

What is the Olympic Order?

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About Olympic Order:

- It is the **highest award** bestowed by the **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** for outstanding contributions to the **Olympic Movement**.
- It was established in 1975, it replaced the **Olympic Diploma of Merit** and is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional merit in the cause of sport or rendered significant services to the Olympic Movement.
- The Olympic Order has **three grades: gold, silver, and bronze**. The gold order is reserved for heads of state and exceptional circumstances.
 - The insignia of the Olympic Order features a collar or chain with the five Olympic rings and the kotinos emblem, an olive wreath. Recipients also receive a lapel badge in the corresponding grade.
- **Significance**
 - The Olympic Order is a symbol of recognition for those who have made significant contributions to the Olympic Movement, **promoting the ideals of unity, friendship**, and fair play that the Olympics embody.
 - It is a testament to the IOC's commitment to honouring those who have advanced the cause of sport and the Olympic Movement globally.

Q1: What is the International Olympic Committee (IOC)?

It is the guardian of the Olympic Games and the leader of the Olympic Movement. A truly global organisation, it acts as a catalyst for collaboration between all Olympic stakeholders, including the athletes, the National Olympic Committees, the International Federations.

Source: Abhinav Bindra bestowed with Olympic Order award by IOC

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/olympic-order/>

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