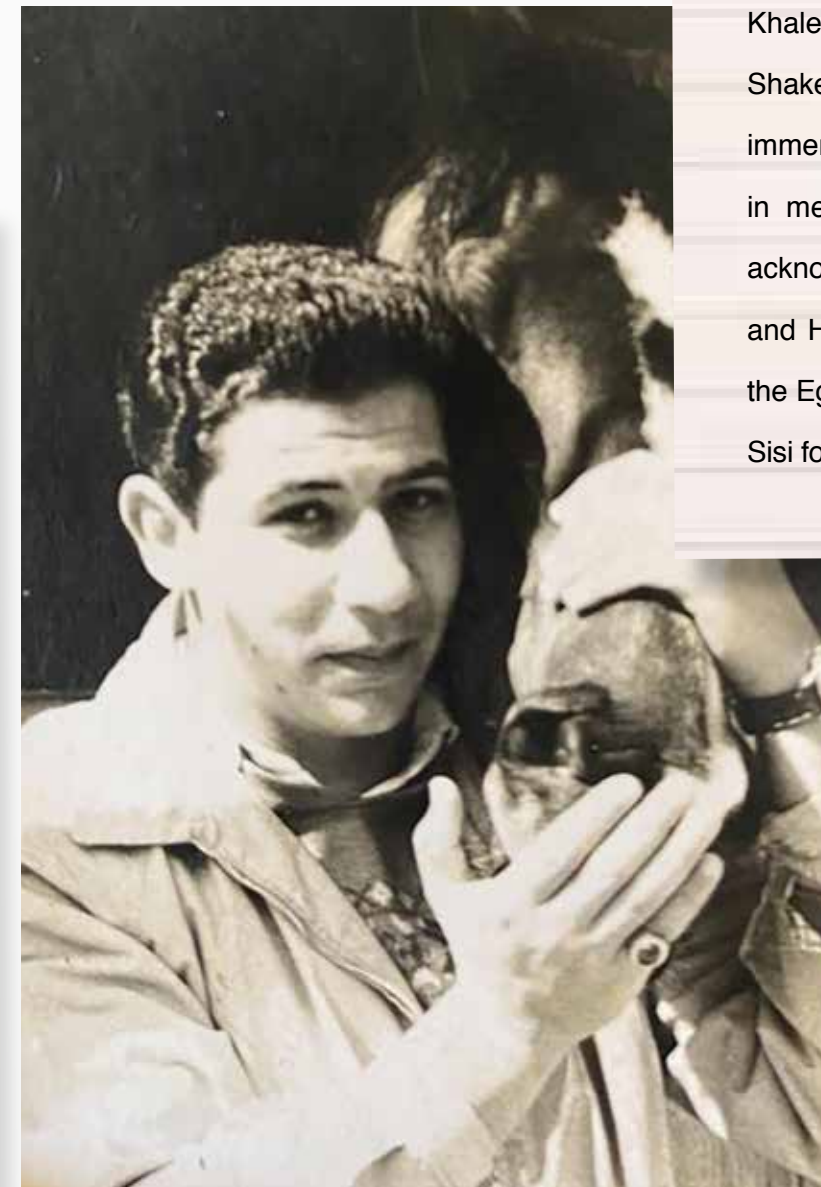


THE COMEBACK OF THE EGYPTIAN CHAMPION KHALED MOHAMED ALY

By Farah Rezeika

IN THE WORLD OF EQUESTRIAN SPORTS, THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS WHOSE PASSION FOR HORSES BECOMES INGRAINED IN THEIR VERY BEING. KHALED MOHAMED ALY, A FORMER EGYPTIAN EQUESTRIAN RIDER, EMBODIES SUCH A DEEP-ROOTED LOVE FOR THESE MAJESTIC CREATURES. BORN AND RAISED IN ALEXANDRIA, KHALED'S CHILDHOOD WAS SURROUNDED BY THE ALLURE OF HORSES, THANKS TO HIS FAMILY'S INVOLVEMENT IN HORSE RACING, STARTING BY HIS GRANDFATHER AND HIS FATHER TO FOLLOW. FROM AN EARLY AGE, HE EMBRACED THE EQUESTRIAN WORLD, AND HIS JOURNEY WOULD LEAD HIM TO REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AND UNEXPECTED CHALLENGES.





Khaled's equestrian journey originated at the Sporting Club in Alexandria, where he participated in his first competition at the tender age of 10. His talent and determination quickly propelled him forward, and at 12 years old, he became the Egyptian Champion for Juniors under 18. This triumph marked the beginning of a remarkable streak, as he clinched the Egyptian Champion for Adults title for three consecutive years. Additionally, Khaled represented Egypt with pride, securing accolades such as the Arab Championship for Individuals and Teams, and even earning Egypt's team gold medal in the Mediterranean team event in Syria 1987.

Despite facing challenges and injustice by the Egyptian Equestrian Federation in 2012, Khaled found solace in the friendship and support of some friends like Karim Hamdy, who recognized his expertise and technical skills and involved him in supplying 11 exceptional horses. This collaboration marked Khaled's first step back into the equestrian world, this time in a technical capacity. Another crucial figure in Khaled's comeback was Ismail Shaker, the new president of the Egyptian Equestrian Federation. Recognizing the injustice that had befallen Khaled, Ismail made it his mission to right the wrongs and restore his rightful place in the sport.

Khaled now focuses on rebuilding his career, knowing that he lost precious years. While he no longer aspires to be part of the national team, his love for riding remains strong. He is dedicated to regaining his physical form and riding for his own enjoyment. Additionally, he has embraced the world of media coverage, inspired by his experience covering the FEI World Cup Finals 2024 for HorseTimes. Furthermore, Khaled aims to expand his involvement in the international horse industry, particularly in the Gulf region.

Khaled expresses heartfelt gratitude to Ismail Shaker for his unwavering support, stating, "I am immensely grateful to Ismail Shaker for believing in me and rectifying the injustice I faced." He acknowledges the contributions of Karim El Sobky and Hany Magdy and expresses appreciation to the Egyptian army and President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi for their efforts to strengthen horse jumping.

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