



A GROWING DISCIPLINE

# DRESSAGE IN EGYPT

By Emad Zaghloul

**DRESSAGE, AN ELEGANT AND PRECISE EQUESTRIAN SPORT, HAS BEEN MAKING STEADY STRIDES IN EGYPT. WHILE ITS HISTORY IN THE COUNTRY IS RELATIVELY SHORT COMPARED TO OTHER EQUESTRIAN DISCIPLINES, EGYPT HAS SHOWN SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS, PARTICULARLY IN RECENT YEARS.**

Dressage in Egypt gained prominence after the Pan Arab Games held in Cairo in 2007. Despite limited international participation, Egyptian and Syrian riders showcased their skills, marking the beginning of a new era for the sport. Subsequent competitions, such as the Seif Al Sham in Syria and the African Equestrian Federation competition, have further solidified Egypt's position on the dressage map.

### **CAN EGYPT OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES IN DRESSAGE?**

One of the major challenges facing dressage in Egypt has been the limited availability of suitable horses. While some dressage horses have been imported from Europe, their numbers are relatively small. This has led to a reliance on horses previously used in showjumping, which often require retraining for dressage.

The training of riders and coaches has also been a key area of focus. While many Egyptian trainers have extensive riding experience, international exposure and specialized training in dressage have been limited. However, the presence of international dressage trainers and clinics has provided valuable opportunities for Egyptian riders to learn from experts.

### **IS EGYPT'S OLYMPIC DREAM FOR DRESSAGE WITHIN REACH?**

Qualifying for the Olympics in dressage is a demanding task that requires exceptional skill and dedication. In addition to the rider, horse, and trainer, a strong support team, including a veterinarian, farrier, and groom, is essential. Unfortunately, the development of such support systems has been slow in Egypt.

Despite these challenges, Egypt's dressage community is determined to elevate the sport to new heights. With continued dedication, investment, and international collaboration, Egypt has the potential to become a competitive force in the world of dressage.

**AS EGYPT'S DRESSAGE SCENE CONTINUES TO EVOLVE, THE COUNTRY'S EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY REMAINS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ITS FUTURE. WITH DEDICATED RIDERS, TALENTED HORSES, AND GROWING INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE, EGYPT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A MAJOR PLAYER IN THE GLOBAL DRESSAGE ARENA. 🇪🇬**

