



P-ISSN: 2394-1685
E-ISSN: 2394-1693
Impact Factor (ISRA): 5.38
IJPESH 2020; 7(6): 243-245
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www.kheljournal.com
Received: 15-08-2020
Accepted: 29-09-2020

Jatinder Kumar
Ph.D., Research Scholar, Panjab
University Chandigarh, India

Dr. Amarjit Kaur
Professor, G.N College,
Narangwal, Punjab, India

Dr. Rakesh Malik
Deputy Director Physical
Education & Sports, Panjab
University Chandigarh, India

Arjuna awardee Shree Akhil Kumar an eminent sports person and his contribution towards boxing

Jatinder Kumar, Dr. Amarjit Kaur and Dr. Rakesh Malik

Abstract

Boxing is an ancient combat sport. During a boxing bout, competitors display their defensive and offensive skills with courage. Boxing is popular game across the globe. India also produced legendary boxers among them Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar is a unique boxer among them. Akhil was born in the family of father Sh. Shiv Bhagwan Mishra and mother Smt. Syama Devi. At Rahli Misharka purba, Faizabad now called Ayodhya on 27th march 1981. He started his boxing in S. D. Sen. Sec. School, Gurgaon of Haryana at the age of 13. to Vaish College, Bhivani. a college affiliated to M. D. U. Rohtak where he won gold medal in All India Inter University Boxing Championship. Shree Akhil Kumar married to Poonam Beniwal a renowned coach of N.S.N.I.S Patiala.

Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar improved his boxing skills under the guidance of Dronacharya Awardee Jaidev Bisht. Akhil brought several laurels to country in field of boxing. Akhil represented India in Athens & Beijing Olympics in 2004 and 2008. He won Gold at Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, 2006. Akhil. Akhil is working as ACP in Haryana Police & he contribute in field of boxing by starring Akhil Kumar Boxer Club in Gurgaon & Hisar. He produced international Boxer like Mandeep Jhangra & Jatinder Kumar. Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar is a introducer of Open Guard Boxing technique in India.

Keywords: Arjuna Awardee, Shree Akhil Kumar, Boxing

Introduction

Boxing is an ancient combat sport. During a boxing bout, competitors display their defensive and offensive skills with courage. The strength, speed and endurance are the thrill and beauty of this game. The ability to take quick decision and act according and efficiently during the bout, reflects the thinking and daring personality of the boxer. (Sharma 2007) ^[7].

Boxing is popular game across the globe. India also produced legendary boxers among them Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar is a unique boxer among them. A legendary sports person has always special place in public esteem because of his extra ordinary qualities and deeds. People follow them as a role model. The research scholar is of the firm view that to achieve desired results in the field of sports, especially boxing, our country needs competent and dedicated professional people like Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar. Presently in Indian boxing scenario Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar stands as role model for boxing fertility because of his achievement, personality, sociability and leadership qualities. In order to motivate and inspire the players, their coach, guide or mentor make lot of efforts in shaping an athlete to be a 'Champion' and Shree Akhil Kumar as a boxer has all these qualities. The very purpose of taking this research project is to highlight the qualities of Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar which will serve as a light house to people connected with the sports and games especially boxing. He is a role-model and his example can inspire and motivate people to do work hard. It is universally recognized truth that one cannot stop the rays of sun to enter in one's house to enlighten the world and one can achieve extraordinary results through just sheer hard work and will power. In the case of Akhil Kumar, the above mentioned statements are true and appreciated all over the world.

Corresponding Author:
Jatinder Kumar
Ph.D., Research Scholar, Panjab
University Chandigarh, India

He just tilted the span of time in his favor with his unquenchable thirst and desire to succeed at the international level. In the words of his Coach from Railways, Jaidev Bisht, Akhil Kumar is a committed boxer, who always has an eagerness to experiment with new things and tried hard to accomplish them. His 37 bouts including Olympics, Asian and Common wealth games are the indication of his perception and fitness for his game. He did not follow the norms of traditional boxing, so, throughout his career he wanted to prove open guard boxing by paying a lot of attention to his defense and counter attack. According to Santosh Dutta, Akhil Kumar is a devoted boxer. He has controlled habits who worked hard even in the summer season to maintain his weight. I have never seen such a committed sportsman who gives everything he has to his game. His success is not an exceptional one as he melted days into nights to achieve this honor. He was the first Indian boxer to defeat Russian boxer and prove to the world that Indian boxers have the courage and stamina to compete at the international level. His enthusiasm for the game is exceptional. He used to remain without food to maintain his body weight. His mother used to scold him for his these kinds of activities.

Birth of Shree Akhil Kumar

During a rare planetary constellation a son was born in the family of father Sh. Shiv Bhagwan Mishra and mother Smt. Syama Devi. He was named Akhil Kumar by them. Two elder sister and brother Sh. Shailendra Kumar Mishra were happy at the arrival of the sibling who grew up to be an outstanding sportsman in the field of boxing and went on to be awarded the famous national prize the Arjuna Award. Akhil was born in Rahli Misharka purba, Faizabad now called Ayodhya on 27th march 1981. Akhil's father was a jail warder in Haryana Jail department and he is retired from the same department. His mother is deeply religious and dedicated to the family values. Two elder sisters are happily married and an elder brother is also well settled. Since Akhil was the youngest in the family he got all the love and care from his family members.



Fig 1: Research Scholar during an interview with Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar

Schooling of Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar

His schooling was also begun, when his father was posted at Hisar, Haryana. Though Shree Akhil Kumar was born in Faizabad yet his performance ground is Haryana, where his father got posting as a jail warder. He started to participate in

sports in 1994, when he was the student of 9th class in S. D. Sen. Sec. School, Gurgaon of Haryana. He also started boxing in the above mention class of S. D. Sen. Sec. School, Gurgaon, when he was just 13 years old. He also competed in a boxing school state level boxing match and he cherished that very moment even today. When asked about his hobbies in childhood, Akhil smilingly replied that he was fond of reading the stories from Children's books like Champak published by Gorakhpur Press, U.P. These stories helped him in his psychological makeup of his mind.

University Days of Shree Akhil Kumar

After completing his school education, Shree Akhil Kumar was admitted to M. D. U. RohtakVaish College, Bhivani. Shree Akhil Kumar was trained under Ravinder Singh Rana and delivered good with a gold medal in All India Inter University Boxing Championship, which was held in M.D.U. Rohtak December 2000.

Married Life of Shree Akhil Kumar

On November 05, 2010 Shree Akhil Kumar announced to the world that he wanted to celebrate Diwali along with his wife, Mrs. Poonam Beniwal, Renowned Boxing coach, N.S.N.I.S. Patiala. It shocked everyone Later he shared the news of his marriage with the press and stated that he got married on March 19, 2010 to his long term girlfriend, Poonam Beniwal. The marriage was performed within Hindu rituals in Arya Samaj Temple of Delhi in the presence of their parents.

Boxing career of Shree Akhil Kumar

Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar trained under different trainers & coaches time to time but he acknowledge Dronacharya Awardee Sh. Jaidev Bisht as a coach who develop boxing skill of Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar started his boxingcareer in 1994 & now he is contributing as a mentor & working as ACP in Haryana Police.

Boxing Achievements of Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar

Akhil Kumar plays a leading role in Indian boxing he has won number of national and international boxing competitions throughout his boxing career as follow:

- Akhil Kumar first competed in international boxing in the year 1999, winning a gold medal in the 6th YMCA Junior International Boxing Championship.
- In the year 2001, Akhil won gold medal in the International Invitational Boxing Championship in Russia.
- In the year 2003, Kumar bagged another gold medal in the flyweight category by defeating Vilitio M Payla.
- Akhil has won the best boxer award three times. In addition to this he gathered twelve gold, one silver and four bronze medals in various national and international events.
- Champions of Champion tournament in China on February 2009 (bronze)
- 24th Sr. Asian Boxing Championship in Mongolia on June 2007 (bronze)
- SAF Games in Colombo on December 2006 (gold)
- 1st Afro-Asian Games in Hyderabad on November 2003 (gold)
- Sr. International Boxing Championship in Uzbekistan (gold)
- 2nd Eduardo Garcia International Tournament in Cuba on June 2003 (gold)

- Regatta Boxing Championship in Seychelles on September 2002 (gold)
- Gold at 4th Brandenburg Cup in Germany in August 1999 among others.
- Participation Olympic Boxing 2004 Athens and 2008 Beijing
- Gold at Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, 2006
- Bronze at Asian Boxing championship, 2007
- Bronze at AIBA World Cup Moscow, 2008
- Akhil Kumar was awarded the prestigious Arjuna Award by the Indian Government in the year 2005

Contribution of Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar in the field of Boxing

According to his coach Jaidev Bisht, the Dronacharya Awardee He wants to repay the society whatever he gets from boxing. He helped Jitender Kumar, An Olympian without even telling him. He helped number of children financially, technically and even sponsored them. The amount he received from government for his achievements, he used that money to establish a boxing club in Gurgaon & Hisar for the youngsters. There is no denying that he is a dedicated boxer and a committed person. He started Shree Akhil Kumar has been credited with number of boxers whom he has trained, guided and motivated. Mandeep Jhangra, Arjuna Awardee Boxer, Jitender Kumar, an Olympian Boxer Sanjay Singh, Manish Panwar, a Renowned Boxer.

Conclusions

On the basis of the findings of the present study the following conclusions may be drawn that Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar has been an outstanding Boxing player. he is a thoroughly committed professional. Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar is honest and sincere to his assignments. He contributed a lot for the promotion of boxing in India by developing boxer clubs in different cities. Akhil is very friendly, cooperative and regular in daily exercises. He also known for his remarkable patience and perseverance. He is very popular among his colleagues. Arjuna Awardee Shree Akhil Kumar is the introducer of Open Guard Boxin technique in India.

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