



Al Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 11: Al Shorta win Iraqi Elite Cup for the first time (2000)



The Iraqi Elite Cup (most commonly known as Umm Al Ma'arak Cup) was a competition played before the start of a new league season between the top eight sides of the previous league season. It was played in two groups of four, with the two group winners and runners-up reaching the semi-finals, which were followed by a third-place playoff and the final. Before 2000, Al Shorta had reached the final of the cup (which started in 1991) once, in 1997, but lost to Al Najaf.

In the 2000 edition of the competition, Al Shorta, who finished third in the league the previous season, were drawn into Group A alongside Al Zawraa, Duhok and Salahaddin. Goals from Hashim Ridha and Ahmed Khudhair could not prevent Al Shorta from being defeated 3-2 by rivals Al Zawraa in their first game, but they followed this defeat with a 7-1 thrashing of Salahaddin thanks to a brace from Mahir Ogla and further goals from Ahmad Mnajid, Mohammed Hadi, Ahmed Khudhair, Nashat Akram and Rahim Rubui. Al Shorta won their final group game 3-1 against Duhok with Ahmed Khudhair, Mahir Ogla and Ahmad Mnajid bagging the goals and finished second in the group behind Al Zawraa.

The semi-final pitted Al Shorta with Baghdad rivals Al Talaba and the game ended 1-1 with Munaim Yousef scoring for Al Shorta; the Police went through to the final after winning the penalty shootout 4-2 (Uday

Mohammed, Nashat Akram, Mohammed Hadi and Muthaheer Khalef scored Al Shorta's penalties with goalkeeper Emad Hashim saving two of Al Talaba's spot-kicks). Waiting for Al Shorta in the final were Al Zawraa, who had defeated Al Shorta 3-2 earlier in the tournament. But Al Shorta, managed by Al Zawraa legend Ahmed Radhi, got their revenge by winning the game 1-0 thanks to Amer Mushraf's close-range effort and Al Shorta had won the tournament for the first time in their history.

To see highlights of the historic cup final between Al Shorta and Al Zawraa, [click here](#).



© Copyright 2010-2016

You are free to copy texts, whether in whole or part, and pictures from this website provided that proper acknowledgement is given to www.alshorta.webs.com.

webs

Create your own free website today