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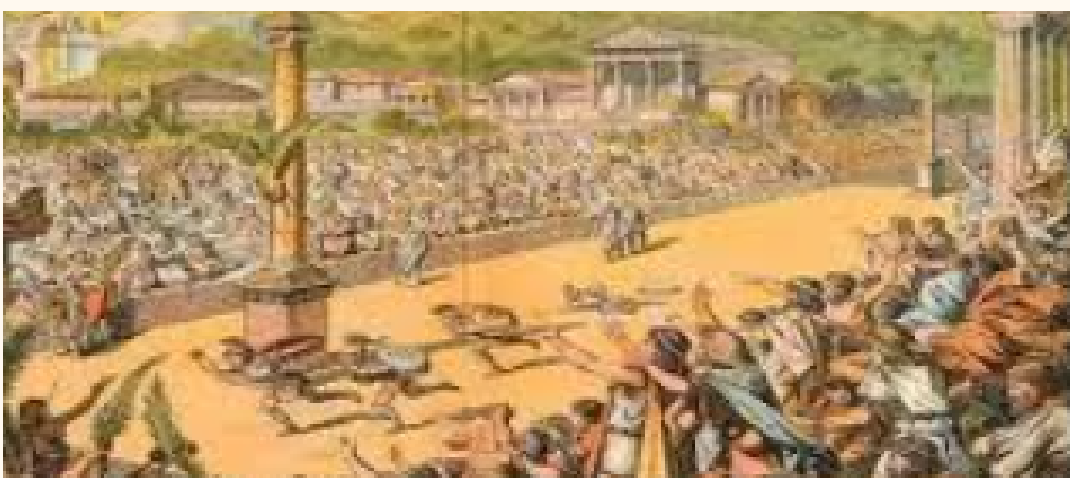
EXPLORE-ENGAGE

OLYMPICS: FROM ANCIENT GREECE TO PARIS

GREECE'S HISTORIC GAMES!

Centuries ago, in Olympia, Greece, people gathered every four years to celebrate a special event called for the Olympic Games, featuring sports like running, wrestling, and chariot racing. These games continued for hundreds of years before stopping.

A Frenchman named Pierre de Coubertin revived the games because he believed they could promote peace and friendship. He drew inspiration from the ancient games and the first modern Olympics were held in Athens, Greece, in 1896, with athletes from different countries competing. As a result Pierre de Coubertin is known as the **father of the modern Olympics**. He also designed the Olympic flag with five colorful rings representing the continents: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Antarctica. The colors of the rings (blue, yellow, black, green, and red) are found in every national flag. Every four years, athletes gather in a new host city for the Summer or Winter Olympics to compete, make friends, and inspire people. This year, the Olympics are held in Paris, France



PARIS HOSTS THE 2024 OLYMPICS



Paris was awarded the **2024 Summer Olympics** on September 13, 2017. This will be the third time Paris has hosted the Summer Olympics, having previously hosted in 1900 and 1924, making it the second city ever to host the Summer Olympics three times. Paris 2024 will mark the centenary of the 1924 Paris Olympics. One exciting feature of Paris 2024 is the **debut of Breakdancing as an Olympic sport**. Additionally, these Games will be the final ones held under the presidency of Thomas Bach. The cost of hosting the 2024 Games is expected to be €9 billion.

INDIA'S SHOOTING: MEDAL HAT-TRICK AT PARIS OLYMPICS



Manu Bhaker is the first athlete from independent India to win two medals in a single edition of the Olympics. **Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh** became the first Indian pair to win an Olympic medal in shooting. **Swapnil Kusale** also won a bronze medal at the Paris 2024 Olympics, completing India's medal hat-trick in shooting. His achievement adds to India's impressive collection of medals in this sport at the Games, showcasing the country's growing strength and success in shooting. India had sent a 117-strong contingent and is the second-largest participation in Olympic history. It's overall performance has placed it 28th in the medal tally.

EARTH'S TEMPERATURE HITS NEW HIGHS

Earth has **broken temperature records** for 13 consecutive months, with global average temperatures consistently exceeding pre-industrial levels by 1.5°C each month. Scientists warn that without significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, this trend will likely continue, potentially leading to catastrophic climate impacts.

Greenhouse gases absorb heat radiated from Earth's surface, causing the atmosphere and oceans to warm. This warming increases glacier ice melt. Mount Kilimanjaro's snow has melted by over 80% since 1912, and glaciers in the Garhwal Himalaya in India could disappear by 2035. The edges of Greenland's ice sheet are shrinking, contributing significantly to global sea level rise. In the Northern Hemisphere, spring ice breakup occurs nine days earlier and autumn freeze-up ten days later than 150 years ago. Thawing permafrost in Alaska has caused the ground to sink more than 15 feet in some areas.

Global sea levels have risen 4-8 inches in the past century due to melting ice and expanding warm water, increasing at a rate of about one-tenth of an inch per year. This rapid rise could dramatically alter coastlines worldwide, potentially submerging megacities like Miami, New York, Bangkok, Chennai, Kolkata, and Mumbai, causing significant economic losses.



DELHI FLOODS: RAINS TURN STREETS INTO RIVERS



Delhi & its NCR region like Gurugram recently faced severe floods due to heavy monsoon rains, leading to the Yamuna River overflowing and widespread waterlogging. Homes, businesses, and transportation were affected, causing significant damage to infrastructure and power. Roads became impassable, leading to traffic jams. Also, the floods caused significant damage to infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and buildings. Power outages and water supply disruptions were reported from many places. Thousands of people were evacuated and temporary shelters provided food and medical aid. The government and disaster management teams conducted rescue and relief operations, addressing concerns about waterborne diseases. **Experts noted that rapid urbanization, poor drainage systems, and riverbed encroachment worsened the flooding**, highlighting the need for improved infrastructure and better disaster preparedness to handle such extreme weather events.

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