

Sports and Sporting Facilities in the Civilization of Pergamum

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ABSTRACT The aim of this research is to examine the sports activities in the ancient city of Pergamum using documentary research method. Historical documentation method and the relics such as inscriptions and historical sports areas of the Pergamum and documents found in the city shows it is the place of robust sporting activities. It was found that the natural therapy methods taking advantage of music, theatre, sports, sun and mud were experienced in Pergamum for the first time in history. It shows that the Pergamum is the first city where therapeutic recreation had taken place. Consequently, the findings unearthed in this city show that there was a categorization for the sports competitions held here which are similar to today's sports competitions. The foundation of the first hospital for athletes in this city has made the ancient city of Pergamum a very important subject of scholarly investigation in terms of sports.