

**From:** Enver Masud enver.masud@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re The Wire's article on the 1936 World Olympics  
**Date:** August 8, 2021 at 9:29 AM  
**To:** Syed Zaidi syedarzaidi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Raziya M Clouser raziyamc@gmail.com, Salman Aref Masud salman.a.masud@gmail.com, Neelam Misal nmisal@gmail.com



<https://thewire.in/books/dhyan-chand-india-olympics-hitler>

Yes, the M N Masood in The Wire's article is abbajaan.

I'm very glad the authors state:

"It is a tenet of Indian sporting folklore that Hitler personally met Dhyān Chand and offered him an officer's commission in the Wehrmacht if he would play for Germany. This story is almost certainly apocryphal because none of the contemporary sources mention this incident and neither does Dhyān Chand in his autobiography".

Abbajaan wrote what may be the only contemporaneous account of the 1936 Olympics by an Indian author. He told me more than once that Dhyān Chand meeting Hitler was nonsense.

I gave the only remaining copy of "The World's Hockey Champions 1936" to the US Library of Congress.

<https://lccn.loc.gov/2015385120>

Ashok Jaitly, "St. Stephen's College: A History," Roli Books Pvt. Ltd. (2006), p. 97 wrote:

"Mirza Nasiruddin Masud was perhaps the most outstanding sportsman of all time from St. Stephen's, but also an alumnus that rose to eminence by sheer dint of his dedication and commitment."

Extracts from abbajaan's book are on the Internet in a few places and in my article written in 1990 at the urging of the editor, Mowahid Shah, of Eastern Times – then read in foreign policy circles.

<https://www.twf.org/bio/MNMasud.html>

At the bottom of the article are several links, pictures, videos to more on Indian hockey around 1936. We had a scrapbook of clippings. I photographed a few. Too bad we didn't have digital cameras before most of the clippings disintegrated.

Mowahid's brother Mushahid Hussain became Communications Minister for Gov of Pakistan. Mowahid later became Minister of Justice (?) for Nawaz Shariff.

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[8/7, 12:38 AM] Syed Zaidi: <https://m.thewire.in/article/books/dhyan-chand-india-olympics-hitler>

The Masood here seems to be your father, but the spelling is not yours.

[8/7, 12:40 AM] Syed Zaidi: But I see the same spelling is given in a list of Indian ambassadors to Saudi Arabia.