## Kobe Bryant Introduction

Kobe Bryant was born in August 23, 1978, he is an American All-Star shooting guard in the National Basketball Association (NBA) who plays for the Los Angeles Lakers . He began his career at the age of 18 when he became the youngest player in league history to be drafted out of high school . And in 13 years, he has become the best player of this league . As the most fabulous Shooting Guard after Michael Jordan . He once scored 81 points at a single game in 2006. The next year, he got four 50+ games in straight. In 2008, He got the MVP award, and lead Lakers back to the top .

Early NBA career

1996 Draft

Even before he was chosen as the 13th draft pick overall by the Charlotte Hornets in 1996, the 17-year-old Bryant had made a lasting impression on then-Lakers general manager Jerry West, who immediately foresaw the potential in Bryant's basketball talent during pre-draft workouts. West stated that Bryant's workout was one of the best he had ever witnessed. West continued his quest to return the Lakers to championship status and startled spectators by offering and completing the trade for starting center Vlade Divac to the Hornets for Bryant.

## Championship years

However, Bryant's fortunes would soon change when Phil Jackson became coach for the Los Angeles Lakers. After years of steady improvement, Bryant had become one of the premier shooting guards in the league, a fact that was evidenced by his annual presence in the league's All-NBA, All-Star, and All-Defensive teams. The Los Angeles Lakers became perennial championship contenders under Bryant and O'Neal, who formed an outstanding center-guard combination. Their success gave the Lakers three consecutive NBA championships in 2000, 2001, and 2002.

## End of a dynasty

In the following 2003-04 NBA season, the Lakers were able to acquire legends Karl Malone and Gary Payton to make another push at the NBA Championship. With a starting lineup of four potential Hall of Fame players in Shaquille O'Neal, Malone, Payton, and Bryant, the Lakers were able to reach the NBA Finals. In the Finals, they were eliminated by the Detroit Pistons in 5 games

## 2005-06 season

The 2005-06 NBA season would mark a crossroads in Bryant's basketball career. Despite past differences with Bryant, Phil Jackson returned to coach the Lakers. Bryant endorsed the move, and by all appearances, the two men worked together well the second time around, leading the Lakers back into the NBA Playoffs. Bryant also resolved his conflict with former teammate Shaquille O'Neal.

In January 22 2006, Bryant scored 81 points in a 122-104 victory against the Toronto Raptors. In addition to breaking the previous franchise record of 71 set by Elgin

Baylor, his point total in that game was second in NBA history only to Wilt Chamberlain's legendary 100-point game in 1962.

In the summer of 2008, Bryant had an argument with the Management of Lakers, Because he wanted helpers. And In the 2008-2009 season, the Lakers signs Derek Fisher and Pau Gasol. The Los Angeles Lakers became perennial championship contenders under Bryant and Pau Gasol. Kobe Bryant won first regular season MVP. But in The Final Games, the Lakers had lost to the Celtics. And In next 2 years, Lakers had got 2 NBA championship in a row, and the Lakers returned to top.