



AI Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 29: AI Shorta beat Jawiya 7-4 in enthralling cup game (1997)



Although the 1997 Umm Al Ma'arak Cup ended in disappointment for AI Shorta as they were crushed 4-0 in the final by Al Najaf, it had started off in exhilarating fashion. AI Shorta put four past Samarra in their first group game before playing out a thrilling 3-3 draw with rivals Al Talaba. They then played Al Quwa Al Jawiya in their final group game in another Baghdad derby, and this one didn't disappoint either.

In fact, it turned out to be one of the highest scoring matches and most exciting games in the history of domestic football in Iraq. Jawiya scored four goals in the game, two from Waleed Dhahid, one from Jaafar Umran and one from Riyadh. However, despite scoring four goals, Jawiya still came out on the losing side - and in convincing fashion too.

AI Shorta smashed seven goals past their rivals with striker Mahmoud Majeed scoring a hattrick in the game. Mahmoud (pictured with his man of the match trophy) would go on to win the Golden Boot award in the Iraqi Premier League that season and score the goal that won AI Shorta the 1997-98 league title. The other goals for the Police were scored by Abdul-Razzaq Abu Al-Hail, captain Saad Qais, Mafeed Assem and Abdul Hussein Jawad.

The unbelievable win sent AI Shorta to the semi finals of the competition where they knocked out Al Zawraa on penalties to reach the final for the first time in their history. As previously mentioned, AI Shorta suffered a bad defeat in the finale but nonetheless this 7-4 win has gone down in the history books and is certainly one of the most memorable games in the history of the club, especially considering that it was against one of their fiercest rivals at the Al Shaab Stadium.

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