

## **A Study on Great Indian Cricketer Babaji Palwankar Baloo and His Overall Performances in Each Innings with Comparison of Performance Played in India**

**Pradeep Kumar U**

Designation Physical Education Director, Government First Grade College for Women's Koppal-583231 Karnataka State, India

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### **Abstract**

There are many problems, but one complex and mysterious problem which is faced by the human being since long has been the mystery of his own and others nature and personality. Human beings appear in different shapes and sizes and behave in highly complex ways. Several corers of people are living on the earth. But of them no two people are exactly alike. It is difficult to conjecture what is the human nature of these people. Baloo was in fact a famous cricketer, who made his name bowling the Hindus to victory against the Parsis and the Europeans. In western India, at least, Palwankar Baloo was the first public figure to emerge from the ranks of the Untouchables, commanding enormous respect inside and outside of his community. The purpose of the study is established based on the previous facts written by Ramachandra Guha (2002), in cricketing terms Babaji Palawankar Baloo was W. G. Grace's equivalent, as the first truly great cricketer produced in India. But of course his contributions extended far beyond the boundary.

**KEYWORDS:** Talent Identification, Sports Performance, Technology in Sports, Ect

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### **Introduction**

There are many problems, but one complex and mysterious problem which is faced by the human being since long has been the mystery of his own and others nature and personality. Human beings appear in different shapes and sizes and behave in highly complex ways. Several corers of people are living on the earth. But of them no two people are exactly alike. It is difficult to conjecture what is the human nature of these people.

To understand human nature and personality of persons psychologists are continuously striving. It is very important for any human enterprise, more so in case of sports and games, where there is not only kaleidoscopic play of emotions but also name, fame, money and much more at stake. A comprehensive understanding of human nature would contribute in great measure for the all-round development of the person, sporting activity and also improving the quality of life

Babaji Palwankar Baloo, commonly known as Palwankar Baloo, was an Indian cricketer. He bowled left-arm orthodox spin with great accuracy and the ability to turn the ball both ways. He was also a moderately skilled lower-order batsman.

He was the first member of the Dalit (also known as the "Untouchable") caste to make a significant impact on the sport. Although being one of the finest cricketers of his time, he was never allowed to lead the team as a captain because of his so called lower caste. However, in later years, his brother Palwankar Vithal was made captain of the

Hindu team by the Hindu Gymkhana Club, which was seen as an impact of changing social situations in India.

Baloo was in fact a famous cricketer, who made his name bowling the Hindus to victory against the Parsis and the Europeans. In western India, at least, Palwankar Baloo was the first public figure to emerge from the ranks of the Untouchables, commanding enormous respect inside and outside of his community.

Baloo was a Chamaar, a member of the leather-working caste which ranks close to the bottom of the Hindu social hierarchy. He was born in 1875 in Dharwad, Karnataka State but the family moved soon afterward to Poona, the old Maratha city hundred miles Southeast of Bombay. His father was found working in cleaning guns and cart-ridges in a government munitions depot, a job regarded as polluting by caste Hindus.

**Purpose of the Study:**

The purpose of the study is established based on the previous facts written by Ramachandra Guha (2002), in cricketing terms Babaji Palwankar Baloo was W.G. Grace's equivalent, as the first truly great cricketer produced in India. But of course his contribution sex tended far beyond the boundary

**Objectives of the Study:**

- The present investigation attempts to delineate Babaji Palwankar Baloo as the great cricketer of India before the independence.
- To study the personality of cricketer Babaji Palwankar Baloo through the views of book writers.
- To study his life carrier and achievements in the field of cricket

**Hypotheses of the Study:**

- The present investigation would attempts to delineate Babaji Palwankar Baloo as the great cricketer of India before the independence.
- The personality of cricketer Babaji Palwankar Baloo would be studied through the views of book/article writers

**Limitations of the Study:**

- The study is limited to the life history and achievements of Babaji Palwankar Baloo.
- The study is limited to opinion or views of book/article writers about Babaji Palwankar Baloo.

**Delimitations of the Study:**

- The study is delimited to analyse the published and unpublished materials only.

The study is delimited to analyse the documents and archival records available from websites only.

**Methodology:****The Table below Showing the First Innings Performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket Tournaments and Bombay Presidency and Other First Class Matches Played In India**

S.N	Tournaments	Innings	First Innings Performances		Results		
			Batting	Bowling	Won	Lost	Drawn
1.	Bombay Triangular	06	25	31	--	04	02
2.	Bombay Quadrangular	09	65	19	04	02	03
3.	Bombay Presidency Matches	03	41	16	03	--	--
4.	Other Matches	04	136	19	--	--	04
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>09</b>

Table above showing the first innings performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket tournaments and Bombay Presidency and other countries toured matches played in India. According to the first innings performances shown in the table Babaji Palwankar Baloo played total 22 first class matches in India during 1902-1920 among them total 7 matches won, 06 lost and 09 were drawn.

**Below Table Showing the Second Innings Performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket Tournaments and Bombay Presidency and Other First Class Matches Played In India**

S.N	Tournaments	Innings	Second Innings Performances		Results		
			Batting	Bowling	Won	Lost	Drawn
1.	Bombay Triangular	05	90	11	--	04	02
2.	Bombay Quadrangular	07	43	14	04	02	03
3.	Bombay Presidency Matches	03	64	12	03	--	--
4.	Other Matches	02	51	08	--	--	04
<b>Total</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>09</b>

The Above table showing a second innings performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket tournaments and Bombay Presidency and other countries toured matches played in India. According to the second innings performances shown in the table Babaji Palwankar Baloo played total 22 first class matches in India during 1902-1920 among them total 7 matches won, 06 lost and 09 were drawn.

**Comparison of First and Second Innings Batting Performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket Tournaments and Bombay Presidency Matches and Other First Class Matches Played In India**

S.N	Tournaments	Match Innings		Statistics	First Innings Batting Performances	Second Innings Batting Performances	t-value	p-value
		First (N)	Second (N)					
1.	Bombay Triangular	06	05	Mean	4.16	15.00	1.60	.180
				SD	4.02	15.59		
2.	Bombay Quadrangular	09	07	Mean	7.22	4.77	0.53	.628
				SD	8.46	8.94		
3.	Bombay Presidency Matches	03	03	Mean	13.66	21.33	0.44	.702
				SD	10.26	27.97		
4.	Other First Class Matches	04	02	Mean	34.00	12.75	1.28	.290
				SD	29.67	18.89		

\*Significant at 0.05 level

Table presents the scores of first and second innings batting performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket tournaments and Bombay Presidency and matches played with other countries toured in India. According to the scores of first and second innings batting performances shown in the table Babaji Palwankar Baloo played total 6 first and 5 second innings respectively in Bombay triangular tournament in India during 1902-1920.

- The mean value of batting performances of first innings (4.16) is lower than second innings (15.00). The t-value (1.60) is not significant, because the p-value (.180) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings batting performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Bombay Triangular tournaments during 1902-1920.
- The mean value of batting performances of first innings (7.22) is higher than second innings (4.77). The t-value (0.53) is not significant, because the p-value (.628) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings batting performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Bombay Quadrangular tournaments during 1912-1920.
- The mean value of batting performances of first innings (13.66) is lower than second innings (21.33). The t-value (0.44) is not significant, because the p-value (.702) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings batting performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Bombay Presidency matches during 1905-1913.
- The mean value of batting performances of first innings (34.00) is higher than second innings (12.75). The t-value (1.28) is not significant, because the p-value (.290) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings batting performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Other First Class matches during 1902-1913. The graph 1 also reveals the same.

**Graph 1**



**Table 5**

**Showing the Comparison of First and Second Innings Bowling Performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket Tournaments and Bombay Presidency and Other First Class Matches Played In India**

S.N	Tournaments	Match Innings		Statistics	First Innings Bowling Performances	Second Innings Bowling Performances	t-value	p-value
		First (N)	Second (N)					
1	Bombay Triangular	06	05	Mean	5.16	1.83	5.42*	.003
				SD	1.72	1.60		
2	Bombay Quadrangular	09	07	Mean	2.11	1.55	0.60	.560
				SD	2.14	1.74		
3	Bombay Presidency Matches	03	03	Mean	5.33	4.00	0.65	.578
				SD	2.08	2.64		
4	Other First Class Matches	04	02	Mean	4.75	2.00	1.91	.151
				SD	0.50	2.82		

\*Significant at 0.05 level

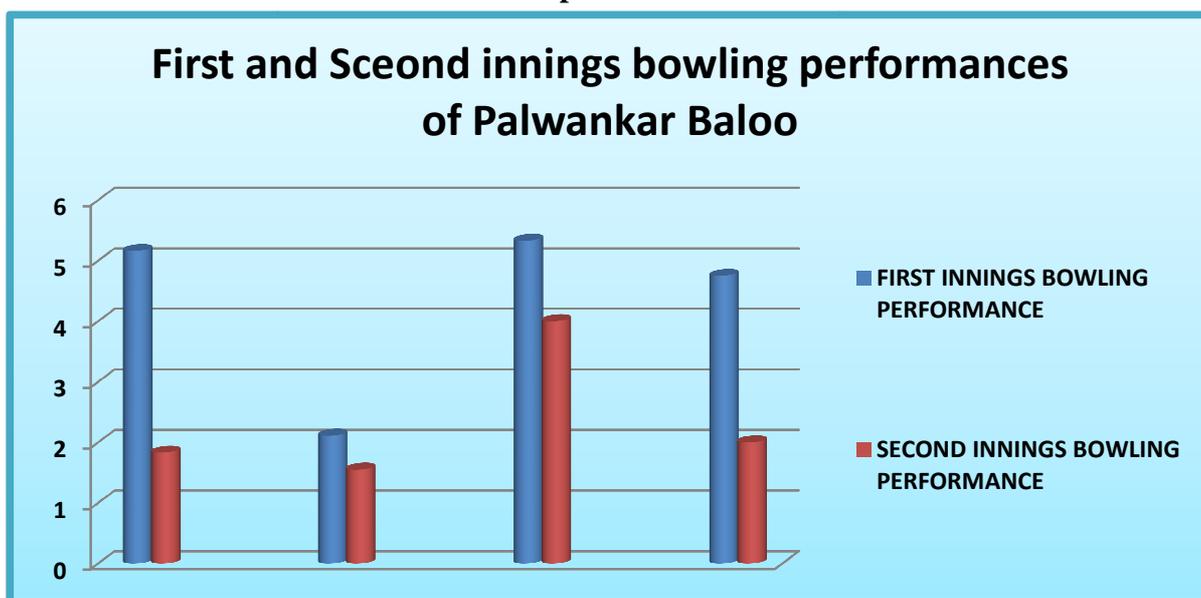
Table No.5 presents the scores of first and second innings bowling performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Triangular and Quadrangular Cricket tournaments and Bombay Presidency and matches played with other countries toured in India. According to the scores of first and second innings bowling performances shown in the table Babaji Palwankar Baloo played total 6 first and 5 second innings respectively in Bombay triangular tournament in India during 1902-1920.

- The mean value of bowling performances of first innings (5.16) is higher than second innings (1.83). The t-value (5.42) is significant, because the p-value (.003) is less than 0.05. In other words there is significant difference in first and second

innings bowling performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Bombay Triangular tournaments during 1902-1920.

- The mean value of bowling performances of first innings (2.11) is higher than second innings (1.55). The t-value (0.60) is not significant, because the p-value (.560) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings bowling performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Bombay Quadrangular tournaments during 1912-1920.
- The mean value of bowling performances of first innings (5.33) is higher than second innings (4.00). The t-value (0.65) is not significant, because the p-value (.702) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings bowling performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Bombay Presidency matches during 1905-1913.
- The mean value of bowling performances of first innings (4.75) is higher than second innings (2.00). The t-value (1.91) is not significant, because the p-value (.151) is more than 0.05. In other words there is no significant difference in first and second innings bowling performances of Babaji Palwankar Baloo in Other First Class matches during 1902-1913. The graph 8 also reveals the same.

Graph 8



### Conclusion:

As per the views of various historian and sports article writers like Rama Chandra Guha, Boria Majumdar, Vasant Raiji, Mohandas Menon, Chandni Ahuja, Dhruvo Jyoti and Rinchen Norbu Wangchuk, “On the ground Palwankar Baloo played as an equal but off the ground his food, water and other arrangements were kept separate. He developed passion for cricket with true spirit and hard work but prevailing society rules did not allow an “untouchable” to play ‘gentlemen’s game’. His talent won many hearts and people chose cricket their love for cricket over the prevailing caste system and demanded

to see more Palwankar Baloo in every match. Finally it is concluded that Babaji Palwankar Baloo was a forgotten first great Indian cricketer of British era.

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