

# The unforgettable Gazal Al Shaqab A living legend

by Beth Ellen Hunziker,  
*TuttoArabi* archive

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There are places I remember  
All my life, though some have changed  
Some forever not for better  
Some have gone and some remain

All these places had their moments  
With lovers and friends I still can recall  
Some are dead and some are living  
In my life I've loved them all

But of all these friends and lovers  
There is no one compares with you  
And these memories lose their meaning  
When I think of love as something new

Though I know I'll never lose affection  
For people and things that went before  
I know I'll often stop and think about them  
In my life I love you more...

*John Lennon & Pau McCartney*





For each of us, there are certain events, certain individuals in our lives that we will never forget. Ask anyone the name of their first love, or, in our world – their first Arabian horse – and chances are they will remember immediately. My introduction to the Arabian horse came from the cherished storybook, “King of the Wind”, by Marguerite Henry. At the age of nine, I discovered this book at my small local library. I took my treasure and snuggled

into a big red leather chair in a room that was bathed with sunlight streaming in through the great arched windows. I remember studying the cover art of a bay stallion with his black mane flying back, his curved ears, his big dark eyes, his deep full jaw, his flared nostrils tinged with delicate pink and the elaborate fringed bridle he wore. I remember thinking it was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. As I opened the book and began to





# Gazal Al Shaqab

1995 bay, stallion

ANAZA EL FARID\*  
b 1988  
ARABIAN  
AHR #423140

RUMINAJA ALI\*  
gr 1976  
ARABIAN  
AHR #134937

BINT DEENAA\*  
b 1979  
ARABIAN  
AHR #200068

KABORR \*  
gr 15.1 1970  
ARABIAN  
AHR #69270

KAJORA\*  
b 15.2 1979  
ARABIAN  
AHR 224546

EDJORA\*  
gr 1968  
ARABIAN  
AHR 94009

SHAIKH AL BADI\*  
gr 1969  
ARABIAN  
AHR #54456

BINT MAGIDAA\*  
gr 1970  
ARABIAN  
AHR #62907

ANSATA IBN HALIMA\*  
gr 15h 1958  
ARABIAN  
(EG)

DEENAA\*  
b 1967  
ARABIAN  
AHR 50733

NABORR\*  
gr 14.2 1950  
ARABIAN  
AHR #25472

BINT KHOLAMEH\*  
ch 14.3 1961  
ARABIAN  
AHR #20176

EXELSIOR\*  
gr 14.2 1963  
ARABIAN  
AHR 61010

EDESSA\*  
b 1961  
ARABIAN

MORAFIC\*  
gr 1956

BINT MAISA EL SAGHIRA\*  
b 1958

KHOFO\*  
gr 1965

MAGIDAA\*  
ch 1964

NAZEER\*  
gr 1934

HALIMA\*  
b 1944

SAMEH\*  
gr 1945

DAHMA II\*  
gr 1950

NEGATIW\*  
gr 14.1 1945

LAGODNA  
gr 14.2 1939

ADIBIYEZ\*  
b 1957

KHOLAMEH  
ch 1949

AQUINOR\*  
gr 1951

ELEONORA\*  
b 1944

PIETUSZOK\*  
b 1954

ELLORA\*  
b 1950

NAZEER\*  
MABROUKA\*

NAZEER\*  
MAISA\*

MORAFIC\*  
NABILAHH\*

ALAA EL DIN\*  
MAYSA\*

MANSOUR\*  
BINT SAMIHA\*

SHEIKH EL ARAB\*  
RAGIA\*

EL MOEZ\*  
SAMEERA\*

NAZEER\*  
FUTNA\*

NASEEM\*  
TARASZCZA\*

POSEJDON\*  
OBRA\*

ZITEZ\*  
ADIBIYEH

WARDAMAR ALLA\*  
KHOLEY\*

MIECZNIK\*  
AMNERIS\*

WITRAZ\*  
ZMORA

PRIBOJ\*  
TAKTIKA\*

WITRAZ\*  
ELZA\*

read, I was transported to an exotic world in a far away land. With each page I read, I fell deeper in love. Perhaps it was that first love that drew me so strongly to a stallion I believe personifies the handsome Arabian stallion in the book and brings the dream to life, the living legend, Gazal Al Shaqab. Although the story is fiction, the horse was real. History shows that the stallion Shams, later named The Godolphin Arabian, lived from 1724 to 1754. Through a series of events he was

brought to England where he became a foundation sire and made a huge impact on horse racing that continues to this day. The Godolphin Arabian is universally recognized among Arabian horse breeders, as well as thoroughbred horse breeders, as a true legend. In the story, we learn that Shams was a tribute or gift to the French King Louis XV (15 February 1710 – 10 May 1774). This was a common practice at the time and one way in which the Arabian was



*Gazal Al Shaqab  
Aachen 2017 presentation*







introduced to horse breeders around the world. Equine experts from Poland, Germany, England and other countries quickly recognized the superior qualities of the Arabian horse and that it could be used to improve their existing herds. Soon European and American breeders travelled to the deserts of the Middle East and North Africa in search of Arabian horses. Many of these early imports became foundation horses. A few truly elite individuals became legends and are remembered for their important contributions even to this day. In fact, more than 100 years later, the names of many of these early Arabian horse legends appear in the pedigree of one of the most influential sires of the 21st

century –Gazal Al Shaqab.

In the early days of Arabian horse breeding, there were no shows or competitions to prove a horse's superiority. They were tested on the battlefield and in the breeding stables – it was the survival of the fittest. The success of Gazal Al Shaqab's ancestors went far beyond any show ring. Their greatest achievements were the contributions they made through their get, grand get and through their offspring. Thus, they influenced the breed in a significant way and became the legends we recognize today.

This is the lesson history provides; an objective perspective of the facts and accumulated data that show exactly what



1996 Qatar International Arabian Championships - Champion Colt

1997 US Egyptian Event - Reserve Supreme Champion Male

1997 US Egyptian Event - Champion Colt

1999 Qatar International Arabian Championships - Champion Stallion

1999 Middle East International Championships - Champion Senior Stallion

2000 Qatar International Arabian Championships - Reserve Champion Stallion

2001 Qatar International Arabian Championships - Reserve Champion Stallion

2001 World Arabian Horse Championships - Champion Stallion

2004 Qatar International Arabian Championships - Reserve Champion Stallion

2005 Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show - Reserve Champion Stallion

2005 US National Arabian Championships - Reserve Champion Stallion





a horse has accomplished. In the past, it could take a very long time for breeders to recognize the true impact of a horse's breeding career. However, today we have the luxury of technology that allows us to study the results of a horse's show and breeding career as it develops. It no longer takes decades for us to recognize the significance of an individual. We saw Gazal Al Shaqab crowned the National Champion Colt of Qatar as a yearling, his victory at the Salon du Cheval where he was named Champion Arabian Stallion of the World. We saw the emergence of Gazal's sons and daughters and watched as they took the world by storm winning national and international championships and then producing their own champion sons and daughters. With each generation,

Gazal Al Shaqab's influence grows and at 22 years old he truly is a living legend of the Arabian breed.

The Origins of the Legend Gazal Al Shaqab I have often heard knowledgeable breeders state that when they evaluate a horse and project its possible breeding ability they look to see how strongly the individual resembles its pedigree. If the horse's physical characteristics closely match those of the animals in its pedigree, then breeders believe there is in fact a very high probability that the horse will be able to reproduce those same qualities and traits with a good amount of consistency. Arabian horse expert Michael Byatt, who knows Gazal Al Shaqab intimately, repeated this statement when he spoke about Gazal Al Shaqab, "An early indication of Gazal's

2012 Mediterranean and Arab Countries Leading Sire  
 2012 Qatar International Arabian Horse Leading Sire  
 2011 World Arabian Horse Leading Sire  
 2011 Mediterranean & Arab Countries Leading Sire  
 2011 Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show Leading Halter Sire  
 2010 World Arabian Horse Leading Sire  
 2010 Qatar National Leading Sire  
 2010 Qatar International Arabian Leading Sire  
 2010 Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show Leading Halter Sire  
 2009 World Arabian Horse Leading Sire  
 2009 Qatar International Arabian Champion Stallion  
 2009 Qatar International Arabian Leading Sire  
 2008 World Arabian Horse Leading Sire  
 2008 World Arabian Horse Champion Senior Stallion  
 2008 All Nations Cup Champion Stallion  
 2007 World Arabian Horse Leading Sire  
 2005 US National Arabian Unanimous Champion Jr Stallion  
 2003 US National Arabian Unanimous Champion Jr Stallion  
 2003 Region 9 Unanimous Champion Junior Stallion  
 2002 World Arabian Horse Champion Colt  
 2002 European Arabian Champion Colt  
 2002 All Nations Cup Champion Colt  
 2001 World Arabian Horse Champion Colt  
 2001 Qatar International Arabian Champion Colt







*Marwan Al Shagab*





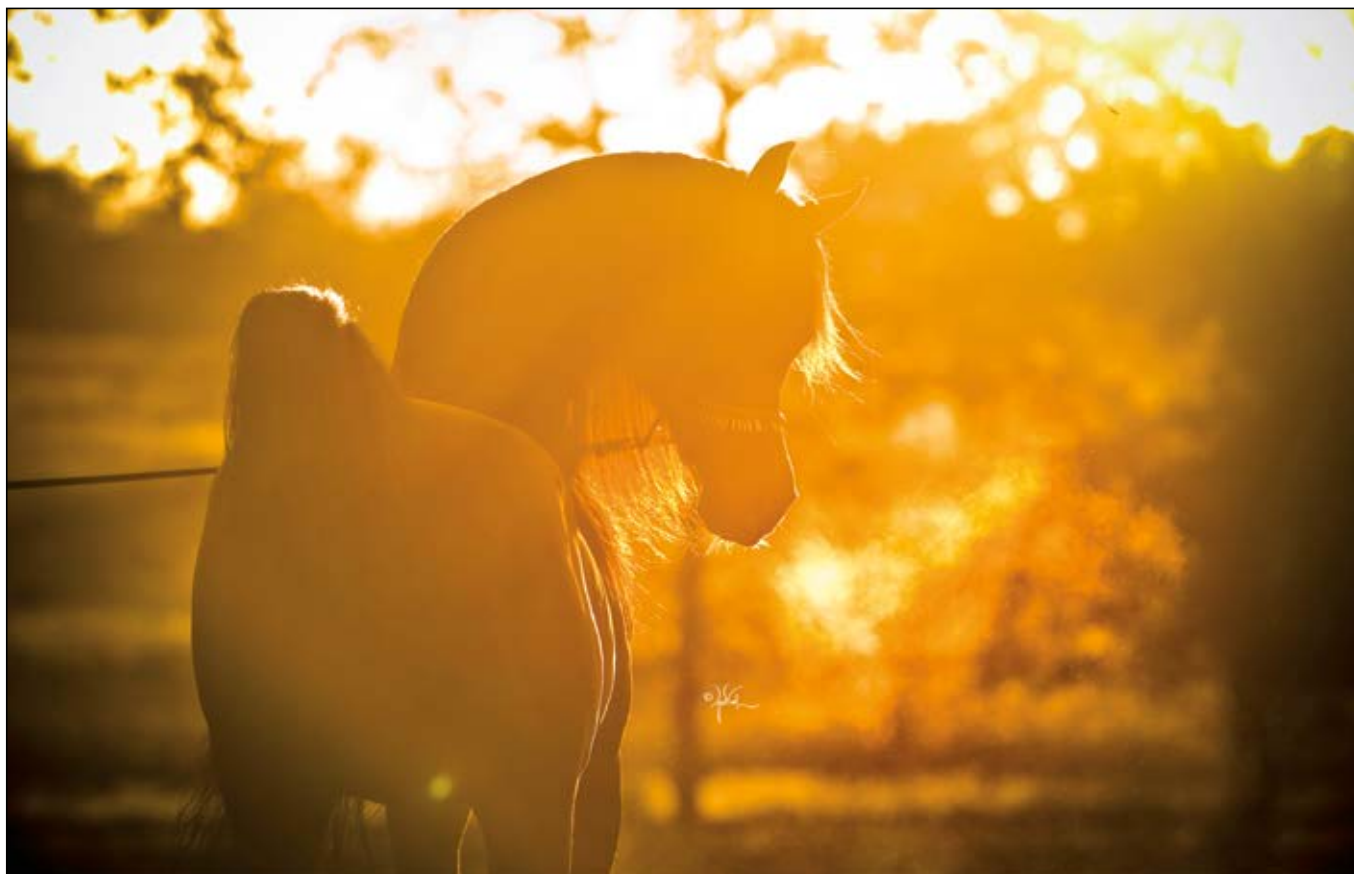


*Marwan Al Shaqab*



strength was the fact that he looked almost exactly like what I would expect from his pedigree. Physically, he has the best qualities of his sire and his dam, as well as recognizable traits from other horses in his pedigree. But he also possesses intangible qualities such as character, temperament, intelligence, kindness and heart. He truly is one of the nicest horses to be around and

that is a quality I love. He is everything his pedigree says he should be – and more.” If there was a star in the sky for every Arabian horse legend in Gazal Al Shaqab’s pedigree, the night would be as bright as day. Gazal Al Shaqab’s sire was Anaza El Farid. Through Anaza El Farid, Gazal inherited an incredibly strong sire line. Without exception, each stallion in this line



*Marwan Al Shaqab*



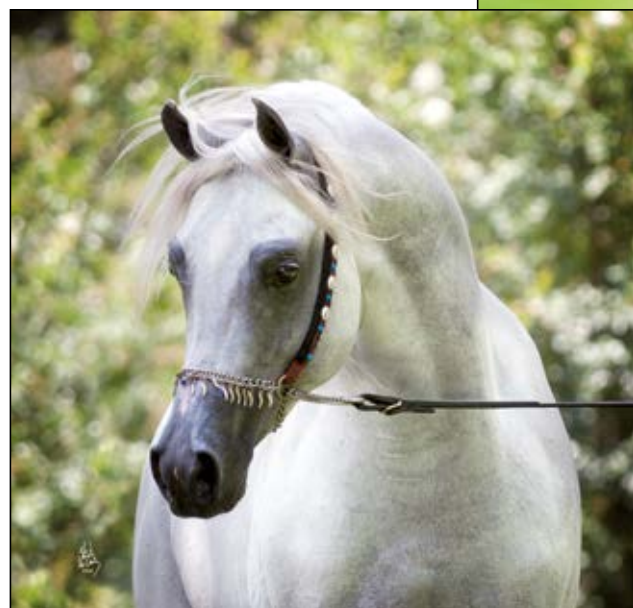
is recognized as a leading sire of the breed. The strongest line traces as follows: Gazal Al Shaqab, Anaza El Farid, Ruminaja Ali, Shaikh Al Badi, Morafic, Nazeer. This sire line obviously continues further, but for many contemporary breeders, the straight Egyptian stallion Nazeer,

bred by the Royal Agricultural Society of Egypt, is considered the most important source of excellence in these bloodlines. Nazeer's importance as a sire of significant sons and daughters cannot be overstated. His contributions, as well as those of his offspring – including those that appear in





*Fai Al Shaqab*



*Shakir El Marwan*



*Star Ghazal*

the pedigree of Gazal Al Shaqab – are well documented and solidify Nazeer's place of honor in the history of the breed. Gazal's pedigree has five lines to the great Nazeer. Genetic strength is not achieved exclusively through a strong sire line. There must be a balance and the mares

in Gazal Al Shaqab's Egyptian heritage contribute their own legendary excellence. This is indeed a rare phenomenon. It is almost impossible for a mare to achieve the same level of stature as a stallion simply because mares are much more limited in the number of offspring they can produce.





*Pistoria*

*Migracija, Gazal Al Shaqab x Mandala,  
2012 Swedish National Show awarded 93.67 points.  
Bred and owned by Vicke Philip-Sørensen,  
Blommerød Arabian Stud*



*Maranta, Gazal Al Shaqab x Margotka,  
2012 Swedish National Show awarded 92 points.  
Bred and owned by Vicke Philip-Sørensen,  
Blommerød Arabian Stud*

Many of Gazal Al Shaqab's paternal dams are among the most widely recognized aristocratic mares of the breed: Mabrouka, Maisa, Bint Maisa El Saghira, Magidaa, Bint Magidaa, Halima, Dahma, Deena and Bint Deena - their names create a melody of exotic beauty and harmony of inner strength.

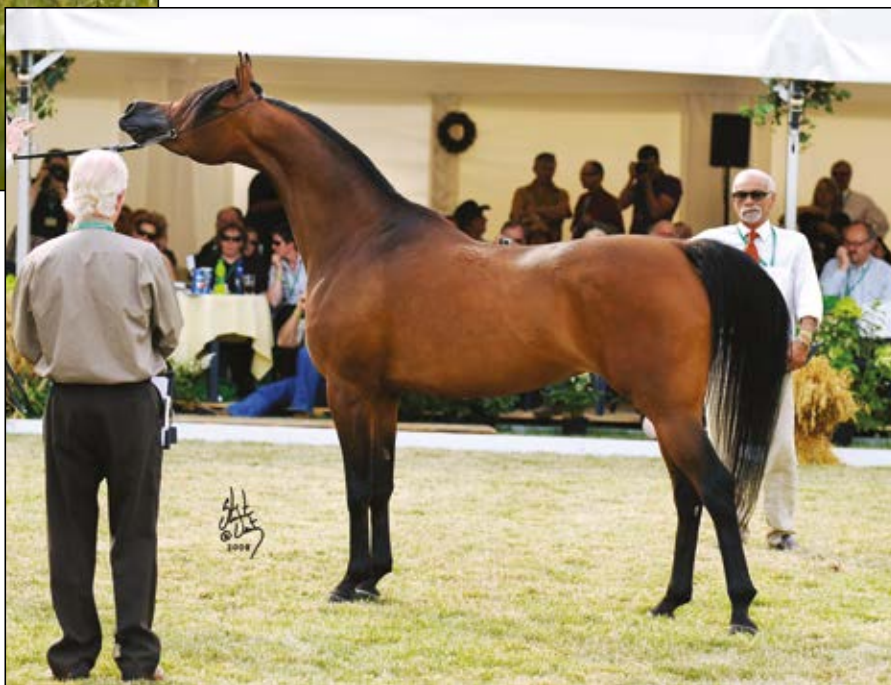
There are two sides to every pedigree and

each is equally important. The sire side of Gazal Al Shaqab's pedigree is straight Egyptian and brings with it the strong, close ties to his desert origins. Gazal Al Shaqab's dam is the regal U.S. National Champion Mare Kajora. Her extraordinary beauty earned her a national championship title, but Kajora's ability as a broodmare brought her international acclaim.



*Emandoria*

*Pinga*



*Pianissima*

Kajora's pedigree is more diverse than that of Gazal's sire Anaza El Farid, but no less aristocratic. Kajora's pedigree brings a potent combination of rich and robust Russian, Polish and Crabbet bloodlines. Historically, these lines have been blended and overlapped to create masterpieces of living, breathing art. Kajora's family members are valued for their aristocratic

character, their bold and graceful carriage, and their majestic beauty.

Numerous stallions in Gazal Al Shaqab's maternal line are found in the AHA Arabian Horse Data Source list of Leading Sires of the World including Kaborr, Naborr, Negativ, and Witraz. Other significant sires in Gazal's maternal line that are universally recognized as legends





*Jullye Al Gazal*



*Soul of Gazal*



*Glamour MI*

of the breed include Priboj, Pietuszok, Excelsjor and others. Kajora's dams are no less impressive. They contributed their lifeblood, which is rich in history that spans centuries of carefully selective breeding.

The tail female line of Kajora, Edjora, Edessa, Ellora, Elza, El Zabibe, Karima,

Rusalka, Polenta traces back eight generations to the foundation mare Polenta, foaled in 1895 at the Chrestowka Stud in Poland. Given Poland's fractured history, it is nothing short of amazing that the breeding of purebred Arabian horses continued so strongly. Today, the Polish Arabian horse breeding program,



*Brixx LA*



*NW Siensei*



*Bellissimo DPA*

the oldest continuous program outside the Middle East, has renewed and strengthened its ties to the Middle East through Gazal Al Shaqab.

Many of Gazal Al Shaqab's international ancestors were imported to the United States during the late 1950's and 1960's by world renowned breeders such as; Donald

and Judi Forbis of Ansata Arabians, Douglas and Margaret Marshall of Gleannloch Farms, Anne McCormick of McCormick Ranch, and Sheila Varian for Lloyd Bryant of Bryant Arabians. These and other American breeders used the imported horses with great success to create new legends of the breed including

*Laurence El Gazal  
(Gazal Al Shaqab x Lara  
El Ludjin)*



*Magora (Gazal Al Shaqab x Margotka)*



*Shariba (Gazal Al Shaqab x Thee Rahiba)*

Gazal Al Shaqab's ancestors Shaikh Al Badi, Ruminaja Ali and Kaborr, as well as his sire Anaza El Farid and his dam Kajora. Each of these horses is acknowledged throughout the Arabian horse community as individuals of extraordinary quality and superior breeding ability.

Al Shaqab purchased the mare Kajora in February of 1994. She was a part of

Millfield Stables' Gucci herd, which was being dispersed and managed by Michael Byatt Arabians. During the same time, Michael was also managing the straight Egyptian stallion Anaza El Farid, owned by the Farid Group. Michael was a member of the group and part owner of Anaza El Farid. Michael Byatt made the divinely inspired choice to bring Kajora





*Hadidy Al Shaqab  
(Gazal Al Shaqab x White  
Silkk)*



*Sultan Al Zobara (Gazal Al Shaqab x Inva Al Shaqab)*



*Ali Ghazali AA (Gazal Al Shaqab x The Vision HG)*

and Anaza El Farid together. When Al Shaqab purchased Kajora, she was in foal and carrying an unimaginable treasure. On May 15, 1995, Kajora foaled a handsome bay colt; he was named Gazal Al Shaqab. Almost immediately, Gazal Al Shaqab was a show ring sensation. His career, which he began as a yearling, was stellar with national, international and world championship

titles in the United States, Europe and the Middle East including five championship titles in Qatar. Perhaps one of the most poignant moments in Gazal's show career came at the 2001 Salon du Cheval in Paris, France when he was named World Champion Arabian Senior Stallion and his son, Marwan Al Shaqab was named World Champion Arabian Junior Colt.





*Trussardi*

*Stival*



As impressive as Gazal Al Shaqab's show ring achievements are, the trophies and titles he has won express only the judges' opinions. They selected him as champion for his conformational excellence. However, the opinions that matter most are those of breeders; they choose Gazal Al Shaqab for his superior physical traits as well as his breeding potential. His proven ability to sire offspring with

exceptional type and quality, as well as genetic strength, has made Gazal Al Shaqab a true living legend.

The goal of every Arabian horse breeder is to create the absolute best horse possible and to maintain that level of quality or improve upon it with each generation that follows. It's almost impossible to imagine a stallion of more extreme quality than Gazal Al Shaqab. The challenge was to



*SF Veraz*



*Barzan Al Shabania*



*Truse*





*Ghasham Al Shaqab*



*Amir Al Shaqab*

use his exceptional qualities to enhance those of the mares he bred, to bring out the best in them, and to create an equal or even better resulting offspring.

Gazal Al Shaqab stood his first breeding season in 1997. The following year his first foal crop was somewhat small, but impressive. It takes a leap of faith to use an unproven young stallion – but those early breeders were rewarded with outstanding foals. Among those first foals was Gazal's first national champion offspring; Star Ghazal, out of C Starlite Bey, by Ray Dor Echo and out of the Bey Shah daughter Moonlite Bey. Star Ghazal was named the 2004 Canadian National Champion Stallion.

Today, Star Ghazal is owned by Tarrance and Jacqueline Floyd of Silver Lake Arabians and stands at Shada Arabians, Inc. Although Gazal's first foals were impressive, only time would tell how they would mature. His second foal crop in 1999 had just six registered foals and although his foal crop the following year was his smallest, it included his most successful offspring to date. Al Shaqab selected their mare Little Liza Fame, by

Fame VF, for Gazal Al Shaqab. The result was the great Marwan Al Shaqab, foaled in 2000. Marwan's unimaginable beauty and quality made believers from many of those who questioned if Gazal Al Shaqab was capable of reproducing his own glorious qualities – Marwan Al Shaqab crushed any doubts. He is the son who crowned his father as king.

Marwan Al Shaqab's show record includes the highest accolades in the Arabian horse world with national and international championship titles in every country he has been presented. He won the hearts of judges for his beauty, conformation and charisma. Breeders also appreciated Marwan's qualities, but again they questioned if he had the capacity to sire that same level of excellence. It didn't take long for Marwan Al Shaqab to prove his abilities. Marwan's stunning success as a show horse is totally eclipsed with his achievements as a sire.

The list of champions made by Marwan Al Shaqab seems to be endless.

Marwan Al Shaqab's champion offspring are found in almost every country of the world. Their exceptional conformation



*Saiaf Al Shaqab*



*Truli Precious*



*Ragbad Al Shaqab*



*Ghalib Al Shaqab*

earns them international acclaim and their ability to consistently produce high quality foals proves they are valuable breeding horses as well. Without question, Gazal Al Shaqab endowed his son Marwan with the gift of genetic greatness. In return, Marwan Al Shaqab and his offspring pay tribute to their patriarch by increasing Gazal Al Shaqab's global influence. In 2001, Gazal Al Shaqab made

history. He was presented at the World Championships at the Salon du Cheval and was named World Champion Arabian Senior Stallion. His son, Marwan Al Shaqab, was named unanimous World Champion Arabian Junior Colt. It was an incredible achievement for both father and son. All eyes were on Gazal Al Shaqab, including the representatives from the Polish State Studs. The directors of the



*Wadee Al Shaqab*



*Gazala Al Shaqab*

stud farms requested a lease agreement and in 2002, Gazal Al Shaqab was warmly welcomed to Poland. In Poland Gazal left many gift as Pianissima that recently passed away, Emandoria one of the best mare around the world, Pistoria and many others.

For Michael Byatt, overseeing Gazal Al Shaqab and his son, Marwan Al Shaqab, is an honor, a privilege, a labor of love. Michael is completely open about his feelings for these special stallions and shared his thoughts about Gazal Al Shaqab. "What can I say other than that I am incredibly blessed to have Gazal in my world. He has enriched my life, and

the lives of so many other people, in ways that I cannot describe or define".

Al Shaqab, Member Qatar Foundation is the owner of the great sire Gazal Al Shaqab and will be the main force directing his future. Al Shaqab has become an international leader in the Arabian horse community through the success of their breeding programs and through their contributions to the Arabian horse community. We really need to thanks the General Manager of Al Shaqab HH Sheikh Hamad bin Ali Al Thani to give us the pleasure to have stallions like Gazal Al Shaqab, Marwan Al Shaqab and all the Al Shaqab's



*Faraa Al Shaqab*



*Khabil Al Shaqab*

stallions in our life.

Al Shaqab has established one of the most influential breeding programs in the world. It is a large responsibility to maintain that high level of success and to guide it forward into the future.

Gazal Al Shaqab has sired national and international champions for breeders around the world including his homeland. Gazal's son Marwan Al Shaqab is his most successful offspring, but Gazal

has sired other sons and daughters that are contributing their own unique and valuable qualities to the Al Shaqab program.

Attention to detail, planning, constant evaluations, more planning, working, dreaming of new possibilities – a breeders work is never done. The team at Al Shaqab is totally dedicated and committed to continuing the legacy of their living legend – Gazal Al Shaqab. ○



# Gazal Al Shaqab



*Sarab Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Sharifa Al Shaqab)*



*Farasha Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x SWF Valencia)*



*Gazala Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Evening Starr)*



*Hadidy Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x White Silk)*



*Haifa Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x WN Sixofhearts)*



*Thamamah Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Thourayab Al Shaqab)*



# Offsprings



*Salamah Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Marieta Al Shaqab)*



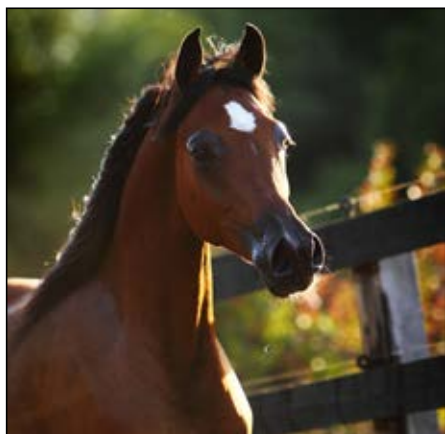
*Marwa Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Little Liza Fame)*



*Marwan Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Littel Liza Fame)*



*Saiaf Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Venetzia)*



*Jenan Al Shaqab  
(Gazal Al Shaqab x Aliaa Al Shaqab)*



*Tahfa Al Shaqab  
(Gazal Al Shaqab x Little Liza Fame)*



*Khisal Al Shaqab  
(Gazal Al Shaqab x Balqais Al Shaqab)*



# 22 Years of my life

and my best son Marwan...  
memory can't never be forgotten





