

A study on the contribution of two past great Indian cricket captain

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Received : 17.10 2011; Revised : 28.11.2011; Accepted : 06.012012

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■ ABSTRACT

To stress the various change in the field of Indian cricket and achievement and records of Saurav Ganguly's and Mohammed Azharuddin, the investigator attempted to secure all available related information. The present study was conducted on two past great Indian cricket captains and in this Paper there has been used a descriptive approach style with screening due to its compatibility with the nature of the problem.

■ **Key Words** : Contribution, Great, Indian cricket captain, Saurav Ganguly, Mohammed Azharuddin

■ **How to cite this paper** : Mane, Manohar M. and Shivade, Amol (2012). A study on the contribution of two past great Indian cricket captain. *Internat. J. Phy. Edu.*, 5 (1) : 5-9.

History of Indian cricket reveals the fact that though the game was introduced by the Britishers, its popularity was kept on increasing with passing time. Cricket, today, is being played all over the country. Cricket is undoubtedly one of the most popular sports in India and the game is being played all over the country, since its inception. The exact day, month or year of cricket's inception in India is still shrouded in mystery, as nobody knows about it. However, according to some people, the Indians started playing the game for the first time in an organized way in the year 1848. The first Indian cricket club named the Parsee Oriental Cricket Club was founded in that year and they played their first match in Bombay (Mumbai). Thus, cricket started its journey in India. The history of Indian cricket started its journey in the place named Sylhet (located in today's Bangladesh).

Cricket in India is not just a game it is a religion in India. Today Indian cricket team is one of the world's best team (currently when the manuscript is being written, India ranks number 1 in ICC test ranking). But the journey was not that easy, there are some milestones that Indian cricket team has crossed during this journey.

Objectives of the study :

- To find out the past records of Indian captain's related to their performance, to find out who is the

best by comparing the performance of two Indian captains.

Limitation of the study :

- The information was collected from written sources available from literature.
- The information was collected related person to the subject.

Delimitation of the study :

- The study was delimited only on two players.
- The present study was delimited only cricket captains and game.

The information was gathered from related books, abstracts, journals, magazines, sports quarterly, etc.

According to Kamlesh (1983), a case study survey in research methodology is a complete analysis and report status of a particular and unique individual, subject, schools and institutions, for the improvement of status of the case study. The talent idea of case study is to know the reality to ascertain weaknesses and strengths and finally to bring about desirable change or improvement.

Dorothy (1996) did a historical case study on Joan Benoit Samuelson Reveals that: At the tender age of twenty- six, Joan made her name shine around the globe. Merely 17 days

after agonizing knee surgery, Joan won the 1984 Olympic trials. She was the winner of the first Olympic women's Marathon in the same year.

Chandrashekar Nair (1982) Opines that play shall constitute a major portion of child's education. If parents are enthusiastic about a given physical activity, especially if he/she is stilled in it and serves as an example, the chances of child becoming interested are large. Society has the social obligation of making available the facilities for sports teaching and participation in schools, colleges and other institutions.

Jonathan in (1984) presented and interpreted significance data regarding life of Eugene Lusxrobert, fielding now meaning and professional contributions. In extensive review of literature and the usage of data collecting methods, personal interview and biographical data comprised the primary source of data. An examination of text books, news papers, journals, articles and historical records, constituted of secondary source input. The data compiled, classified and interpreted according to the purpose of study.

Narsimha Murthy (1993) conducted a case study on Kapil Dev and his study reveals that Kapil Dev was born 6th January 1959 at Chandigarh. In the 1969, he joined the Dayanand Anglo Vedic School and College. In the age of fourteen he played for his school. In 1976 when he was just short of seventeen years he went to play for his state Haryana in Ranji trophy against Punjab. In 1978 at the age of 19 years, he was selected for Indian Test team against Pakistan.

■ METHODOLOGY

Design of the study :

To investigate the contribution of two great past Indian captains, the case study has been designed in which the historical analysis based on the survey utilized to collect the data. The study was purely comparative in a nature, which was based on historical method.

Collection of data :

Data were collected on available information in newspapers, magazines, internet and other sources.

Analysis of data :

In this study, the descriptive method of research was used and different tools were used for the data collection. The comparative analysis was done with the available information of two past great Indian captains on the basis of the objectives of the study.

■ OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained from the present investigation are presented below:

Saurav Ganguly's information :

Mr. Saurav Chandidas Ganguly was born on July 8th 1972 and he was introduced into the world of cricket by his elder brother Mr. Snehashish. He made his debut for India against West Indies in 1992. He is a left hand batsman and medium faster bowler. He was appointed as a captain of the Indian cricket team in February 2000. He made a new world record by getting 5 consecutive "Man of the match" awards. He was named sports star person of the year 1998. In the year 2004, he was conferred upon with the Padmashri award.

In Ganguly life, one of his most memorable performances was in the final of the Independence cup at Dhaka against Pakistan, when the entire Pakistan team walked back in stating bad light along with the umpires, but Ganguly refused to come in. Ganguly scored 124 in that match in darkness, while Hrishikesh Kanitkar scored the winning runs with a boundary. Ganguly played his last test cricket match against Australia in the year 2008, and scored 85 runs. He played his last ODI cricket match against Pakistan on 15th of November 2007, in which he scored 5 runs.

Mohammad Azharuddin's Information :

Mohammad Azharuddin was born on 6th February 1963 in Hyderabad and he made his debut in international test cricket on 30th December 1984 against England. He is a Right-handed batsman and bowled an occasional right-arm medium.

Azharuddin made one of the best starts to test cricket ever; he scored a century in his 1st innings against England at Kolkata in December 1984, and then made two more in his next two tests. The only person to score three centuries in his first three tests. He made his ODI debut later in the series against England at Bangalore in January 1985 scoring a creditable 47 not out off 37 balls. He holds the record of "fastest ODI century by an Indian", scoring his hundred in just his 62 balls against New Zealand in 1988.

Azharuddin became India's captain in 1990 and they proceeded to win 14 test matches with him at the helm. He was named "Wisden Cricketer" of the Year in 1991. Azharuddin made 22 test centuries and 7 in the One Day game over his 15 years as an international cricketer. Unfortunately, his career was brought to an abrupt halt, one test shy of his 100th, as he was banned for life in 2000 due to his connection with match fixing.

Mohammad Azharuddin and Saurav were the famous captains of India. Ganguly has captained India in most number of tests in 49. While Azharuddin has captained India in 47 matches. Ganguly has led India to victory in 21 matches, the most by any Indian captain while stands second most successful captain leading to 14 victories. Ganguly has recorded victory on Indian soil against every team that has visited India accepted new while India did not play Bangladesh and Sri Lanka on hence soil under his leadership the

Table 1 : Career information of Saurav Ganguly

Personal information				
Full name	Sourav Chandidas Ganguly			
Born	8 July 1972 (age 38)			
Nickname	The God of the Off Side			
Height	5 ft 11 in (1.80 m)			
Batting style	Left-handed			
Bowling style	Right arm medium			
Role	Batsman			
Relations	Snehasish Ganguly (brother)			
International Information				
National side	India			
Test debut (cap 207)	20 June 1996 v England			
Last Test	6 November 2008 v Australia			
ODI debut (cap 84)	11 January 1992 v West Indies			
Last ODI	15 November 2007 v Pakistan			
Domestic team information				
Years	Team			
1989/90–2009/10	Bengal			
2000	Lancashire			
2005	Glamorgan			
2006	Northamptonshire			
2008–2010	Kolkata Knight Riders			
Career statistics				
Competition	Test	ODI	FC	LA
Matches	113	311	242	426
Runs scored	7,212	11,363	14,933	15,278
Batting average	42.17	41.02	43.92	41.51
100s/50s	16/35	22/72	31/85	31/94
Top score	239	183	239	183
Balls bowled	3,117	4,561	10,968	7,949
Wickets	32	100	164	168
Bowling average	52.53	38.49	36.82	38.41
5 wickets in innings	0	2	4	2
10 wickets in match	0	n/a	0	n/a
Best bowling	3/28	5/16	6/46	5/16
Catches/stumpings	71/–	100/–	166/–	129/–

benchmark match, which was won by India against England in England, was also under the leadership of Ganguly.

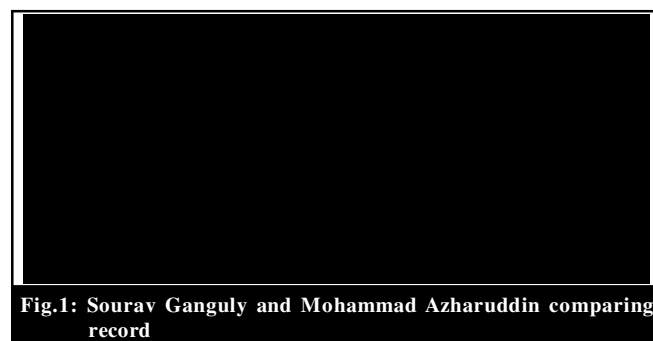
Ganguly is credited with having nurtured the careers of many young players who played under him. Praising Saurav Ganguly's, Mohammad Azharuddin once said that it was Saurav Ganguly's good work.

According to the above features mentioned, it can be concluded that between Azharuddin and Ganguly the man who deserves the title of the "BEST CAPTAIN" is Ganguly. Because his record says, in his reign India has won the maximum matches and record winning match against England.

Former India captain Mohammad Azharuddin said it was



Table 2 : Career information of Mohammad Azharuddin				
Personnel information				
Full name	Mohammad Azharuddin			
Born	8 February 1963 (age 48)			
Nickname	Aju			
Batting style	Right-handed batsman			
Bowling style	Right-arm medium			
Role	Batsman			
International information				
National side	India			
Test debut (cap 169)	30 December 1984 v England			
Last test	2 March 2000 v South Africa			
ODI debut (cap 51)	20 January 1985 v England			
Last ODI	3 June 2000 v Pakistan			
Domestic team information				
Years	Team			
1981–2000	Hyderabad			
1983–2000	South zone			
1991–1994	Derbyshire			
Career statistics				
Competition	Test	ODI	FC	LA
Matches	99	334	229	433
Runs scored	6,215	9,378	15,855	12,941
Batting average	45.03	36.92	51.98	39.33
100s/50s	22/21	7/58	54/74	11/85
Top score	199	153*	226	161*
Balls bowled	13	552	1,432	827
Wickets	0	12	17	15
Bowling average	–	39.91	46.23	47.26
5 wickets in innings	–	0	0	0
10 wickets in match	–	n/a	0	n/a
Best bowling	0/4	3/19	3/36	3/19
Catches/stumping	105/–	156/–	220/–	200/–



Saurav Ganguly’s good work that has helped M.S. Dhoni in capitulating rich dividends. Ganguly has been the best Indian captain, who made a major turn around in Indian cricket in bad time the current captain M.S. Dhoni has improved it further.

Even the ratings and graphs disclosed that Ganguly holds the better records and he deserve the top most position.

Even though both have same winning rate but the matches won by Ganguly are maximum according to matches played Therefore, he can said to master the charts all the way.

Ganguly has scored the most number of centuries while captaining India (11). Azharuddin has the most number of

runs as India's ODI captain (5165 runs at 12) while Ganguly has 5104 runs (ave: 38.66).

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