



# THE 8<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL ARAB HORSE SHOW

DAMASCUS - SYRIA 11-12 OCTOBER 2019

by Fabio Brianzoni

*Dear Readers, writing this editorial is not like all the other shows where the event itself must be described and documented as we have done in recent years. This article sees me emotionally involved, given the great friendship with the organizer Mr. Basil Al Jadaan. I have been knowing Basil for more than twenty years, since TuttoArabi began to publish the magazine and the conflict that afflicts his*

*nation deeply affects us too. Despite difficulties we could never even imagine, life in Syria and especially in the south of the country continues. This effort and this courage must be rewarded with the support of the press and the disclosure of what life really is in the capital Damascus. Yes, it is undeniable that the conflict is devastating the north of the country but it is also true that the south of Syria is working*





*hard to support the economy and give confidence to those who are fighting and defending the freedom of the country. For this reason, TuttoArabi also wanted to participate in the Straight Syrian Horse National Championship this year as its Media Partner. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Minister Eng. Mhd Ghiyath Al-Shayeb, the eighth edition of the national competition was held in Damascus, in the marvelous racecourse and equestrian center on October 11th. The following day another show took place in the same ring, an international Ecaho show.*

*The arrival of officials and journalists was in Beirut (Lebanon) because as it is easy to understand there are difficulties to fly directly to Damascus.*











*First day we visited old Damascus where the chaotic movement of friendly people of many religion takes place from early morning to the late night. A lot of shops, coffees, old market where you can find everything from spaces to handicraft to souvenirs. The life never stops here in one of the oldest cities in the World.*

*We had the occasion to visit The Umayyad Mosque which is the islamic most famous mosque. It is unique in its engineering, architecture & decoration, it is considered a school in building and architecture for the world's mosques. The show arena was nicely decorated with flowers and old horse saddles and decorations.*

*Organization board committee which made this great festival possible consists of: Mr. Basil Al Jadaan, Mr. Bilal Akrayam, Dr. Tareq AbdulRabeem, Mr. Mohammad Al Rakblani, Mr. Ahmad Hamscho, Mr. Nasar KAbol, Eng. Mhd Ghiyath Al-Shayeb, Mr. Basil Al Nuori and Eng.*















*Mohammad Al Wadi.*

*Many stables and many private breeders participated.*

*The show was divided in 2 days. Friday the 8th National Arab Horse Show was dedicated to Syrian breed. Saturday was dedicated to International Ecaho Show with some horses imported from different countries, not only Syrian breed but also horses bought from the Middle East and Europe and then successfully bred in this country.*

*At the end of the festival a big celebration was organised by the committee. Such a beautiful feeling among all people present in the arena. An of course a lot of traditional gifts that officials and guests need to buy another luggage to carry. Everybody was happy to visit such a beautiful country and amazing festival!*

*Hope the show will grow and more shows will be organised in the country. See you for sure next year! ☐*





## FILLIES CHAMPIONSHIP

### SYRIAN BREED



### **GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION AL HUDA M.Z**

OMAR AL KHAYAM | LAYLA AL FADI - B/O: MOUHAMAD ZAYTOUN



### **SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION** **AMIRET AL KHAIR II**

AMIR AL FADI | SHAMS AL KHAIR  
B/O: AL KHAIR STABLES



### **BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION** **ZANOOBIA FARES**

WAEEL AL KELLAWE | ROUAA FARES  
B: AMER FARES - O: MOHAMMAD AL BEZRA





# COLTS CHAMPIONSHIP

## SYRIAN BREED



### GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION WATAN AL SADEH

NASHMI AL ABABEEL | YASMIN FAIHAA - B: HAMDI A.S. BABIL - O: ABDALLAH H. SADA



### SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION SANDAN G

JAWLAN AL KHAIR | DAHMAA AMER  
B/O: ABDALLAH H. SADA



### BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION GHAZAL ALAMIN

JWAN AL JAMEEL | MASHAAL AL ZAIN  
B: MARWAN AL ZAIN - O: MHD. ZINI





# MARES CHAMPIONSHIP

## SYRIAN BREED



### **GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION RIMA AL DANAT**

AL SABIK | LOONAH AL AZEEZIYEH - B: KHALED TARABLSI - O: ABDALLAH H. AL SDAH



### **SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION GHAIDA AL KHAIR**

SHADID | REEM AL KHAIR  
B/O: AL KHAIR STABLES



### **BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION SHAM AL ZAYM**

ADHAM AL ZAYM | WARDET AL QOOMAH  
B: GHOFAN AMANA - O: AL ZAYM AND AMANA





# STALLIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

## SYRIAN BREED



### **GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION KANZ AL KHAIR**

ADHARN AL ZAYM | AYAT AL KHAIR - B/O: AL KHAIR STABLES



### **SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION OMAR AL KHAYAM**

SAAD FOUAD | ABLET AL FADI  
B/O: NAJI SHAWI



### **BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION MOUNTHER AL JAMEEL**

KHOOSHMAN | LEEN AL HAYAT  
B/O: NIZAR J. AL ASA'AD





## FILLIES CHAMPIONSHIP

### SYRIAN INTERNATIONAL ECAHO



### **GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION NILE AL ARAB**

RABEEA AL ARAB | RAZAN AL ARAB - B/O: NASAR A.KAHOUL



### **SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION** **JAWAHER ROWRAN**

NOOR EL DIN | SABHAT AL HAKIM  
B/O: AHMAD GHAZYH



### **BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION** **TOLEEB AL ZAIM**

RAAD AL ZAYM | ANWAR AL ZAYM  
B: GHOFRAN AMANA - O: AL ZAYM AND AMANA



# COLTS CHAMPIONSHIP

## SYRIAN INTERNATIONAL ECAHO



### GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION S S DAREM

MORION | S S DREAM DIVA - B: STIGLER STUD - O: AL KHAIR STABLES



### SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION S S POLAR

SMA MAGIE ONE | PSYCHES PRINCESS J M  
B: STIGLER STUD - O: AL KHAIR STABLES



### BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION ABBOD AL ZAYM

RAAD AL SHAMLL | RANIA AL ZAYM  
B: MOUHAMAD AL ZA'AIM - O: KARIM YAZJY





# MARES CHAMPIONSHIP

## SYRIAN INTERNATIONAL ECAHO



### **GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION SHADIA**

HAKIM JAAFAR | SHEIMA - B/O: MOAFFAQ W.KHDRAA



### **SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION LO'ALOAT A. S**

A. J. MOWJOD | GHAZAL M.D

B: AHMAD AL YASEENI - O: ABDALLAH AL SADEH



### **BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION CRYSTAL AL MENESIA**

ALMONITO | ANMENES

B: MOAFFAQ W.KHDRAA

O: M. W.KHDRAA AND Y. ZREAK



# STALLIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

## SYRIAN INTERNATIONAL ECAHO



**GOLD MEDAL CHAMPION MOATAZ AL ASEEL**  
NIBRASS | CRYSTAL AL MENESIA - B/O: MOAFFAQ W.KHDRAA



**SILVER MEDAL CHAMPION**  
**TEBRAK AL KHALIDIAH**  
DAKHARO | E.F. DREM DIVA  
B/O: MOUHAMAD A.AL ALZIBAK



**BRONZE MEDAL CHAMPION**  
**BORKAN AL SHAM**  
RAYYAN AL NAIF | BASHAWYET HAMADAN  
B: M.ANZAROTI - O: KARIM YAZJY



# Basil Al Jadaan

## INTERVIEW

by Simone Leo



**Simone Leo:** Basil, tell us since how many years have you been organizing the Syrian National Show and how the association has developed since its beginning

**Basil Al Jadaan:** The association was established in 2003 and since that we had the show every year until the 6th show in 2010. Then we stopped because of the terrorist (regime change) war against Syria which started in 2011 until last year 2018 when we started again to make our national show, that was the 7th Syrian National Arab Horse Show. This year it's our 8th edition of the National show. In 2007 the Association organized and held the World Arabian Horse Organization Conference in Damascus which was a very successful one with more than 63 countries attending. It was a big event and people are still talking about it until now. The Association made many achievements: it made a race track in Damascus that is together with the race tracks in Hama and Latakia are holding races for pure Arabian horses and also have organized many activities that served the breed, the breeding and the breeders.

**SL:** What do you think about the improvement of Syrian straight Arabian horses? Tell us how this race started and what do you think about the level of quality you reached till now.

**BAJ:** Syrian Arabian horses are the real major source and origin of the Arabian horses that are around the world today starting from Egypt, USA, Poland, Russia, Spain, Germany and this is a fact that can be seen in all the first registrations of horses in all the major original studbooks in the world. And also is very obvious in the books and memoir of travelers and of the missions that came to buy and take Arabian horses from the East to the West. That's because the northern Arabian Syrian desert (badiyah al-Sham) was the home to the major breeding Bedouin tribes like Eniza, Seba'a, Rouala,

Feda'an, Shammar, Tai, Jboor ext. and all the strain names of the Arabian horses prove this as all the strain names have the name of a man or a tribe or a clan and is called sub-strain. Like Jedran the original breeder of the Saglawieh for example was a man who belonged to Rouala tribe that lived in the middle of the Syrian desert.

Many examples of that: like sha'efi, another sub strain of the Saglawieh was a clan who belonged to Shammar tribe in the northeast of Syria and most of the strains are like this. Syria was the source and is a very important genetic pool of Arabian horse that has not changed in the look and capabilities or in the mentality. All the strains are listed in the studbook which was approved by WAHO since 1989 in Arizona Conference. The horses listed in it are directly coming from the breeding families and tribes of the Syrian desert. Syrian horse have a special importance in the world and we are aware of this importance and we are preserving this breed and of course improving its quality which has been always the case since the very early history. Man has always interfered in the breeding and in the selection to produce a better horse and that's what made the Arabian horse a special horse. Of course you can move a horse from a place to another but you can never move the environment, the methods and the way of breeding and the relationship between the horse and the people from its origin to somewhere else. The environment didn't change and also the method of breeding Arabian horses. This is very clear when you ride the Syrian horse or when you deal with him, you can see that he can be a friend and he has the qualities you read about in the books, the power, the mentality, the stamina and the good character. Arabian horses in Syria are a special group and we are trying to make the world know more about them.

**SL:** Tell us the difficulties in organizing this show during a

*period when Syria is having a lot of problems as a nation.*

**BAJ:** To organize a show in the circumstances of Syria was not easy in a way but also in the other hand it was easy. In Syria the love for the horse is great and the Ministry of Agriculture's Arabian horse Office didn't stop and fulfilled all its duties during the 7 years of crisis keeping on with the registration of horses, the freeze branding, the blood typing and issuing the studbooks and all went on beautifully regardless of all the difficulties. On the other hand registered Syrian horses were around 7000. During the war 3000 of them got lost or killed or stolen by the terrorists or died because of hardships that they went through.

But now again more than 3000 new horses are registered again on top of that so now we have around 10.000 registered Arabian horses in Syria and the Ministry of Agriculture's Office which is the registerer is following its job smoothly and the registered horses are given passports and all the support needed, Races also didn't stop all during those 7 years. There were a monthly race meetings in the areas not effected by the war. Horse breeding continued with no major difficulties. Regarding the show again we have a very good team, a very good group in the association which always works hard donating money also we have some sponsors. And we have the knowledge and the good friends around the world that came to participate in the show as officials. So the show was difficult to be organized but at the same time not impossible so we made it, it was beautiful to see the show for the second time after the crisis. We also had the (first Sham international Arabian Horse festival) in April 2019 that was a turning point and really a great success with the great Arabian horses Parade that contained around 300 horses crossing the streets of Damascus, I can say things are going back to normality and also it will be better in the future inshallah.

**SL:** You have been an important judge in the ECAHO A list since many years: how do you evaluate the Arabian horse world at the moment and the quality you see in the shows.

**BAJ:** The quality of the Arabian horses that I see in the show now... I really don't want to criticize shows.

At the beginning shows were a social event where breeders met each other, shows is the event where they showed and compared their horses and production and mutually judged to choose the best. Shows were useful for breeders as a place for gathering horses together, for breeders to see each others' work. Of course shows turned to be a commercial meetings and looked upon as a business and this has effected negatively the breed in many ways. Of course it has its advantages but still we want to see shows as a social event where breeders meet and discuss and to know each other and have good moments

and see the best horses in one place in their best condition. You cannot really say shows are not good and but the quality of horses in shows are sometimes exaggerated. Some people say that Arabian horses are not riding horses anymore, they are just like icons to show and that's all. This is dangerous. We want to insist on the fact that the Arabian horse is a riding horse and is a very good companion and he is not crazy like the way sometimes he is shown in the show-ring and people get the impression he is a furious and violent horse that is impossible to deal with in a normal way, We want Arabian horses always to stay as a riding horses first of all and as a good companion for the owners, So it's important not to commercialize shows more and more and not to take it fully as a business. It has to be as a social event and as a place of meeting between breeders, owners and enthusiasts.

**SL:** Which is your dream and which is your hope for the future?

**BAJ:** My dream and my hope is to see peace in the world, to see people around the world fighting all together the real enemies of humanity: poverty, ignorance, sickness and fanaticism and always to enjoy what God has given us starting from the beautiful creatures like Arabian horses and all the beauty around us in the world. I hope to see peace in the world and people compete to be better and better and not to kill each other and develop war machines and weapons that will only leave sorrow, pain, distraction and disasters, I dream people compete in doing good things, no borders between nations, people are free to move and participate with each other in a positive competitions. I know that's not easy but at least this is a hope and a wish. For Arabian horses in Syria and in the world my hope is to see them always in good condition, in good hands and always living happily. We have the knowledge, we have the will, only we need to work harder to have a better future for our children, If we cannot really achieve all what we want, we should try to achieve as much as we can in our short lives.

I dream that human beings around the world realize that we are all one, under the cover of different tongs (languages) and the skin (different looks and colors), we are all the same. I hope and dream that all aggressions, creeds and all injustices stop and that there will be a just and bright future for all the people everywhere they live, peace, harmony, cooperation and no one attacks the others, no one hates others. Love instead of hate, heal instead of hurt, give instead of take, smile instead of darken, the world has enough resources to make everyone prosperous, we all should think good, say good and do good.... at the end, the closer you are to God the more you are appreciative and away from all evils and bad things.

Thank you very much.



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