

My favourite–Magic Johnson

Magic Johnson is a multi-talented person. He is a basketball player, an actor, a talk show host, an athlete, an entrepreneur, a basketball coach, and a producer. He was born on August 14, 1959. He played in 13 seasons for the team Los Angeles Lakers and is considered to be one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history. He is the former president of the basketball operations of the Lakers. Johnson won the NBA championship and the most valuable player award in the NBA finals. In the 1980s he also won 5 more championships with the Los Angeles Lakers. He has also received three NBA MVP Awards. He was a member of the United States Men's Olympic Basketball Team in 1992 which was named "The Dream Team". They won the Olympic gold medal the same year.

EARLY LIFE:

Johnson was born in Lansing, Michigan. His love for basketball started at a very young age. He considered Bill Russel as his favourite basketball player. He came from an athletic family. His father was also a basketball player during his high school period. Johnson learned all the finer techniques from his father. When Johnson was studying at Everett High School he joined the school basketball team. When he was 15 years old a local sportswriter gave him the nickname "Magic" for scoring incredibly well in one of his matches. Though he received invites and offers from top colleges, he decided to join Michigan State University which was close to his home. In 1979, Johnson led his basketball team to the NCAA finals. There they had to face off with Indiana State University. This match became the most-watched college match ever. With a successful win against the Indiana team, he was also named as the most outstanding player on the final tour.

CAREER:

He was the first overall pick chosen by The Los Angeles Lakers in the 1979 draft. Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar led the team to the NBA Championship in the rookie season. He received the NBA MVP Award during this tournament. He has won 5 more NBA tournaments with his team Lakers. He was awarded the most valuable player award from the NBA three times. He attended the All-Star games 12 times and he has also received the MVP award from All-Star games two times. He has the honour of being the greatest point guard of all time. In 1991, he was not able to continue his career because of the contraction of the HIV virus. But, that did not put a full stop to his career. In 1993, he returned to the NBA as a coach of the Lakers' Team. Initially, the team won 5 out of 6 matches but later the team lost in most of the matches. This made Johnson announce his resignation as coach after the season. In 1995, he gave a successful comeback as a player to the Lakers Team. After being lost to the Houston Rockets Team, he announced his permanent retirement.

RETIREMENT:

In 1991, after he was affected by the HIV virus, he started a foundation to help HIV-contracted people. He also did a lot of charity through this foundation. He was an advocate for safe sex or for HIV/AIDS prevention. He was an Entrepreneur, a broadcaster, and also a philanthropist. He also broke the stereotype that prevailed at that time that "heterosexuals do not have to worry about being contracted by HIV/AIDS".

CONCLUSION:

Though Magic's career was not a smooth one, he was able to make it to the top. He was successful in both his career life and his retirement life.

