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Routledge journal honours Juan Antonio Samaranch 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) and Boria Majumdar, Executive Editor of *Sport in Society and Soccer & Society*, met Honorary Life President of the International Olympic Committee at the IOC's HQ in Lausanne to present the inaugural IJHS award for achievement in world sport.

Paying tribute to President Samaranch, Professor Mangan said, 'We honour you for what you have achieved, and will continue to achieve, and we are delighted that you have agreed to accept this award in person.' He went on to single out President Samaranch's contribution to the economic success of the Olympic movement and his work in communicating the Olympic ideal to far-flung corners of the world. Boria Majumdar spoke of the President's links with academia and his initiatives to establish the IOC's Postgraduate Research Grant programme and Olympic Studies Centres across the globe.

President Samaranch said that he was honoured to have received the award from the leading academic journal of its kind. 'You academics are my teachers,' he said, 'and I am proud that you thought me worthy of this award. I have always learnt from you and will continue to learn from you. You have a vital role in disseminating the ideals of Olympism across the world.' He went on to applaud the special issue of IJHS on Olympism, published by Routledge in collaboration with the IOC.

In an interview with Boria Majumdar which followed the presentation President Samaranch looked forward to next year's Beijing Games and spoke of sport's vital role in promoting peace: 'Sports events bring people together and can serve humanity in ways we still are not aware of. The Olympics are a stage where the world comes together in a spirit of brotherhood and unity. The unity that sport can bring is special and is of great value. Sport can make a difference to our world and make it a better place to live in.'

About the IJHS Achievement Award

To mark the 25th 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

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For further information about the award and the full text of Boria Majumdar's interview with President Samaranch, please contact:

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