Currently, a large range of theoretical and practical work is being carried out in many countries concerning the mass involvement of young people in physical and competitive activity. According to conventional wisdom, the Olympic torch relay is perceived as propaganda or advertising the opening of the Olympic games, in addition, this phenomenon is considered as a PR campaign from the Arsenal of technologies called PR or public relations (9). At the same time, the literature does not fully address the



issues related to the influence of the fire ritual on the formation of students ' motivation for physical activity and the desire to be a participant in mass competitive events of the educational institution.

Social significance of the fire ritual: 1.Formation of motivation for students to engage in physical activity based on the tool of the ritual process of fire, as well as on its basis, the development of technology for mass involvement of them in the torch relay; 2.Familiarizing children and young people with information available to their age from the history of the ancient and modern Olympic movement; 4.Through the fire ritual, develop an interest in various sports; 5. Create students ' knowledge and understanding of the Olympic games as world competitions.

It should be noted that the above-mentioned components of social significance in the complex will make a spiritual component in mass sports, will make it possible to raise to a new level the spirit of Olympism, the idea of a healthy lifestyle Object of research. Ritual of sports fire in the events of the national sports and recreation system.

Purpose of research. 1. The use of the fire ritual as a sports, cultural and motivational event in educational institutions, as a tool for involving students in national competitions "UmidNihollari", "Barkamolavlod", "Universiade".

2. Conduct a set of studies on the impact of the ritual of sports fire on the formation of social and personal motivation of young people to physical activity and sports.

3. To draw the attention of the International Olympic Committee and the world community to the history of Uzbekistan through the Olympic movement, to develop a new idea of lighting the Olympic movement's fire on the basis of 21st-century technology, without violating the rules adopted by the Olympic Charter. As a Central Asian analogue of the Olympic games, as a vivid example of the continuity of generations, which should emphasize the connection of man with nature.



Research result. In 2001, the leadership of the Jizzakh region proposed to include the ritual of lighting a fire in the opening ceremony of the small Olympic competitions "Barkamolavlod".

The organizing Committee has developed: 1.Regulations on the organization and conduct of the celebration ceremony of lighting the fire of sports competitions "Barkamolavlod"; 2.Ritual and scenario of lighting the fire of the competition "Barkamolavlod"; 3.The route of the torch relay; 4.Procedure for selecting participants in the torchlight procession; 5.Complex of sports and festive events on the route of fire; 6. Scenario for the opening of the final competition "Barkamolavlod" in Jizzakh.

The creation of a special torch for the fire using the design of the national applied art, as well as the development of its storage technology, was entrusted to the organization "Vatanparvar", which was responsible for the preservation and transportation of the fire.

In Uzbekistan, the world's first "Olympic" fire technology of the 21st century, was lit on a unique research object "Physics-Sun", when the concentration of the solar beam at one point up to 3000 degrees Celsius. There are two similar structures in the world: one in France, the second in Central Asia. (The facility is located in Parkent, Tashkent region).

The lit fire was carried by relay to the destination. Thousands of students and students, as well as athletes who won the right to carry the torch, were involved in the process of the torch relay. From Parkent to the city of Jizzakh, on the route of the torch relay, in educational and other institutions under the patronage of local khokimiyats, solemn ceremonies and sports events dedicated to the Olympic flame were held.

According to the ritual, the arrival of the torchlight procession, a fire before the opening was kept at a special place, located in the Djizakh region. For the first time,



during the opening ceremony of the small Olympic games - "Barkamolavlod", the Olympic flame of the games was lit at the Central stadium of the city of Jizzakh.

Lighting a fire is a celebration of sports, friendship and mutual understanding among young people, music, dances and songs, and the colorful and multicolored nature of the country's population. In addition, the fire ritual and the relay race are one of the most important events related to the final competitions in the regional centers of the country. For the local population, these emotions are not inferior to the Olympic competitions in intensity. The torch relay has a responsible mission-to unite the entire country, thereby rediscovering the diversity and beauty of Uzbekistan for each participant, first of all, for the students themselves. It should be noted that each of the localities where the relay takes place, for one day becomes the center of sports fire and sports events, and this is a unique chance for cities, districts and towns to develop mass sports, as well as to make themselves known to the whole country through the media.

Conclusion. Introducing children and young people to the ideals of Olympism through the fire ritual should take an important place in the system of education, upbringing and training of the younger generation to the values of a healthy lifestyle.

Theoretical significance of the research: a new complex technological approach will be proposed that will highlight the social component of the potential of the Olympic flame in solving problematic issues related to the motivation of involving students in mass sports activity.

The practical value of the results of the study is that the conclusions and materials will be useful in the preparation and conduct of mass sports games in the field. In addition, the materials will help to develop training programs and research on a wide range of issues related to the development of mass sports, including educational programs focused on the organization of sports events.



Uzbekistan, as a country with a unique history and geopolitical position, has every opportunity to introduce new ideas for the development of Olympism.

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