



Al Shorta's Greatest Players - Number 14:

Faisal Aziz



Faisal Aziz Jabar can, alongside the likes of Hashim Ridha, Sabah Hatem, Mudhafar Nouri, Ali Hussein Mahmoud and Younis Abid Ali, lay claim to being one of Al Shorta's best ever strikers.

The legend started his career (in 1978) and ended his career at the club he loved so dearly: Al Shorta. He instantly became a fan favourite when, on his first-team debut, he scored the winning goal in a league game against Al Shorta's fierce rivals Al Quwa Al Jawiya.

The tall, strong centre-forward was an important part of Al Shorta's historic Iraqi National League-winning side of the 1979-80 season, and scored the third-highest number of goals in the Iraqi National League the following season when Al Shorta were very close to retaining their crown.

He was also an important member of Al Shorta's squad when they famously won the inaugural Arab Champions League in 1982, and he won the 'Top Scorer Award' of the 1985 Arab Police Championship (Al Shorta

also won this competition) with four goals (two each against Al Shorta (Palestine) and Al Shorta (Kuwait)).

On the international stage, Faisal Aziz was fairly successful; he made his international debut in 1980 against Poland after impressing with Al Shorta during their title-winning 1979-80 season and was part of the 1981 Merdeka Cup winning squad but never managed to land a regular starting spot with Iraq holding some of Asia's best strikers at the time in the shape of Falah Hassan, Ali Kadhim, Hussein Saeed and Ahmed Radhi.

He returned to manage Al Shorta four different times (1992, 1996-97, 1998-99 and 2008) and has gone down in history as one of the club's best players.

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