



INTERVIEW WITH
**ABDUL RAHMAN MOHAMED
SHARIF AL BAIDHAEI**



by Sonja Smaldone ■ photos by Alessio Azzali, Gregor Aymar

Hello Abdul Rahman Mohamed Sharif AL Baidhaei!
It is always a pleasure to welcome new breeders into our community. So thank you very much for having accepted our interview.

Who is Abdul Rahman Mohamed Sharif AL Baidhaei?

Mr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed Sharif Al Baidhaei is the Chairman of ARMS Group of Companies, an established, independently owned company that has been operating for over 75 years in the UAE. ARMS Group started with the launch of DulSCO in 1953 and under the dynamic leadership of the USA educated Chairman, the group has expanded its reach into a range of new industries including Automotive, Auctioneering, Manufacturing, Sustainable construction, Real Estate and Arabian Horse Breeding.

Mr. Abdul Rahman has a passion for his culture that has driven much of his strive towards breeding excellence

and interest in Arabian horses. This passion is what has led to the creation of the award-winning Breeding & Equestrian company Al Jawaher Stud. He continues to lead from the front with his entrepreneurial vision and innovative leadership to continue the success and growth of ARMS Group and related ventures.

When did you start taking an interest in the Arabian horse breed?

Since childhood Arabian horses have impressed me a lot. My fondest memories are of those horses owned by H. H Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Founder of Dubai and H.H Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum who held some of the most renowned Arabian stallions in the world.

During my visit to Russia as a businessman, I attended various horse shows and auctions where famous Arabian stallions such like “Pakistan Star” and “Muscat” were



Abdul Rahman Sharif AL Baidhaei
Chairman of Al Jawaher with FAM Donatella
(Dominic M x D Crystal Moon)



on display. The Arabian stallions attracted me and encouraged me to buy first Tursk Arabian Horse from Russia for Jumping.

What made you prefer the Arabian breed to all the other breeds? And how long have you been breeding it?

Arabian horses are a part of Arabic culture and a part of my heritage. The Arabian horse is a breed famous for beauty, stamina, strength and its social characteristics. As one of the oldest horse breeds in the world, Arabian horses are the main breed to develop all other breeds of horses found around the world.

We have been breeding horses for 25 years, and we have grown our stable to include Egyptian, Polish and Russian breeding horses.

What does the word 'breeding' mean to you?

For the Arabian horse owner, breeding is different from any other type of breeder. While others breed their horses for commercial or competitive intents, for me breeding horses is about patience, love affection and endurance. Our breeding process involves an in-depth knowledge,

in-depth research, an understanding of the combination of mares with stallions and how this process will add the value to the foal or filly.

When was your Stud created? What's your typical day at the breeding farm? And which are the bloodlines mostly breed at your Stud?

We own the horses and have been breeding for the last 25 years. Initially, it was just a hobby and personal interest, but 2 years ago I attended the World Cup in Paris. Looking at the love and enthusiasm of the horse lovers there, the idea of having my own stud emerged. In 2017, we formally established "Al Jawahar Stud". My motive in starting the company was to develop the Arabian horse breed in the UAE region and bring back the bloodline to its motherland.

Leader and Ruler of Dubai H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum encouraged all the local stud owners to take care of the Arabian Horse breed and brought it back to motherland.

My usual day at the stud is to relax, research and engage in planning to create a new breed.

Ahmed Ibrahim (Executive Director) with D Jari (Polidoro x Juwanda OS)



Bloodlines: We have mostly mixed bloodlines such as Straight Egyptian, Spanish, Polish as well as Russian bloodlines. I would like to thank: H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum who owns Dubai Arabian Horse Stud. Special thanks to Mr. Mohammed Al Tawheedi and his team for the great support all along. Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan the Chairman of Arabian Horse Organization always encouraged and supported horse love worldwide.

H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman who owns Ajman Arabian horse Stud, for making high-quality mares available in the UAE.

Without them, this dream would not have been possible.

Who is the most important breeding stallion at the moment?

All Arabian horses are precious and asking for a favourite is almost impossible. But in the case of stallions, each stallion has its own features and characteristics. New technology is allowing the creation of a variety of stallions all over the world.

But if I had to give a few top choices, they would be:

1. Fa El Rasheem from Dubai Arabian Stud
2. Aj Mardan from Ajman Stud
3. S.M.A. Magic One from Al Zobair Stud
4. Raoud Albidayer from AlBidayer Stud
5. E.S. Sarab from Emirates Stud

D KHATTAFAH

Royal Colours x D Jowan



Ah



D Khattafah
Leading Highest Point Horse owned by UAE Citizen Ajman Show 2019

Which of your mares do you think is the most important? Why?

Mares have different collections with different bloodlines. But to give special mention to a few in particular:

1. D Khattafah – Royal Colours x D Jowan. -She Won Highest Point Horse owned by UAE Citizen in Ajman Arabian Show Horse Auction – Jan 2019 and Silver in Senior Mares Championship in 2019 UAE National Championship.

2. D Crystal Moon – SW Magnum Fame x BHF Dark Moon – She gave us Fam Donatella who won Gold in Yearling Fillies Championship in Abu Dhabi International Arabian Horse Show - January 2019

If you could name one Arabian that comes the closest to your ideal, which one would that be today?

My ideal to be mentioned is El Shaklan (Shaker El Masri x *Estopa) bred by Om El Arab and was born in 1975. He was the most influential Arabian stallion of the last century. El Shaklan single-handedly moved the breed forward and created the standard that we seek today in our modern show horses.

More name not to miss out could be:

1. Muscat - One of the most famous Arabian stallions, the best and ideal stallion till date.
2. Nazeer (foaled 9th August 1934 in Egypt) was a gray Arabian stallion from Egypt and Aswan (1958–1984), named Raafat initially in Egypt.

Do you also breed Purebred Arabians for show purposes? If so, where did this passion for beauty competitions arise from?

Yes, we certainly breed Purebred Arabians for show purposes. Watching Arabian horses is always captivating because of their features, beautiful characteristics and affection towards humans. It still mesmerizes me to



D Khattafah - Silver Mare Champion, 2019 UAE Nationals



FAM DONATELLA
2019 Gold Medal Champion Yearling Fillies
Abu Dhabi International Show

see all this beauty in competition. I also enjoy seeing the enthusiasm of other spectators at the competitions watching the Arabian horses with such passion and interest.

Do you miss the shows of the past or do you prefer the atmosphere of today's exhibitions?

Both past and today's exhibitions have their own charm. In the old times, all interested people gathered together, shared the same love and passion towards the horses, and it used to bring the people of different cultures together to enjoy the exhibition.

In today's exhibitions, this passion for horses has crossed its border overseas, and people all around the world are connecting with each other to share the moment of love and joy towards the horses.

Today's exhibitions also give commercial dimension to this business which has added value to people's passion towards equestrian.

To what extent is 'marketing' necessary in the Arabian horse industry?

Marketing, especially the introduction of social media, has brought the world of equestrian pursuits closer together while simultaneously expanding its borders. Marketing can help build awareness for the breeder, can help breeders match mares and stallions and can help



willing buyers to find the perfect horse. Marketing is critical to success in the modern equestrian industry.

What are the objectives you would like your breeding program to reach in the future?

We want to be a part of H.H. Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Founder of UAE's vision of bringing Arabian Horse breeds back to motherland where it has its roots. We would like to breed quality rather than quantity, and we want to use the best bloodlines to produce the finest horses in the world. This will help the UAE to grow stronger.

We also aim to be a market leader in the field and one of the best Studs that breeds the quality horses.

What do you think about the recent cooperation between your Farm and Capecci Training Centre?

Al Jawaher stud really feels proud of this relationship

and cooperation with Capecci Training Center. They are very professional and have experience that really helped us develop very fast. In this local season we made a lot of achievements in all the shows which our horses participated in.

With Capecci Training Center and his team we won the Leading Farm Award in Ajman show which is great. He also helped us buy Fam Donatella and her mother. Now we are looking forward to the European season with his Training Center and great team. We wish him and his team all success.

What are your thoughts on the final results of the Abu Dhabi International Arabian Horse Championship?

Abu Dhabi International show this year was a very hard competition because the winning horses at this event and at Dubai show will be competing in Menton, Aachen and Paris.

FAM DONATELLA

Dominic M x D Crystal Moon



D CRYTAL MOON
SW Magnum Fame x BHF Dark Moon



VICKTORIA PG - SMA Magic One x Diva of Ajman

Some new horses from new farms won in the Championship which is really good for the market where the number of the new owners is highly increased especially in the UAE.

For example, our stud won the Gold Champion Medal in the Yearling Filly Category with FAM Donatella.

HE Abudul Rahman Mohamed Sharif Al Baidhaei as the Chairman of the Stud we guess you can be happy about result of your first international show in Europe that was really a huge success. Together with your Executive Director Mr Ahmed Ibrahim, we enjoyed

the show and the great success your Stud reached with your horses. Ahmed Ibrahim can you tell us of that experience?

The show in Vermezzo represents a great result for us as we won two gold medals, one in the Yearling Fillies with FAM Donatella and with our stallion Mountassar Al Zobair, and one bronze with D Jari in the Junior Colt category. The horse quality was high and we are proud of our result. I have to thank HE Abudulrahman Mohammad Sharif Al Baidhaei for the way he manages the Stud selecting the best horses

MOUNTASSAR AL ZOB AIR
Khidar x Falha Al Shaqab

Gold Medal Stallions
International B-Show
Milan 2019





FAM DONATELLA
Dominic M x D Crystal Moon

Gold Medal Yearling Fillies
International B-Show
Milan 2019



D JARI
Polidoro FC x Juwanda OS

Bronze Medal Colts
International B-Show
Milan 2019

and choosing the best cooperations possible, I mean with the training center and with the media for the advertising, very important ingredients of success.

Abdul Rahman, will you please leave a final message to our readers?

Al Jawahar Arabian Stud is a newcomer to the market with high ambition, dreams and passion. We seek

support from all the other market leaders and studs around the world to help us grow and introduce the best bloodlines of Arabian horses to the world. □

Thanks a lot for your contribution, Abdul Rahman. On behalf of our entire Team, I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



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