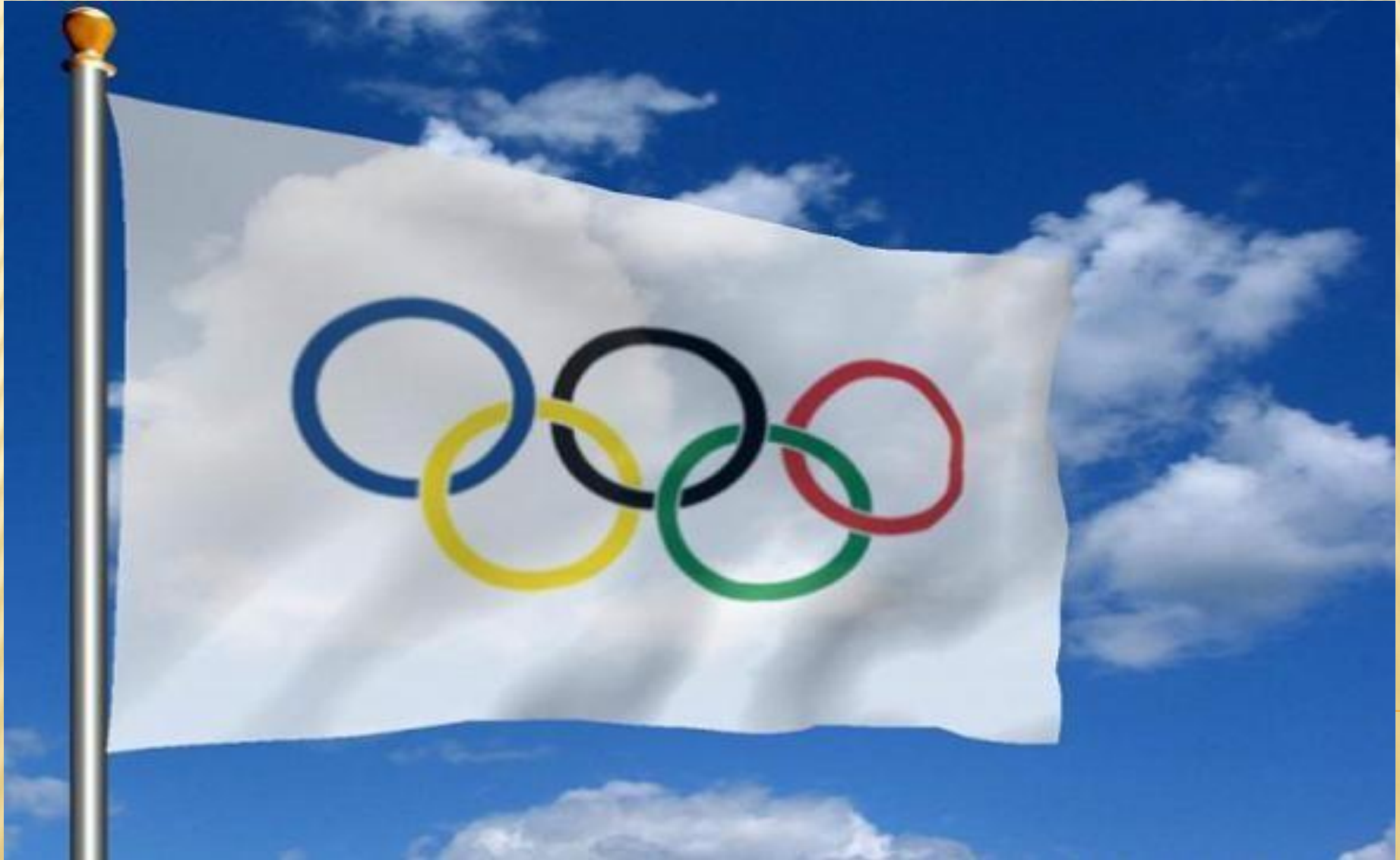
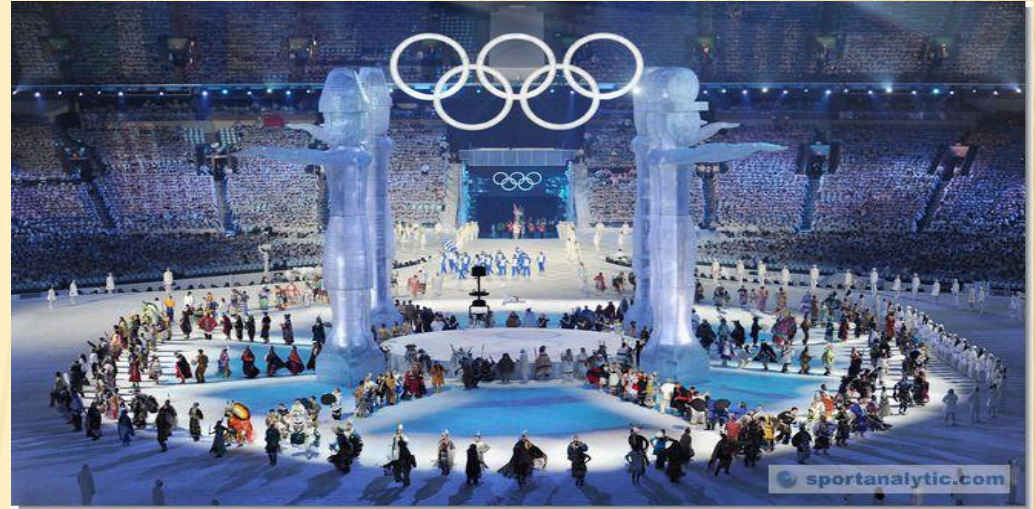
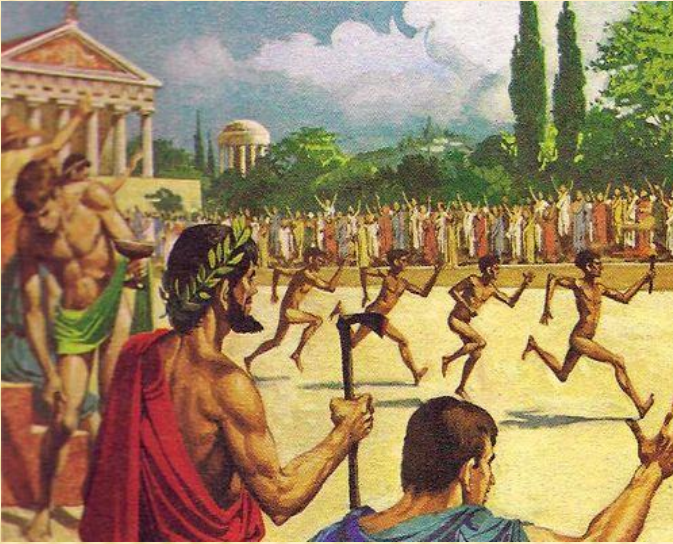


THE OLYMPIC GAMES



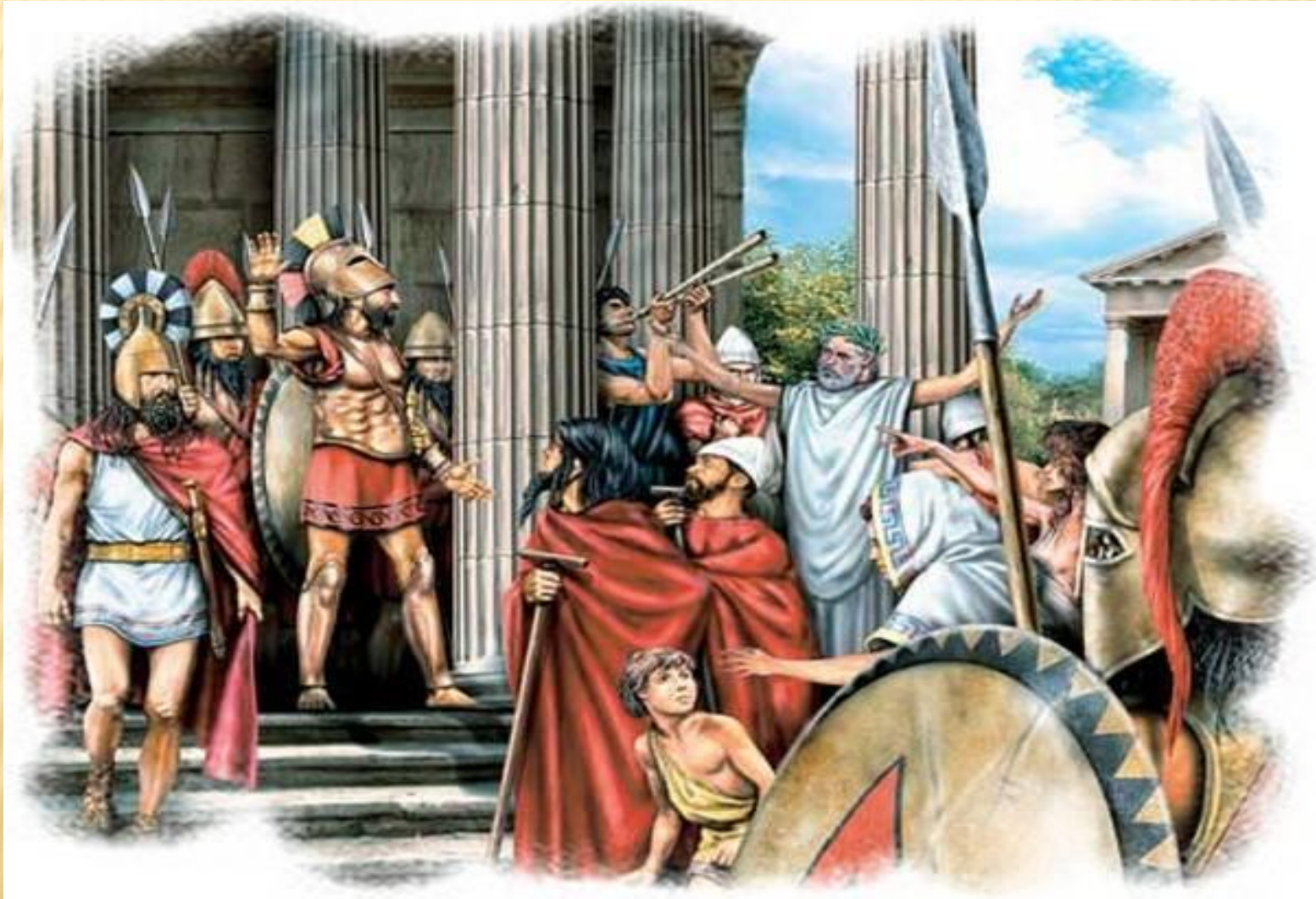
The world's greatest international sports games are known as the Olympic Games. The Olympic Games have a very long history.



They began in ancient Greece in 776 BC. The Games were held in honour of Zeus, the principal god of the Greeks.



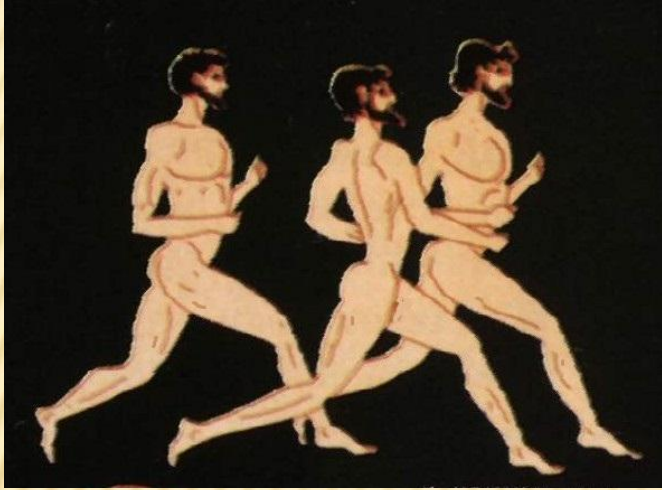
They lasted for five days and became a symbol of peace and friendship. All wars and battles were stopped in all parts of Greece.



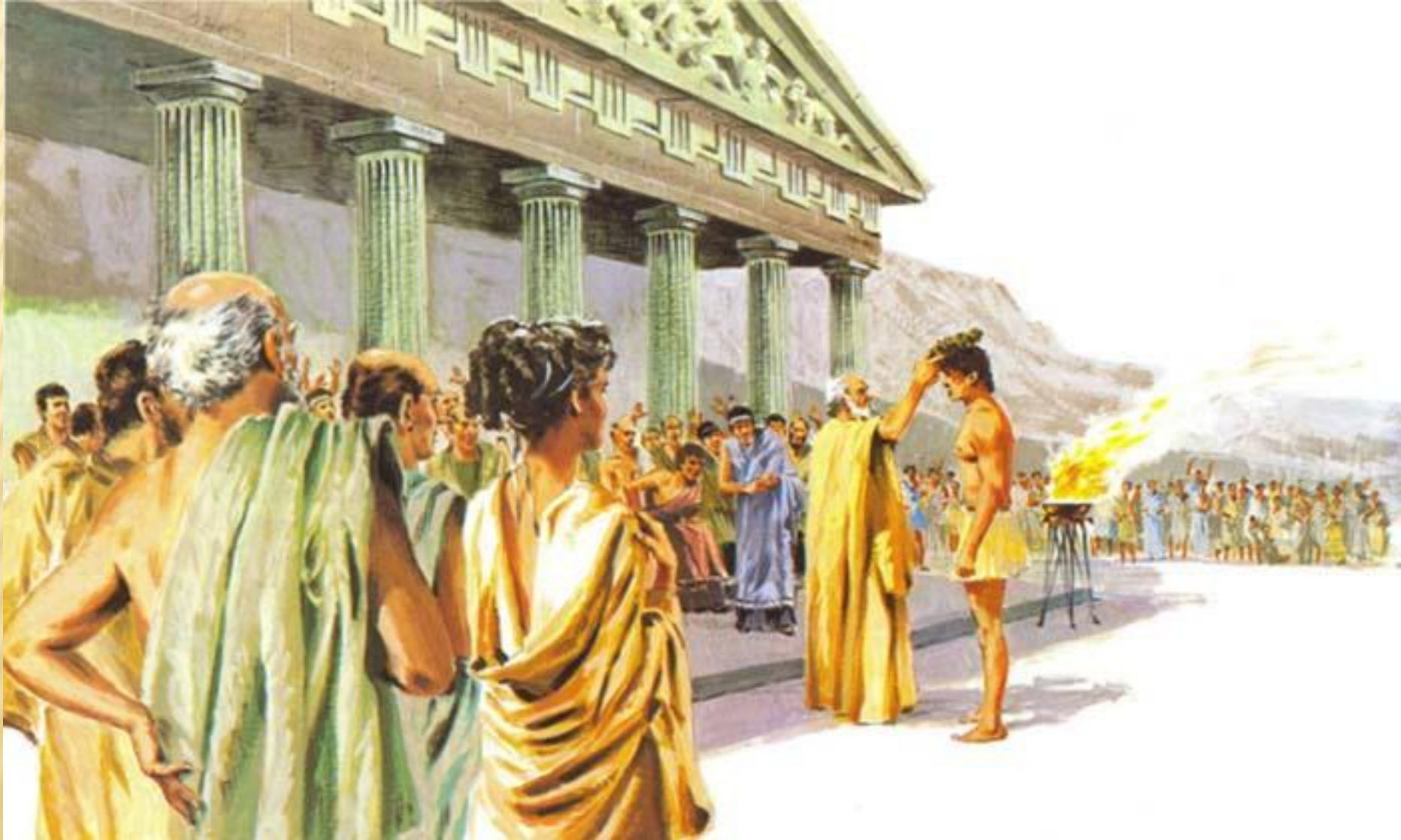
**The Games took place every four years.
Best athletes arrived at the Valley of
Olympia from many Greek states .**



Sportsmen competed in running, long jumps, wrestling, throwing of discus and javelin. Boxing, a chariot race and other events were



**Winners were called «olympionics».
They were awarded by the olive wreaths.**



**Only men could take part in the Olympic Games.
Women were not allowed to attend the Games.**



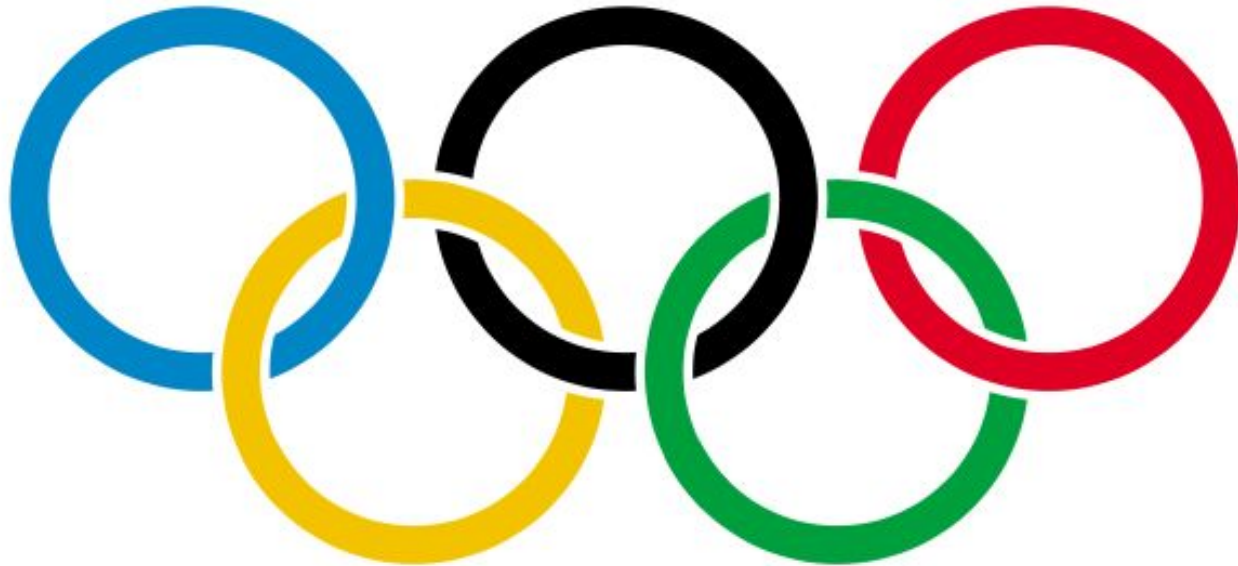
The Olympic Games had been held for nearly twelve centuries until they were abolished in 394 AD



The Olympic Games began again only at the end of the 19th century thanks to Baron Pierre de Coubertin. The first Modern Olympic Games were held in Athens in 1896.



**The Olympic emblem is five interlinked rings:
blue, yellow, black, green and red.**





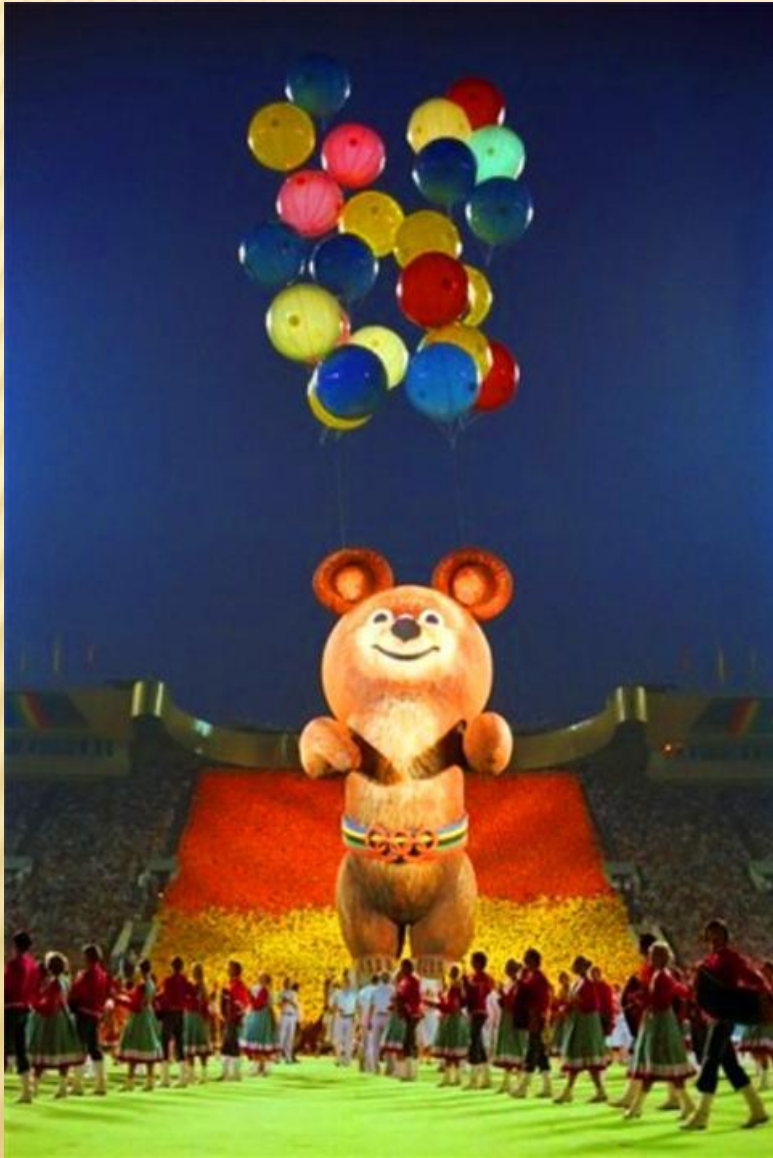
Summer and Winter Games are held separately. There is always an interesting cultural programme of concerts, exhibitions, festivals for every Games



**Russia joined the Olympic movement in 1952.
Since then our country has won a lot of
gold, silver and bronze medals.**



In 1980 Moscow hosted the XXII Olympic Games.



Winter Olympic Games took place in Sochi in Russia on the 7 of February 2014



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