



Israel

Israel's 28th annual National Championship Arabian Show

by Tzviah Idan

■ photos by Shira Yeger and Menashe Cohen



Over 150 exhibitors competed in the largest Israeli Arabian Horse National Championship show ever, held on the weekend of October 31- November 1, 2008 at Kibbutz Yifat in northern Israel. The possibility of rain was a major concern to participants and spectators alike, but to everyone's relief both days dawned clear and bright.

This year's judging panel included HRH Teresa de Borbon from Spain, Mrs. Marianne Tengstedt from Denmark, and Mr. Peter Pond of Australia. As an ECAHO-recognized National Championship show, the European Point System and ECAHO rules applied, except for the weanling classes which were judged by the comparative method.

For Israel's passionate Arabian horse community our championship show is the highlight of the year, and because we are so extremely competitive it is a major subject for speculation for months beforehand. Our thriving local Arabian horse community includes those of every political, religious, and ethnic stripe - our common passion bringing us together as friends and colleagues. As a result, our Arabian community is in actuality a tiny but dynamic model of the possibility of a lasting peace in the entire region, and these observations always make the entire show experience a delightful surprise and eye-opener to our guest judges.

Israel is so very small that we all know one another and, certainly, we all know each others' horses. Our very high-spirited and colorful show has everyone personally involved and emotions running high, with large, good-natured crowds supporting their personal favorites in very vocal

and no uncertain terms. Quite likely some quiet side betting takes place as well.

The Weanling Filly and Colt Foal classes are always among the largest in the show and the subject of much speculation and admiration. This year the stallion Al Ayad (Moheeb x Al Mamunah) proved himself by siring both the National Champion Weanling Filly Nashwah AA (*Insha Sha Latifa), and the National Champion Weanling Colt Al Ayal AA (*The Vision HG). Both youngsters were perfectly conditioned and performed impressively in the ring.

Two mares and one colt competed for the Most Classic Head title with the Simeon Shai daughter *Shaikira (HF Tesa Reekh) winning First Place.

Three filly classes attracted high numbers throughout, including enough exhibitors to split the Yearling Fillies class into two sections. The vast majority of fillies shown this year were Israeli-bred, one exception being the 2007 Marwan Al Shaqab daughter Marabella-C, who won her class section with very good marks from all three judges. The Israeli-bred 2006 filly Dafina AA (Al Bilal x *Dumka) was the standout in her class and then went on to win the title of National Champion Filly on Saturday with the 2007 Al Maraam daughter Nawal AA (*Insha Sha Latifa) as her Reserve.

The colt classes attracted fewer entries than fillies but were all of very high quality and some very high scores were awarded. Thirty colts from one to three years competed for junior championship titles, only two of which were not Israeli-bred. First place Yearling Colts and National

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The Judges

Champion Colt honors went to the as yet undefeated Mouadaar BKV (Al Bilal x *Barakis Whisper) with Prince Raam (Idham El Assouad x H. Princess Yasmin), the winner of the 2006 Colts class, standing as his Reserve.

All but one of the deep mare classes were won by Israeli-bred mares, but the imported *JPJ Talai (MB Talman x Shalae), who scored three perfect 20's for movement, convinced the judges and was chosen both winner of the Six-to-Eight-Year-Old Mares and this year's National Champion Mare. Her Reserve was another imported mare, the Ansata Selman daughter *Insha Sha Latifa (Naffada), Second place winner of the Four- & -Five- Year-Old Mare class, and also the dam of this year's Weanling Champion Filly Foal and Reserve National Champion Filly.

A total of fifteen stallions competed for national championship titles in two very exciting classes where the scores were high and levels of testosterone perhaps even higher. The 2004 Stallion class, *Nader Al Jamal (Ansata Sinan



x Savannah CC) stood First with 92.33 points including three scores of 20, and went on to become Reserve National Champion Stallion. The second class, 2003 & Older Stallions, included eight veteran show horses, many of them great favorites of the crowds. Given his superlative condition and solid performance, it was not surprising when A Sharif Pacha (AS Sinan Pacha x TZG Westona), Paris Top Ten Winner and twice Israel National Champion, won his class with the highest score of the show, 92.66, and once again took National Champion Stallion honors. And finally, it is instructive that out of all ten Champions at this year's show, seven are Israeli-bred and eight are straight Egyptians. □



*Al Bilal x Dumka
Bred and owned by
Ariela Arabians*

Dafina AA

Champion Fillies



*Al Maraam x Insha Sha Latifa
Bred by Ariela Arabians and owned by
Arunas & Laima Cicenias, Cassandra
Group – Lithuania*

Nawal AA

Res. Champion Fillies



*Al Bilal x Barakis
Whisper
Bred and owned by
Yuval Keler
and David Vaknin*

Mouadaar BKV

Champion Colts



*Idham El Assouad x H Princess
Yasmin
Bred and owned by Bassam Halabi &
Popo Michael*

Prince Raam

Res. Champion Colts



*MB Talman x
Shalai
Bred by JPJ
Rockies Ranch -
USA
and owned by Avi
Halek*



*JPJ Talai

Champion Mares



*Insha Sha Latifa

Res. Champion Mares

*Ansata Selman x Naffada
Bred by Tomas Bobrzyk - Germany
and owned by Ariela Arabians*

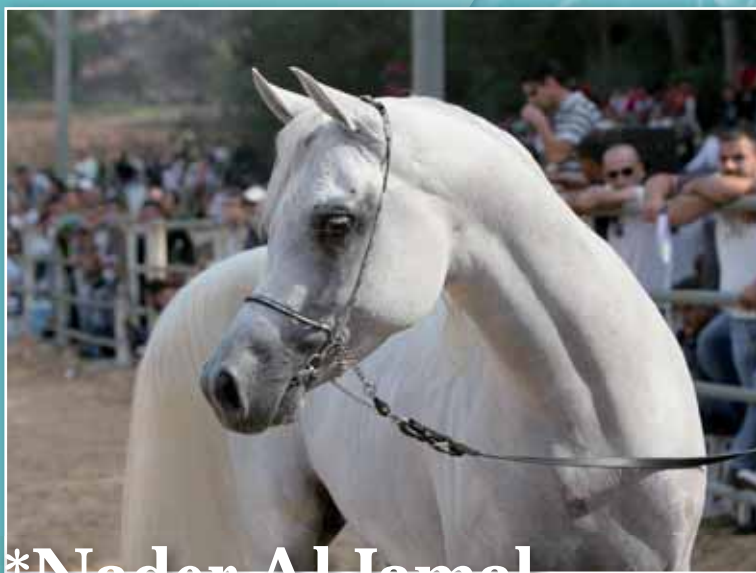


*AS Sinan Pacha x
TZG Westona
Bred by Achrak
Arabians
and owned by
Darushe Rashid
Ali*



A Sharif Pacha

Champion Stallions



*Ansata Sinan x Savannah CC
Bred by Two Silos Farm - USA, owned
by Nader Al Jamal Partnership - USA,
on lease to Ariela Arabians*

*Nader Al Jamal

Res. Champion Stallions



Nashwah AA
Futurity Fillies



Al Ayal AA
Futurity Colts



Marabella
1 pl. Fillies 2007a



AA Aseele
1 pl. Fillies 2005



***LTF Nigier C**
1 pl. Colts 2005



Ameera Al Jamal

1 pl. Mares 2003-04



Nadeva

1 pl. Mares 1999 & over



***Shaikira**

Most Classic
Head winner



A Sharif Pacha

High-scoring
horse 92.66