Al Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 5: Aliyat Al Shorta earn third consecutive league title with draw against Al Sikak Al Hadeed (1970)



On 29 June 1963, Aliyat Al Shorta were promoted to the League of the Institutes from the second division after defeating Al Omma 2-0 in the decisive match and within a few years they would come to dominate Iraqi football, winning four league titles before the foundation of the Iraqi National League in 1974.

The team was managed by Mohammed Najib Kaban and many of his players represented Iraq internationally. Some of the star players of the Aliyat Al Shorta team were Satar Khalaf, Lateef Shandal, Douglas Aziz, Tariq Aziz, Shaker Ismail, Mudhafar Nouri, Riyadh Nouri, Ghanim Abdul Hamid, Essam Khalil, Menam Husenin Taria Husenin and the contain Abid Vedelim (Line In Alice). Hussein, Tariq Hussein and the captain Abid Kadhim (who holds the record for most appearances for Al Shorta).

Their first League of the Institutes title came in the 1967-68 season when they finished above second-placed Maslaha Naqil

Al Rakab (now Amanat Baghdad) and third-placed Al Quwa Al Jawiya. They became the first team in history to retain the League of the Institutes title when they won the league again in the 1968-69 season, this time with Al Tayaran (a.k.a. Al Quwa Al Jawiya) being the runners-up and Maslaha Naqil Al Rakab finishing in third.



They sensationally won the league yet again the next season finishing ahead of Al Kahrabaa and Al Sikak Al Hadeed respectively; they ended on 16 points and clinched the title on 10/04/1970 with a 1-1 draw against Al Sikak Al Hadeed, therefore becoming the first Iraqi team to win three consecutive titles.

Aliyat Al Shorta would go on to finish second in the next season before winning the league for the fourth and final time in 1972; these titles showcased the domination that Aliyat Al Shorta had over Iraqi club football at the time and Aliyat Al Shorta truly are one of the greatest sides in Iraqi football history. Al Shorta supporters look back on that team with great pride and admiration, and they have helped to shape the club into what it is today with Al Shorta nowadays often wearing purple kits, as well as planning Al Shorta Sports City Stadium to have purple seats,

as a tribute to the great side.

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