



*In Loving memory*  
**ASE BISIRIYA HLAYYIL**

2008 - 2020 †

by Talitha Bakker ■ photos by Gregor Aymar, Glenn Jacobs, Arabian Stud Europe archive

Once in a lifetime, you come across a mare that is so special, she affects the life of many people around the world. Bisiriya was that mare. She touched the souls of so many people. Her loss was more than saying goodbye to a horse. It was saying goodbye to a friend, a legend, an icon in the Arabian Horse world. They say it is always those special ones who are the first ones to leave. In the nearly twelve years that she was with us, Bisiriya changed the lives of many and left a strong footprint in this world. A legacy carried out by her four sons and four daughters and by many of her (great) grandchildren.



## *B* The beginning

*The story of Bisiriya began in a small town called Hierden, close to the city of Harderwijk, The Netherlands. It was here, at Arabian Stud Europe, where her mother Manilah gave birth accompanied by her owner Talitha and two of her best friends, Lineke and Hananja. Looking back on that day, the delivery of the foal did not really go to plan. Everything went well, but the little filly didn't take a breath. While Lineke watched in horror, Hananja and Talitha tried to get the filly to breathe. Nothing seemed to help. Then suddenly, out of the blue, the filly took a huge breath of air, spooking Talitha and Hananja, who ran to the far end of the stable, looking like they had just seen a ghost. The filly however, was very much alive and her first whinnies echoed through the full moon night sky. From that day, Bisiriya was the clown of the farm. Always happy, always in for a joke, and from day one already so loved by everyone around her.*

*In her first years, she grew up as a strong independent girl, often wandering off to see if the grass was greener on the other side. No fence could stop her. She would go under on her knees or would just squeeze her body in between the two lower and upper bars of the fencing. If her head would fit, she would find a way to escape. She even escaped her stable and found her way inside the house and into the bedroom where she eat not only all of the plants but also some jewelry! She continued to be an escape-artist until she was in foal for the first time. Thank God! Since that day, she felt she had responsibilities and took good care of her baby.*





Marijke Visser & ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil in 2010





ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil & Talitha, June 2008



The last photo to be taken of Bisiriya and her unborn foal, March 2020

## Offspring

Her first foal was ASE Faraaj, a son of the then still unknown stallion RFI Farid, who was just imported from Brazil. Faraaj was extraordinary. Always with his tail up, ready to give a show. He won many champion titles at the show, including the title Best in Show and National Reserve champion colt. After his top Five win at the futurity in Aachen, he was sold to Kuwait where he started a legacy of his own.

When Faraaj was weaned, Bisiriya was started under saddle by top endurance rider Marijke Visser who was working at the farm at that time. It was then that we discovered that Bisiriya had a great talent for endurance riding, showing low heartrates and fast recovery times. She also had a great work ethic and a strong will to please.

In 2013 Bisiriya was leased to Simone Leo from Italy, who she gifted with a beautiful filly from Amir Ashiraf. That filly was later sold to a friend of Talitha's, not far from Harderwijk.



ASE Faraaj  
(RFI Farid x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)

## CE Endurance



*After this filly, it was decided to only breed Bisiriya by embryo transfer, so she could pursue her endurance career. She had such talent, that within two years, she was already racing her first International endurance race in 2016. Together with Marijke Visser and her Reserve World champion endurance mare Laiza de Jalima, Bisiriya, ridden by Talitha Bakker finished the CEI 1\* with so much ease and an average speed of 16,8 km/h, finishing the last round with 19,18 km/h and great recovery times.*

*Later that year, in October, Bisiriya also finished 3rd at the CEI 2\* of*

*120 km in the hills of Babenhausen, Germany, ridden by the talented young rider Imke Lamsma.*

*In between the races, we were able to get two embryos from Bisiriya, and in 2017, we bred her again to self-carry by the stallion RFI Farid. The outcome was a fantastic colt, born in 2018, named ASE Farhan. Farhan had big shoes to fill as his full brother had done so well in the showing. But ASE Farhan not only fulfilled his promise, he exceeded all expectation by winning 8 golden medals, one Best in Show title, One title of Best bred Dutch horse and the title of National Champion colt. He is currently sold to Ultima Stud in Switzerland.*



**Imke Lamsma & ASE Bisiriya Hlayil in 2016**



**Bisiriya & Imke, Finishing the CEI 2\* of 120km**



**ASE Farhan**  
(RFI Farid x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)



**ASE Juilliette**  
(ASE Juilliard x ASE Sayuri)

## The future

*It was also in the winter of 2017 that we met Diao Karaali of Al Dawla Arabians, Australia. He had heard from Bisiriya and wanted to come and see her to hopefully add some of her magical genes to his breeding program. He leased her for two seasons and was gifted with two amazing daughters. Bisharat al Dawla by RHR Heir of Marwan and the exotic Adalat al Dawla by WH Justice, who was just born a month before her mother's passing. It is special to see such a happy, lively filly dancing through the fields of Arabian Stud Europe, knowing her biological mother just passed away. Both Diao and Talitha feel blessed to have these special daughters in their lives and to know Bisiriya will live on, not only in these two, but in their children and grandchildren.*

*There are still three offspring of Bisiriya at Arabian Stud Europe. One beautiful filly by Kabil al Shaqab named ASE Kamiliya Hlayyil, who is a reflection of her mother, showing the same exoticism and dancing moves. The second one is a stallion by ZT Magnanimous named ASE Magnificent, who is currently in endurance training with Anne Wegner in Germany. The third one is the stallion ASE Juilliard by Da Vinci FM, who is slowly building a legend for himself. At the age of three, Juilliard already sired a National Reserve champion and a bronze medal champion! With his ultra-exotic face, beautiful eyes and strong body, legs and movement, he embodies everything Talitha was looking for when searching for the perfect cross. His first filly, ASE Juilliette out of ASE Sayuri shows great potential and was recently sold to Israel to pursue her show- and future breeding career.*



**ASE Magnificent**  
(ZT Magnanimus x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)



**Bisharat al Dawla**  
(RHR Heir of Marwan x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)  
Bred and owned by Al Dawla Arabians, Australia



**Bacchus KA (QR Marc x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)**  
bred and owned by Knocke Arabians



**ASE Kamiliya Hlayyil**  
(Kahil al Shaqab x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)

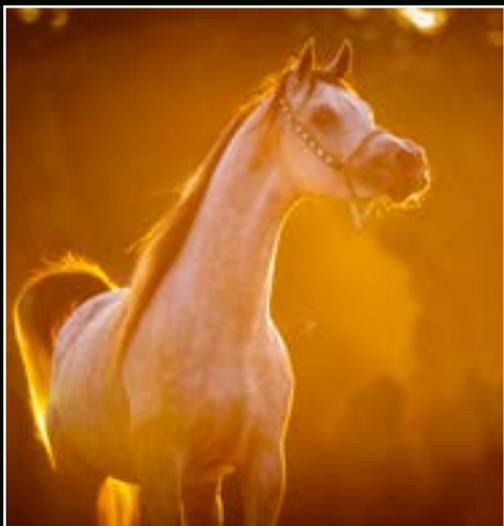
*As the genes of Bisiriya are spreading around the globe, there is one very special gift growing inside the womb of her daughter Kamiliya. As it is Kamiliya who was chosen to carry out the very last foal of Bisiriya. Sired by RHR Heir of Marwan and to be hopefully born safely in March 2021.*

*Bisiriya has touched so many lives. She has shown the world that a true Arabian can do it all. Having an extreme face and still be able to perform in the highest level of endurance, proving that a show arab is perfectly able to compete in sports. She also proved that while being in training and performing on that high level, she was still able to produce outstanding offspring that are loved all around the world. In 2018, ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil was awarded by the Dutch Arabian Horse Registry with the highest honor among*

*broodmares... the Elite certificate. This was awarded to her for her outstanding production as a broodmare.*

*Bisiriya will be in our hearts and memories for ever. Looking up, we know she is there somewhere, galloping the fields, rearing on the top of hill, shouting out her call to the world with a big smile on her face, waiting for her human friends to one day meet again.*

*In April 2020, we had to say goodbye to ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil and her fully grown, yet unborn daughter ASE Behati Hlayyil due to a twist in the uterus that caused a severe bleeding. Despite two operations, we lost both Bisiriya and her daughter. An unbearable loss for us and to the entire Arabian Horse community. □*



**ASE Juilliard**  
(Da Vinci FM x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)



**ASE Farhan**  
(RFI Farid x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)



**ASE Bashira**  
(Amir Ashiraf x ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil)

## *Memories of ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil*

"Bisiriya to me was the love of my life. My soulmate, my loyal companion. I have great memories of her, roaming the hills of Belgium, galloping the forest lanes..."

One memory that will particularly stay with me is how she would always react to clients coming over to see her. When they called to see the Queen Bisiriya and I pointed to the big round mare in the field, quietly eating the grass, they would all raise an eyebrow. Is this the great Bisiriya they heard so much about?

I would then take a lead rope, put it around her neck and she would slowly follow me. Her head low, close to my shoulder. Then I would turn her loose and she would just stand there, in the middle of the arena. But the moment that I would pick up my whip with the plastic bag, she knew just what to do.

Putting her tail up, snort and blow, dancing around the arena, circling around the clients, rear up, jump forward, show some more and then to end her performance, just in front of the client, blowing so hard that their hats would fly off. Leaving the clients bedazzled with their mouths open. Totally in awe with her beauty and charisma. Bisiriya would always do this. It was her thing. As she truly was the clown of our stud and we loved her for it.

Loosing Bisi has left a huge emptiness in my soul, shattered my heart. Although I still feel her strongly around me every day, it still feels unbearable to continue this life without her. I take strength from watching her daughters dance in the fields and with the thought of the last gift she granted us at her deathbed. Thank you Bisi, for always giving us everything you got. For being you and for being my soulmate. I will miss you and will never forget you.. Until we meet again!"

*~ Talitha Bakker – Arabian Stud Europe, The Netherlands*

"It was December 2017 I made my trip from Sydney Australia to Netherlands. My final destination was Arabian Stud Europe, my aim was to meet ASE Bisiriya Hlayyil. A well trusted European breeder, Talitha Bakker, has bred a highly recommended mare by all those involved in the art of Arabian horse breeding whom I have come across during my many passionate conversations while in European shows and farms.

Having the honor of meeting her for the first time was a then cold winter morning where everything and everyone was resisting motion. The only thing my memory captures to have emerged from a still image is Bisi firing away with a steaming motion and a warm emotional memory burning its traces into my memory, never to ever be forgotten from that moment on.

Having two dream fillies out of this beauty Queen by my favorite two stallions, RHR Heir of Marwan and WH Justice has taken this experience from my world of fantasy to the real world of Arabian breeding through which Bisi will live on and continue to influence my life."

*~ Daa Karaali – Al Dawla Arabians, Australia*

"I met Bisiriya in 2011 and I was immediately in love with her. She was one of those mares that really live up to your imagination when you meet her. She was a lovely quiet mare to just have in field. To watch her, enjoy her. She was lovely with kids and a great mare in endurance, where she was full of fire. She was also a great broodmare as she produced only champions. I tried to lease her. I asked Talitha many times. And finally I got lucky and was able to lease her and to share part of her life. Bisiriya is a mare the world will miss. It is not easy to find a mare like Bisiriya. Such good type, such easy character, her huge eyes and extreme good face. She was a great mover too, although she didn't like to show it at the shows which was smart as she could enjoy her time at home instead! I am really sad about her loss. I hope Bisiriya will live on in her children and grandchildren. And when we remember her name, we will think about her with a smile as she gave only good things to this world.

*~ Simone Leo – Tutto Arabi, Italy*

It was early 2016 when I planned an endurance race with one of my own mares. Just hours before the start of the race, Talitha called me with the request if I was interested to ride her mare Bisiriya in the race instead as Talitha had hurt her back and was unable to ride. I didn't know Bisiriya back then but when I saw all the pictures and video, no was no longer an option. I have enjoyed 80km of this amazing mare. Right from the start I felt a connection and loved her comfortable gallop and her happiness and how proud she was. She would glow when you would tell her what a good girl she was and was so sweet to someone who she never met.

Later that season, I started her also on the CEI 2\* of 120km in Babenhausen, Germany. Bisi was really fit and did some happy jumps prior to the start. We were both really looking forward to this race. I enjoyed her so much, that full 120km. She has such a good work attic. Even though she might got a bit tired on the way, she refused to give up and in a fresh and happy gallop she passed the finish line! A successful finish of the 120km and a 3rd place! Who says show Arabians cannot perform in sport!

I am so grateful for all the memories I have of Bisi and she will be greatly missed.

*~ Imke Lamsma, The Netherlands*

Bisiriya was the perfect example of our breed. She was a Unicorn and had all the perfect features we love so much about the Arabian Horse. I was in love with her big dark eyes that had such a loyal and caring look but that could also be full of fire and joy.

Bisi has always had a special place in my heart. She was so sweet and made me laugh countless of times. Especially when I was cleaning her paddock and she would show us her "Bisi-move". This contains of a buck, followed by a circle and then a perfect rear. A thing she also passed on to her children. Even without any reason, Bisi could just decide it was show time and she loved it when you would cheer her on.

I had the honor to be the first one to ride her under saddle and she was so gentle and easy to ride! She was so soft in my hands, always thinking along. With her intelligence she was just like all Arabian horses should be and she is what I picture to be the perfect endurance horse. So beautiful, so sweet. Such a great work attic and with her incredible fast recovery she was unique in the sport, doing her job so well!

I loved Bisiriya and she is my perfect example of an Arabian horse. She will be greatly missed

*~ Marijke Visser*



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