



Al Shorta's Greatest Players - Number 24:

Amer Mushraf



Amer Mushraf was a real 'big game player'. The attacker, alongside Ahmed Khudhair and Hashim Ridha, gave Al Shorta a real attacking edge in the early 2000s, but he will always be remembered for his Iraqi Elite Cup heroics.

Before joining Al Shorta, Amer, born in 1975, had played for the likes of Al Zawraa, Al Rasheed (Al Karkh from 1991), Al Ramadi, Al Jaish and Al Talaba. In the 2000-01 season, Amer scored a number of goals for Al Shorta in the league, most notably a winner against Al Karkh in a 2-1 win and a brilliant hat-trick in a 7-0 thrashing of Karbalaa on the last day of the season, but his most important goal that season came in the 2000 Iraqi Elite Cup final when his close-range effort won Al Shorta the final 1-0 against Al Zawraa. The next season, he scored fourteen goals in the league, four goals in the Iraqi FA Cup and two goals in the Iraqi Elite Cup (which Al Shorta won again), continuing his great goalscoring form.

The following campaign saw Amer involved in yet another goal in an Iraqi Elite Cup final; his shot was deflected into the net by a defender at the beginning of the 2002 final against Al Talaba and this goal was the only goal of the game as Al Shorta won the final 1-0 and won the competition for the third consecutive time.

After leaving Al Shorta, he went on to play with some other Iraqi clubs such as Pires, New Sirwan and Al Ramadi and the final goal of his career came on 8th April 2011 when he scored for Al Ramadi against Diyala in a 2-1 victory in the Iraqi Premier League.

On the international level, the Al Shorta legend was also prominent, making his Iraq debut in a 9-1 win over Nepal in 2001 as a second-half substitute and scoring his first international goal in his first start for Iraq nine days later in another victory (this time 4-2) over Nepal. He will never be forgotten by Al Shorta fans and it is safe to say that without him, Al Shorta would never have won their now famous hat-trick of Iraqi Elite Cup titles.

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