



Al Shorta's Greatest Players - Number 18:

Lateef Shandal



Lateef Shandal Issa was a great goalkeeper who was Aliyat Al Shorta's main goalkeeper in the late 1960s and early 1970s and also represented the Iraq national team.

He started his career with Al Karkh and then moved to Al Sikak Al Hadeed but was acquired by Aliyat Al Shorta towards the end of the 1960s. The 'keeper was part of the squad that reached the final of the 1971 edition of what is now known as the AFC Champions League and also won a host of league and cup titles with the Police Machinery. In 1964, he became the first Aliyat Al Shorta player to play for the Iraq national team.

The shot-stopper, born in 1938, played many games for Iraq and was part of both the 1964 and 1966 Arab Nations Cup squads (Iraq won both tournaments).

He helped set up a match between Aliyat Al Shorta and East Germany before retiring from international football in 1973 and retired from football permanently in 1975.

The legendary Iraqi remains one of Al Shorta's best ever goalkeepers and is a true Aliyat Al Shorta legend having been their first-team goalkeeper throughout many successful years.

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