## AN ALMOST "BLACK PEARL"

by Professor Krystyna Chmiel, translation by Joanna Krawczyk ∎ photos by Ewa Imielska-Hebda

The dark bay filly Al Jazeera, born in 2013 by Kahil Al Shaqab out of Alhasa by Ganges, belongs to a subline established by the bay mare Albigowa 1987 (Fawor - Algeria by Celebes), who as a yearling claimed the Junior Champion Mare title at the second Junior Spring Show in 1988. Albigowa passed on to her daughters, granddaughters and greatgranddaughters a characteristic type - an extraordinary dryness and femininity, tiny, dished heads with large eyes and nostrils, horizontal toplines compared to ironing boards, proud tail carriage and an extended trot with a noticeable suspension phase, which borders on "flying" when performed by the best representatives of this damline. Those features were especially evident in such representatives of this damline as Altona, grey, 1999, Amra, grey, 2000 (both by Eukaliptus) and Alhambra, grey, 2002 (by Ecaho) - the dam of Alhasa. Moreover, Al Jazeera is blessed with an elegant, dark shade of bay, relatively rare in Arabians and fashionable in some circles of breeders. Her loin is so well-muscled, that during an exceptionally extended trot her tail is not only carried high, but there are moments when it appears to be pressed to the croup, intensifying the dynamic impression. It is therefore no wonder that movement is this filly's strongest asset and a trait for which she was awarded all twenties and very high total point scores at the 2014 Polish Nationals (94.83 pts, this including several more top marks for type, as well as head and neck) and the 2015 Junior Spring Show in Białka (93.33 pts). Both of these performances brought her Junior Gold Champion Mare titles. Other significant honors include the European Yearling Bronze Champion Mare title, the World Yearling Top Ten Mare title and the Al Khalediah European Arabian Horse Festival Junior Gold Champion Mare title from Nowe Wrońska as a two year old.

Al Jazeera is currently three years old, which means that she has completed her show career as a junior and is ready to perform in the senior mares classes, likely to obtain similar, or even better, results. She is surely a promising show prospect, as are the majority of Kahil Al Shaqab get. Mares from her damline are also known for their maternal traits, so breeders looking for a mare with either the show arena or breeding barn in mind will not be disappointed!









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