



ISSN: 2456-0057

IJPNPE 2018; 3(1): 2094-2095

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www.journalofsports.com

Received: 16-11-2017

Accepted: 17-12-2017

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## A case study on Padmashree Bishan Singh Bedi the Indian cricket legend

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### Abstract

The present study aims to make an assessment and analysis of the factors that were accountable for the effective sporting career of Padma Shri Bishan Singh Bedi with specific reference to his cricket career, performance and achievements. The scholar gathered the evidence about Bishan Singh Bedi from the subject himself, family members, friends and teammates through consultation. The investigator also acquired evidence about him from all promising written sources existing. For the collection of data an opinion rating questionnaire was constructed by the scholar consisting of 80 questions and some of the standard psychological tests has also been conducted to know all the aspects of personality, mental toughness, self-confidence etc. of Bishan Singh Bedi. The findings of the study were with regards to social psychological traits, Bishan Singh Bedi is friendly and cooperative, source of inspiration, role model for players, faith in team members, adopted democratic approach, motivates to young players and sometime affected by criticism for his boldly statements. The above mentioned social and psychological traits are also due to heredity and environment. The way one observe others specially his family members and close friends, the same qualities are usually inculcated. Thus, Bishan Singh Bedi also acquired the social and psychological qualities which played a significant role in shaping his career in cricket.

**Keywords:** Legend, personality etc.

### Introduction

Hard work is the key to success. Not all are born heroes. It is with their sheer grit, determination and focussed attitude that a person is able to create a niche. This gradually turns them into legends.

The world is full of people who have achieved milestones in their journey of life. They are the role models that inspire, motivate and stimulate others to follow their examples in achieving target objective. Among varied extraordinary achievers, they are quite a few sports persons who have excelled in different games and sports and are role models to follow by budding and aspiring young sports enthusiasts.

The case study is a complete analysis and report on the status of the particular individual subject, school, institutions, playgrounds, community or city with a view to insure possible improvement of status of the case under investigation. The idea is to know the reality to a certain weakness and strength and finally to bring about desirable changes or improvements. In other words, the aim is to understand the life cycle of an important part of the cycle of an individual or institution or social groups or a community. The case studies aims to intensive investigation of the natural development of a unit.

A legend is a person having a special place in public esteem because of exceptional qualities or deeds. A person about whom stories are passed on to the coming generations people start calling him legendary and many aspire to emulate him. Such characters are very rare perhaps very few in many generations. There are many who achieve great heights but got recognition much later after they are gone. It is indeed an extremely rare privilege to become a legend in one's own lifetime. This distinction is even more pronounced in case the achiever never bows his own trumpet. He let others do that job to sing his praises and pass on his examples to new generations.

The game of cricket has a known history spanning from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present day, with international matches played since 1844, although the official history of international test

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cricket began in 1877. During this time, the game developed from its origins in England into a game which is now played professionally in most of the Commonwealth of Nations.

Cricket's origin is a mystery. All that can be said with a fair of certainty is that the game's beginning was earlier than 1550, somewhere within the counties of Kent, Sussex and Surrey, and the most probably in the region known as the Weald. Unlike other games with batsmen, bowlers and fielders, such as stoolball and rounders, cricket can only be played on relatively short grass, especially as at this period the ball was delivered along the ground.

The game of cricket is the only sport which has the most elaborate and intricate rules. It can therefore, be better enjoyed and understood if one is familiar with the technical and other intricacies of the game. There are some in America who feel that it is a lazy Englishman's game. But those who know the game for what it relay is, can afford to smile at those jibes.

Cricket is becoming rapidly popular all over the world. Therefore, it has further scope of development. International as well as world cricket tournaments have evolved complex and intense elements of competition.

Bishan Singh Bedi is a former Indian Cricketer born on 25 September 1946 in Amritsar, Punjab was primarily a slow left-arm orthodox bowler. He was one of the famed Indian spin quartets, former Indian Captain, before Anil Kumble and the Indian Spinner with the highest number of test wickets. He has played for Northern Punjab and Delhi in the various tournaments. He made his debut of his Test Cricket career with a match against West Indies on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1966, while he played his first one day international ODI cricket match against England on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1974. In English County Cricket, he played for Northamptonshire. Bedi was the first modern Indian Captain who was an all-rounder; a leader both on and off the field, approachable, communicative and a guru to the youngsters in the side. Bedi has expressed strong opinions on many aspects of modern-day cricket and has been described as "being jealous of modern great spinners". He bowled with a big heart too, challenging the batsman to hit over the top by giving the ball plenty of air and was a consistent wicket-taker for most of his career. He was forthright and outspoken throughout his playing career and inevitably courted controversies. The men who were the key to the successes in the 1960s and 1970s were the quartet of spinners, they were Bishan Singh Bedi, Erapalli Prasanna, Bhagwat Chandrashekhkar and Srinivas Venkatraghvan. Considered to be one of the most outspoken and explicitly expressing Cricket players India has ever seen, Bedi's bold statements and decisions often created so many controversies throughout his Cricket career. He had been appointed as coach of the Indian Cricket team in the year 1990. As a matter of fact, he has to his credit the honour of being appointed as the first full time coach of the Indian Cricket team.

He was awarded Padma Shree in the year in 1970, Arjun Award in the year 1969, Indian Cricketer of the Year 1967, C.K. Nayudu Lifetime achievement in the year 2004, Wisden India Hall of Fame in the year 2015. More than a quarter century after his retirement, that hardly matters. Bedi is an artist and will not be remembered for his wickets alone.

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