

HAYA, PRINCESS OF HEARTS
CONCLUDES TWO
TRIUMPHANT FEI TERMS

PRESIDENT
FEDERATION EQUESTRE INTERNATIONALE (FEI)
2006 - 2014



SUMMARY:

HRH Princess Haya bint Al Hussein is a woman of many facets. She is a devoted wife and mother, a former Olympic athlete, a humanitarian, a member of the International Olympic Committee, a UN Messenger of Peace, two-term President of the International Equestrian Federation and the first Jordanian woman to obtain a license to drive heavy trucks.

She is the daughter of HM Late King Hussein bin Talal of Jordan (1935-1999) and HM Late Queen Alia Al Hussein (1948-1977); and the wife of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai. They have one daughter, HH Sheikha Al Jalila, who was born on December 2, 2007 and one son, HH Sheikh Zayed, who was born on January 7, 2012.

Princess Haya's brother, HRH Prince Ali bin Al Hussein, served as President of the Jordan Football Association before winning election as the youngest Vice President of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) in 2011. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of the Royal Film Commission, established in 2003 to develop the Jordanian film industry and invigorate Jordan's cultural and economic role in the region and beyond.

Princess Haya's work on humanitarian and health issues is inspired and guided by the legacy of Her parents. Her father was known worldwide as a respected and influential advocate for peace and social development; Her mother devoted herself to improving education, health care and other social services for people throughout Jordan. HM Queen Alia often made surprise visits to hospitals and other institutions to check on the quality of services. She died in a helicopter accident in 1977 after visiting a hospital in Tafilah, Jordan.



HUMANITARIAN:

Princess Haya has a strong humanitarian presence both on local and international levels. Her work and interests focus on humanitarian issues and human development concentrated primarily on the areas of health, education, youth and sports. She continues to raise awareness of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), especially those of eliminating poverty and hunger. Additionally, She also works to find ways that sport can support the development of impoverished youths in the world's poorer nations.

In memory of Her mother, HM Queen Alia, Princess Haya founded Tkiyet Um Ali in 2003, the first food aid NGO in the Arab World, and became the Chairperson of its Board of Directors. She was also the first Arab and first woman to serve as World Food Programme Goodwill Ambassador (2005-2007). In that role, She travelled to Malawi, Ethiopia and Syria to witness first-hand the impact of the food crises in those areas.

In March 2007, Princess Haya was appointed the Chairperson of International Humanitarian City (IHC) following a decree issued by HH Sheikh Mohammed. One of the largest supply depots for aid in the world, the IHC facilitates aid and development efforts by providing facilities and services to local and international humanitarian organisations.

In September 2007, Princess Haya was selected by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, the highest honour bestowed on a global citizen by the United Nations to address pressing problems around the world. A month later, former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan chose Princess Haya to become a founding member of the Geneva-based Global Humanitarian Forum (2007-2010), an international organization aimed at addressing humanitarian issues.

In January 2010, Princess Haya visited the Kenyan capital of Nairobi to encourage an effective local and global response to catastrophic food shortages. On January 22nd, just ten days after the devastating 7.0 earthquake hit Haiti, Princess Haya travelled to Port-au-Prince to oversee a delivery of 90 metric tonnes of relief supplies in a shipment organized by the IHC. In 2011, Princess Haya visited Siem Reap in Cambodia to bring further attention to the ongoing food crisis in that area. Her humanitarian missions in 2014 have taken her to Liberia. More recently, She has travelled to Liberia on behalf of the World Food Programme and UNICEF to draw attention to Liberia, and to Ethiopia on behalf of UNHCR and other aid groups to draw attention to the plight of refugees from neighbouring South Sudan. More recently, Princess Haya has been actively engaged in supporting efforts to deliver medicine, mattresses, blankets, food and other emergency relief to displaced families in Gaza.



SPORT:

Sport has been a dominant part of life for Princess Haya since childhood. Having experienced the power of sport in Her own life, She works tirelessly to give others, especially young girls, a similar experience. Her work as former President of the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) and as a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is motivated by the belief that sport improves lives and breaks down barriers between people and nations.

At age 13, Princess Haya was the first female to represent Jordan internationally in equestrian sport in show jumping. She won an Individual Bronze Medal in the Pan Arab Equestrian Games in 1992, and is the only female ever to have won a Pan Arab medal in equestrian sport. Additionally, She was also the first Jordanian athlete to turn professional, signing a commercial contract with the Italian designer Loro Piana in May 2000.

In 1994, HM King Hussein created 'Team Harmony,' a group of international show jumping horses and appointed Princess Haya as athlete director. In recognition of Her accomplishments, the Spanish Equestrian Federation named Princess Haya the Equestrian Personality of the Year in 1996, when She was just 22 years old. In 2000, Princess Haya fulfilled a lifelong dream by competing at the Sydney Olympic Games in show jumping. Two years later, Princess Haya competed for Jordan in the World Equestrian Games in Jerez, Spain. She was the first Arab woman to qualify for and compete in an equestrian world championship. She achieved another "first" when She obtained a license to drive heavy trucks to transport Her horses.

Princess Haya was elected President of the FEI in 2006 (and re-elected in November 2010 for a second term). Under Her leadership, the FEI has improved its financial position with the addition of new sponsors, launched FEI TV to reach a broader audience, established FEI Solidarity to support the global development of equestrian sport, and adopted the Clean Sport initiative to combat doping. On August 12, 2014, Princess Haya announced that she would not seek a third term. Princess Haya has been an IOC member since 2007 and has served on the IOC Athletes' Commission (2005-2010); the Culture and Olympic Education Commission (2005-2014); and the International Relations Commission (2010-2014). She currently serves on the IOC Marketing Commission; the Women and Sport Commission; and the Entourage Commission. In addition to serving on the Advisory Board of The Economist Global Sports Conference, Princess Haya was also President of the Dubai Organizing Committee for SportAccord 2010 and as of June 2010, became a Global Patron for the World Academy of Sport.



HEALTH:

In keeping with Her mother's legacy, HRH Princess Haya's work in health is fuelled by Her commitment to improve the quality of health care services. In early 2009, after a decree issued by HH Sheikh Mohammed, Princess Haya was named President of the UAE Nursing and Midwifery Council. The Council is set to oversee professional education, development and on-going regulation of the nursing and midwifery professions across the country. She is also assisting in the development of the Dubai-based Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, which will be the only dedicated paediatric hospital in the region.

Through Her interest in paediatric cardiology, Princess Haya has encouraged the creation of other Centres of Excellence for that specialty. In May 2009, Princess Haya became a Global Patron of the Walter Sisulu Paediatric Cardiac Foundation (WSPCF) in South Africa. She first visited the Foundation in April 2008 as part of a tour with President Nelson Mandela to raise awareness of paediatric cardiac health in Africa.

In early 2010, Princess Haya was named Honorary President of Chain of Hope, a collaborating partner of the Aswan Heart Centre in Egypt. The Centre, which opened in 2009, offers surgery, treatment and research related to diseases and defects of the heart.

In May 2011, after a decree issued by HH Sheikh Mohammed, HRH Princess Haya was appointed as Chairperson of Dubai Healthcare City Authority to oversee Dubai Healthcare City and re-position it as an internationally renowned centre for integrated medical services.

Princess Haya supports several national efforts targeting the advancement of children's and women's health in Jordan. She is President of the Princess Haya Biotechnology Centre at Jordan University of Science and Technology, the first fully equipped biotech academic lab in Jordan, and is Honorary President of the Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing & Speech.

Princess Haya also developed a regional health meeting that addresses health topics affecting children in the UAE and the region. The Arab Children Health Congress (ACHC) is a biennial event bringing together health care providers, care givers, parents and offers a platform for interaction and discussion, not only between medical and social professionals and the general public, but also with the children themselves.

As a humanitarian, Princess Haya continuously advocates for the rights of children and underprivileged communities to have access to food, healthcare, education and security. She continues to participate in international conferences, charity events and field activities in those key areas.

HRH Princess Haya graduated from St Hilda's College, Oxford University with an Honours Degree BA MA, in P.P.E. (Politics, Philosophy and Economics). She resides in Dubai, travelling often to Her homeland, Jordan.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION:

- Twice decorated by HM King Hussein for excellence in international equestrian sport (1988 and 1992).
- Five-time winner of Jordanian National Show Jumping Championships (1986, 1987, 1989, 1990 and 1992).
- Won an individual bronze medal at the Pan-Arab Equestrian Games (1992)
- Voted 'Athlete of the Year' by the Jordanian Public (1993).
- First and only woman in Jordan (to date) to hold a heavy goods and articulated vehicle license. She is the only member of the Jordanian Royal family to be member of a trade union.
- Nominated 'Athlete of the Year' by Arab BBC Radio after winning numerous national and international events in the Middle East and Asia (1994).
- Received an award from the Spanish Equestrian Federation for 'Equestrian Personality of the Year' (1996).
- Received the International Golden Helm Award from the International Association of Golden Helmsmen of Tourism, after setting up a tourism campaign at the request of HM King Hussein during her equestrian training in Germany between 1997 and 1999. The campaign resulted in a rise in the numbers of German and German-speaking tourists to Jordan from two percent to 12.5 per cent in a two-year period (2000).
- Presented the Guirlande d'Honneur (the Laurel Wreath) and 'Celebrity of the Year Award' by the Milan International FICTS Festival (International Federation Cinema Television Sportifs), an international festival dedicated to sport television and sport movies, in recognition of Her leading role as an international athlete and FEI President, as well as for Her meaningful promotion of cultural and ethical values, and the image of sport (2006).
- His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan bestowed the Bejeweled Grand Cordon of Al Nahda (Order of the Renaissance) on Princess Haya in recognition of Her notable humanitarian profile and for Her distinguished role in efforts to alleviate hunger and poverty on global and regional levels (2006).
- Awarded the 'Al Saaoon Fi Al Kheir' Award which honours GCC women leaders for their volunteer and community work in their respective countries (2009).
- Received Sharjah Award for Voluntary Work (2010)
- Awarded the Humanitarian Leadership Award by the World Food Program (2012).

- Nominated by the International Femmes Mythique Association as a 'Legendary Woman'.
- Received the Archon Award by Sigma Theta Tau International for Her efforts in nursing (2013).
- Presented with the Prize of the City of Aachen in recognition Her long-standing commitment to equestrian sport during Aachen CHIO in Germany (2014).
- Awarded the Title of Officer of the National Order of the Legion of Honour, France's highest distinction, by Laurent Fabius, French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development (2014).
- Awarded the Trophy of the International Olympic Committee by IOC President Thomas Bach (2014).

Source of bio: FEI.org

