



## **Al Shorta's Greatest Players - Number 5:**

### **Younis Abid Ali**



Another man who both played for and managed Al Shorta, Younis Abid Ali is Al Shorta's all-time top goal scorer and scored 153 goals in the Iraqi Premier League in total.

He started his career in Al Shorta's youth team in the 1979-80 season, and in 1982 he won the Iraqi Youth League with Al Shorta scoring 23 goals in just 14 games and winning the top scorer award. He joined the first team for the 1982-83 season and stayed at the club for two more seasons before joining Al Rasheed and winning a host of trophies there in the next five seasons.

He returned to Al Shorta for the 1990-91 season where Al Shorta finished in third place, and he scored an unbelievably impressive 36 goals in the 1993-94 Iraqi National League season for Al Shorta as the Police finished fourth; this remains the highest number of goals that any player has scored in a single league season in Iraq.

His last season with Al Shorta was the 1996-97 season before he joined Al Quwa Al Jawiya where he played for two years (up until 1999). He then signed for Al Difaa Al Jawiya where he plied his trade for one season (1999-2000) before returning to Al Shorta and retiring from football in 2001, playing the final game of his career against Al Jaish.

Younis made his international debut against Sudan and won both the 1988 Arab Nations Cup and 1989 Peace and Friendship Cup with Iraq. In total, Younis played 16 games for the Iraqi junior team, 22 games for the youth team, 11 games for the Olympic team and 24 games for the national team.

After his playing career, he began a career in managing and coached Al Shorta through every game of their 2004 AFC Champions League campaign and through one game of their 2005 AFC Champions League campaign. He led Al Shorta to a fourth place finish at the 2004 Algomhuria International Cup. After resigning in 2005, he returned to manage Al Shorta in the 2010-11 season, overseeing some memorable victories in the form of 1-0 and 3-1 wins against Duhok and Erbil respectively.

Younis has gone down in history as one of the Iraqi Premier League's most lethal forwards and will always be in the history books as one of the club's greatest legends.

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