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## **Routledge honours Sepp Blatter with History of Sport Achievement Award**



A Routledge delegation consisting of J.A. Mangan, Executive Editor of *The International Journal of the History of Sport* (IJHS), Boria Majumdar, Executive Editor of *Sport in Society and Soccer & Society*, and Jonathan Manley, Managing Editor Routledge Journals, met FIFA President Sepp Blatter at FIFA's HQ in Zurich to present the inaugural IJHS award for achievement in world sport.

Speaking on the occasion, President Blatter said that it was an honour not only for him but for the entire FIFA family to have received the award from the leading academic journal of its kind. He went on to declare that 'football is not simply a game but more aptly a way of life' and commended IJHS for successfully disseminating this view across the world. In an interview with Boria Majumdar which followed the presentation he stated that his most poignant moment as a sports administrator was when he handed over a football to child victims of the Asian Tsunami. 'The way they embraced the ball was special. That moment, the unrivalled joy, will always remain with me,' he said.

Professor J.A. Mangan said that it was a great pleasure, as IJHS founding editor, to be able to present the award to President Blatter.

President Blatter looked forward to further cooperation between FIFA and Routledge.

### **About the IJHS Achievement Award**

To mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 250 internationally acclaimed scholars of sport from around the world were invited to nominate individuals who have helped to change the face of world sport. The three recipients of the award are Sepp Blatter, Jagmohan Dalmiya and Juan Antonio Samaranch. Since its foundation in 1981, IJHS has been in the vanguard of Sports Studies publishing, noted for its global coverage and innovative special issue collections. Its founding editor was J.A. Mangan, who remains the editor 25 years on.

### **About Routledge Journals**

Routledge Journals is part of Taylor & Francis, an Informa business, and is one of the world's leading publishers of academic journals. Taylor & Francis is dedicated to the dissemination of scholarly information, drawing on expertise developed since first publishing learned journals in 1798. Taylor & Francis now publishes 1,105 scholarly journals in association with 340 learned societies and scholarly institutions. The Company operates from a network of 19 global offices, including Philadelphia, Oxford, Melbourne, Stockholm, Beijing, New Delhi and Singapore.

**For further information about the award and the full text of Boria Majumdar's interview with President Blatter, please contact: Jonathan Manley, Managing Editor Routledge Journals, +44 (0) 207 017 6387; e-mail: [jonathan.manley@tandf.co.uk](mailto:jonathan.manley@tandf.co.uk)**