

■ by **Joe Ferriss**

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A Tale of Two Princes



Prince Mohammed Ali Tewfik



Prince Kemal El Dine Hussein

One cannot talk about Egypt's celebrated past without considering some of the Royalty who bred Arabians for their personal passion. Each of them bred some splendid Arabians that later became the building blocks for the Egyptian Government Studs of RAS and EAO. Among the most memorable of the Royal family tree are the cousins Prince Mohammed Ali Tewfik and Prince Kemal El Din Hussein. Each pursued their own direction with Arabians and each has had a larger impact on Egyptian breeding than they would have ever realized.

Prince Mohammed Ali Tewfik

In the Royal Family tree of Egypt, the Prince was born in 1875, a lineal descendant from the original Mohamed Ali The Great, ruler of Egypt from 1805-1848, and therefore also a descendant of the famed Abbas Pasha (ruler from 1848-1854) whose legendary Arabian stables were a fountainhead for much the Arabian breeding in Egypt. Prince Mohammed Ali's brother, Khedive Abbas Hilmi II, was a source for a number of Arabians in the Prince's foundation. Going back further, ancestors of the Prince's stock came from Abbas Pasha, Ali Pasha Sherif, Prince Ahmed Kemal Pasha and his son, Prince Yussef Kemal as well. Prince Mohammed Ali's uncle Fouad I was to become Egypt's King in 1917 and later founded the famed Inshass stud. Like other Egyptian Royalty, Prince Mohammed Ali had his own magnificent palace called Manial on the Isle of Roda in which he enjoyed life and where he bred his famed horses.



A view of the luxurious interior of Manial Palace

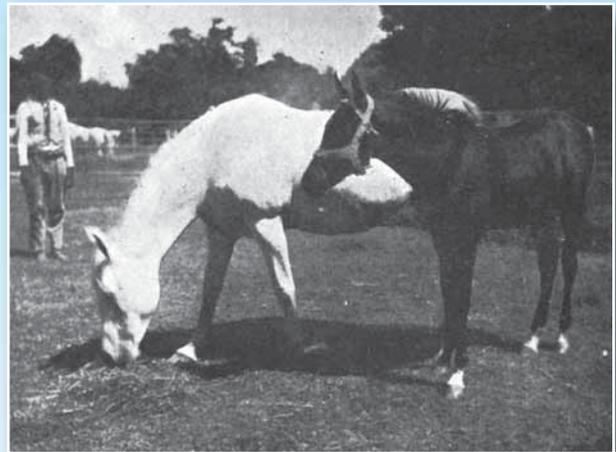
The Prince was well traveled, refined, European-educated and a great admirer and collector of art as well as a very experienced and knowledgeable horseman. He spoke and wrote in a number of languages and often his notes were written in French. In 1935 and 1936 he published two volumes entitled Breeding of Pure Bred Arabian Horses. The nature of his experience is best put in his own words from the preface of his book:

"...All my life I have lived among horses, and loved them... My guardian was an old Georgian Pasha, who was sent more than twenty times to Arabia to buy the finest horses for my ancestor—Abbas Pasha the First... The Pasha used to tell us stories all day long of his travels, praise what he bought, and also taught us the beauty of horses... Later on I visited all the best cavalry schools in France, Germany, Austria, Belgium and

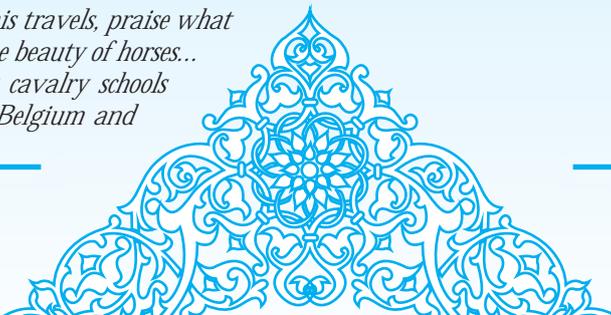
Italy... I have been to horse shows all over the world and have seen the Circassians and many other Oriental Siberian Nomads in Siberia; the Indian horsemen; the Gauchos of Argentine; the Cowboys in U.S.A.; the Australians, and everywhere I always took the keenest interest in the horses and horsemen. And with this experience I have been breeding Arabs for thirty five years."

Being a lover of nature and art, the Prince as a breeder was always focused on the beauty, essence and character of the Arab horse. Some had criticized him for not placing more emphasis on riding and performance, but the Prince believed these qualities would be inherent in a good horse of good breeding, but its essence would set it apart.

There are actually three main mare families coming from Prince Mohammed Ali. In looking over the Prince's breeding program it is inevitable that the female line that has received the most notoriety is the family of Bint Yamama. It has a significant presence especially in America. In the past, it was thought that this female line died out in Egypt, but that was not the case when one realizes that the mares Aroussa, her daughter Radia (Manial) and Zahra (a full sister to Aziza) went into use in the Royal Inshass stud. The female line to Zahra was to later appear in Europe via El Aziza at Babolna (female line of 218 Elf Layla Walayla B). But there were also two other important families that emerge from the Prince's breeding program: the Farida family and the Om Dalal family.

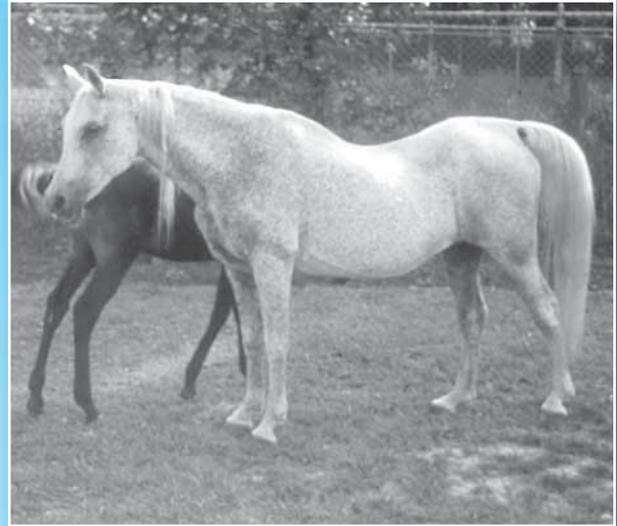


The beautiful Bint Yamama (Saklawi I x Yamama) at Manial

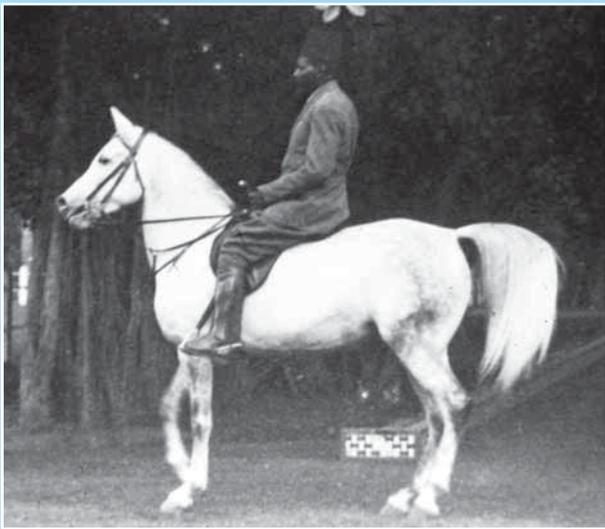




The stallion Nasr also called Manial, (Rabdan El Azrak x Bint Yamama). A successful racehorse, he left one son, Ibn Manial (x Bint Ebeya), in Egypt and then was exported to the U.S.



Maaroufa (Ibn Rabdan x Mahroussa) at age 26 with her filly Serroufa at side



The lovely Mahroussa, (Mabrouk Manial x Negma) a grand daughter of Bint Yamama. She is the dam of Fadl and Maaroufa who were imported to the U.S. by Henry Babson

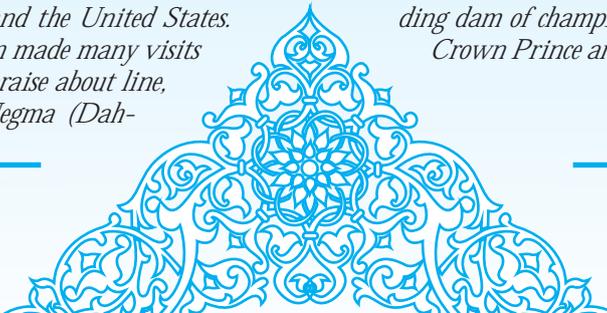
Bint Yamama family:

The name Prince Mohammed Ali is immediately associated with his famous line of horses descending from the splendid white mare Bint Yamama which he obtained from his brother, the Khedive. Much has been written about the classic beauty associated with her line. By the early 1930s as the Prince's success with this line of horses blossomed, other countries took notice as products of Bint Yamama's line were exported to Europe and the United States. Renowned author Carl Raswan made many visits to the Prince and wrote much praise about line, immortalizing the beautiful Negma (Dah-

*man El Azrak x Bint Yamama), her daughter Mahroussa and their offspring. There is a special look to this family that continues to this day in many different Arabian breeding programs. Of the horses bred by Prince Mohammed Ali that were imported to the U.S. in 1932 by W.R. Brown and Henry Babson, all were of the Bint Yamama female line except one, *Bint Saada who was of the Om Dalal line. At that time there was no concerted effort to breed "all Egyptian" lines in general. However the Babson Farm maintained a straight Egyptian line nearly seventy years. Eventually descendants of the Babson imports were crossed with some descendants of the Brown imports so that today the following U.S. imports bred by Prince Mohammed Ali survive in Egyptian breeding: Nasr, Zarife, Fadl, Maaroufa, Roda, Aziza and Bint Saada.*

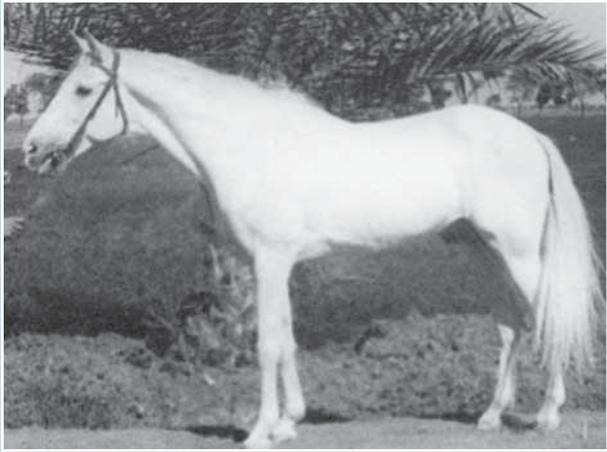
Just a few international examples carrying this famous tail female line to Bint Yamama include:

- *Prince Fa Moniet (Ibn Moniet El Nefous x Fa Moniet) internationally celebrated sire of Ansata Sinan and Ansata Iemhotep.*
- *Pharos (ZT Faa'iq x Bint Atallah) stunningly beautiful stallion co-owned by Alfabia Stud in Italy and Alfala Stud in Saudi Arabia.*
- *AK Atallah (Ansata Ibn Halima x Al Nahr Mon Ami) European Reserve Champion mare and dam of Aliha, Paris World Champion mare.*
- *218 Elf Layla Walayla B (Assad x 223 Ibn Galal I-3) many times a European Champion mare.*
- *RDM Maar Hala (El Hilal x Maar Jumana) leading dam of champions including El Halimaar, ET Crown Prince and Prince Ibn Shaikh.*

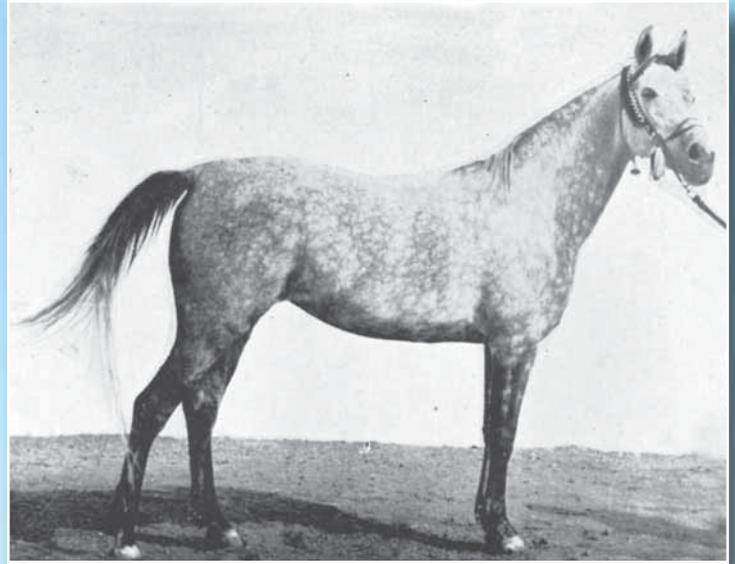




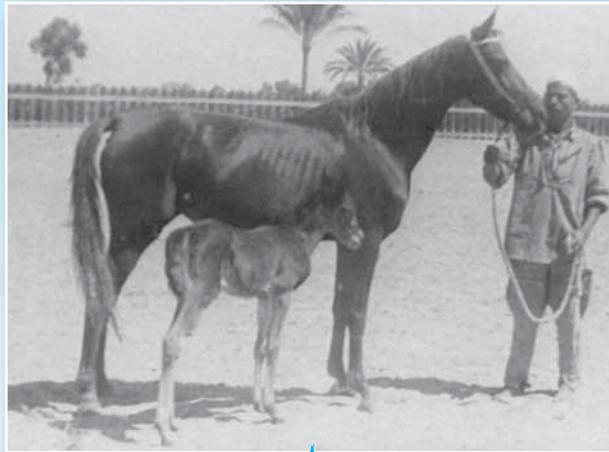
Farida (Saklawi II x Nadra El Saghira) 1921 grey mare



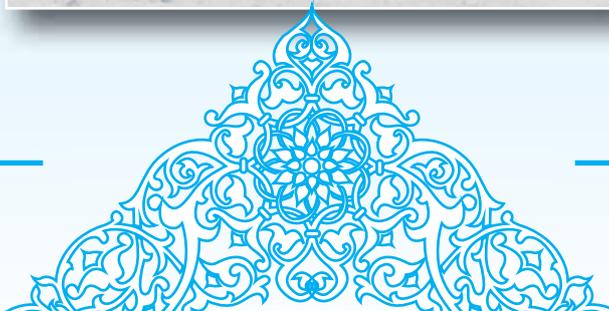
Balance (Ibn Samhan x Farida) 1928 grey stallion, a superior race-horse. He is the sire of the important mares Nefisa, Zaafarana, Bint Zareefa RAS, and Yaquota



Bint Farida (Mansour x Farida) 1931 grey mare, dam of the exquisite Ghazalahh of the Inas female line

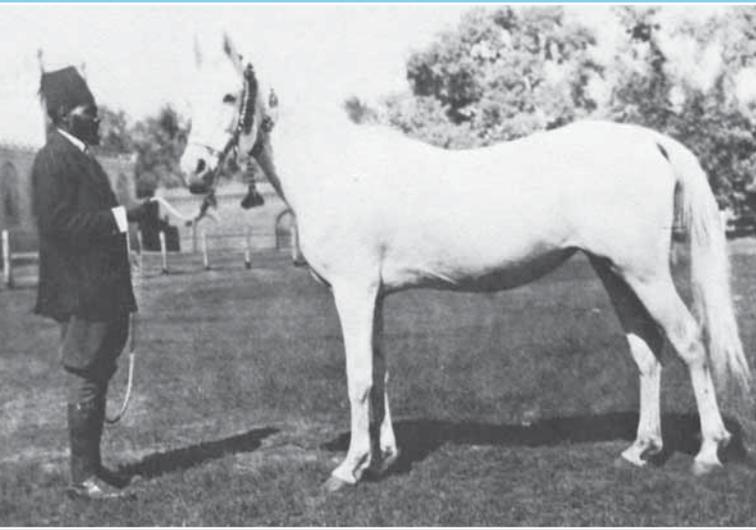


Ragia (Ibn Rabdan x Farida) 1938 chestnut mare, dam of Halima who produced Ansata Ibn Halima and Mohebbba



Farida family:

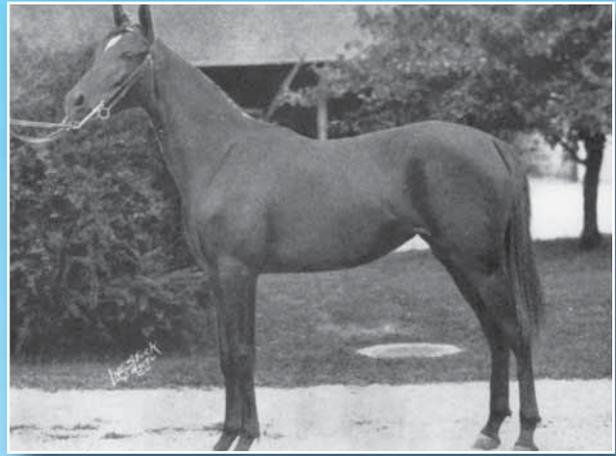
Beside the Bint Yamama line, one must not overlook several other female lines coming down from the Prince's stud as well. The celebrated mare Farida was bred by the Prince and figures largely in Egyptian breeding worldwide through Halima, Inas, Balance and others.



Dalal Al Zarka (Rabdan El Azrak x Om Dalal) 1903 grey mare pictured at Manial stud. She is the female line of Bint Saada and Moniet El Nefous



Khafifa (Ibn Samhan x Dalal Al Zarka) 1925 chestnut mare. She is the great grand dam of Moniet El Nefous and is closely related to Bint Saada



Bint Saada (Ibn Samhan x Saada, a grand daughter of Dalal Al Zarka) 1930 chestnut mare imported to the U.S. in 1932 by Henry Babson, she is of the same female line as Moniet El Nefous. Note some similarities to Khafifa

Om Dalal family:

The line from Om Dalal at the Prince's Manial stud is the female line of the queen of Egypt Moniet El Nefous. Her celebrated legend is well known yet few realize that the family was in the Manial stud of Prince Mohammed Ali.

Also the rare female line of the Kuhaylan Mimreh strain, coming from Gamila Manial, has narrowly survived in South Africa via the imported mare Baraka (Ibn Manial x Gamalat) who also was a granddaughter of the Prince's *Nasr. This blood still continues in South African Egyptian breeding. A unique feature about Prince Mohammed Ali's breeding program was that, except for one mating which did not breed on, all of his horses were of stock from the various Pashas and did not contain any of the original desert-bred horses that the Blunts had selected on their own and taken to Egypt.

In reviewing Prince Mohammed Ali's Arabian breeding program in Egypt which spans about 35 years, it is clear that his vision and oriental understanding of the Arabian horse has given us a treasure of classic Arabian type and character. For the naysayers who besmirch that an Arabian horse must first be utilitarian and looks are secondary, the Prince has succeeded in breeding beautiful Arabians who also have raced, participated in endurance and passed on many fine qualities to their offspring. The role and influence of Prince Mohammed Ali's Arabian breeding program, which began a century ago, is much larger today than generally realized.





Prince Kemal El Dine one of his hunting expeditions in the desert

Prince Kemal El Dine Hussein

There is no dramatic biography to be found about Prince Kemal El Dine. Very little is written about the Prince particularly in relation to his famous cousin Prince Mohamed Ali. However, Prince Kemal El Dine has also made a significant contribution to Egyptian Arabian breeding, much more than many would realize.

Prince Kemal El Dine was born in 1874 and died in 1932 at only 58 years old. He did not live nearly as long as his more published cousin. Their uncle King Fouad founder of the Inshass stud was only six years older, so of the same general age group. When King Fouad began his Inshass stud it is only natural that he would get horses from both Prince Mohammed Ali and Prince Kemal El Dine.

Little is known about his opinions on Arabian horses as he did not write books and articles like Prince Mohamed Ali did. He is said to have been an excellent sportsman and enjoyed hunting on horseback quite often. He liked his horses to be ridden and he was very much a fan of racing and entered some of his stock in the races. Examining how he assembled his breeding program, he appears to have had a preference for the Saqlawi Jidran strain and a keen interest in the Ali Pasha Sherif breeding which had predominated the Blunt's breeding program.

It is not clear when he began his stud as some of the get of his stallions Rustem and Sotamm are out of mares such as Rizkia, Nizma, and Hosni Higazia who were not listed in any official Egyptian records. These mares could have been owned prior to the acquisition of the Blunt bred stock. By 1919 he had ownership of a number of horses from Sheykh Obeyd stud in Egypt after the passing of Lady Anne Blunt in 1917.



Rustem (Astraled x Ridaa) 1908 bay stallion

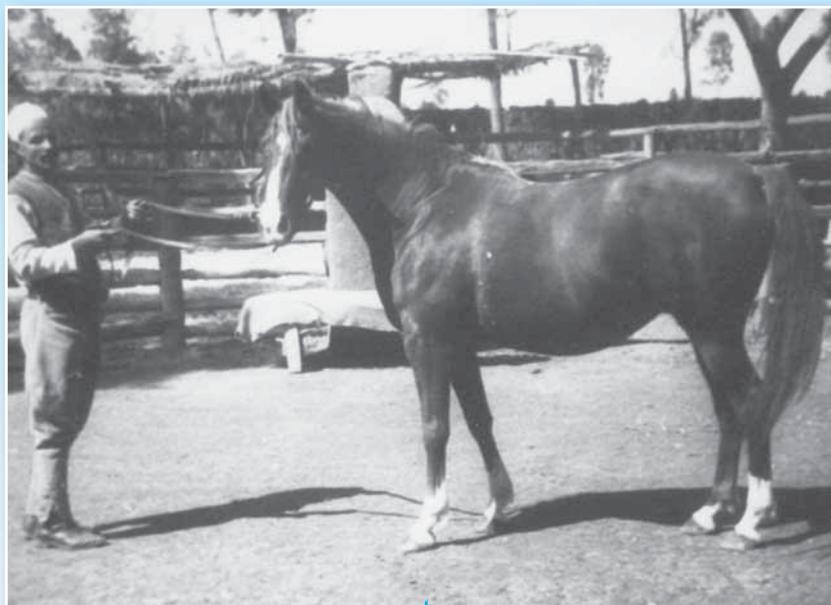
An interesting speculation of how he acquired the horses of Lady Anne is given by Dr. Erwin A. Piduch in his book *Egypt's Arab Horses, History and Cultural Heritage*. Dr. Piduch indicates that upon the death of Lady Anne, the executors of her estate offered the horses for sale that were at Sheykh Obeyd since wartime did not allow the horses to return to England. A buyer emerged for all the horses but his name remained unknown at the time. Afterwards it was assumed that the buyer was the Greek merchant, Mr. Kasdughli who had sold Lady Anne Blunt's mare *Durra* to the RAS. Dr. Piduch speculates that this assumption was not quite true and says there is sufficient evidence that the real buyer was Prince Kemal El Dine as revealed by the breeding of the horses he sold to his uncle King Fouad at Inshass. Dr. Piduch hypothesizes that Prince Kemal El Dine engaged Kasdughli to acquire the Sheykh Obeyd horses for him, keeping *Zareefa* (*Zarifa*), *Sara* (*Serra*), *Fayda* (*Feyda*), and *Dalal al Hamra* for himself while selling the others. Piduch states that the Prince, acting behind the scenes, urged Dr. Branch to go to Crabbet in 1919 to obtain whatever else he could of like breeding from Lady Wentworth. From Dr. Branch's efforts a large group of Arabians from Wentworth consisting of 18 stallions and two fillies went to the RAS and Prince Kemal El Dine got the stallions *Sotamm* (*Astraled x Selma*) and *Rustem* (*Astraled x Ridaa*).

The Prince died sometime in late 1932 after the Jack Humphrey visit in March to obtain horses as agent for W.R. Brown. Presumably Dr. Branch acted to place the Prince's

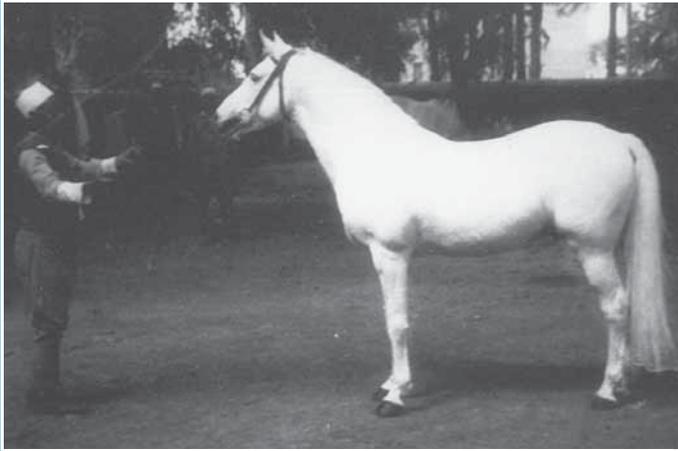
horses while he was in failing health. Jack Humphrey was able to obtain six horses from Prince Mohammed Ali but none from Prince Kemal El Dine. It was fortunate that Henry Babson was to arrive in Egypt in later 1932 after W.R. Brown's agent was there in March. The timing allowed Babson to be able to buy the excellent mare *Bint Serra I* from Prince Kemal El Dine when Jack Humphrey had not succeeded earlier in the year. All things considered Prince Kemal El Dine's stud probably began circa 1917, while arranging to buy horses from Lady Anne Blunt's estate, and lasted to his death in 1932.

Whatever the circumstances, upon reflection, Prince Kemal El Dine is remembered for his particular focus on the Blunt bred stock. From these choices he was able to breed Arabians with exceptionally high percentages of Ali Pasha Sherif stock, many of the Saqlawi Jidran strain. He also used the stallions of his famed brother-in-law, Prince Mohamed Ali such as *Hadban* and **Nasr*; and stallions of the RAS such as *Ibn Rabdan* and *Awad*. Much of the core of his breeding went to his uncle King Fouad at Inshass stud and if one were calculating today the influence of Prince Kemal El Dine's breeding it would be exceptionally strong at Inshass.

The breeding of Prince Kemal El Dine can best be summed up by the use of his two main stallions *Rustem* and *Sotamm* and the four female lines he used: *Bint Dalal* [*Al Hamra*], *Zareefa*, *Fayda* and *Serra*. *Bint Dalal*, *Zareefa* and *Fayda* all predominate the breeding of the Inshass stud



Bint Bint Dalal (Ibn Rabdan x Bint Dalal) 1926 chestnut mare photographed at Prince Kemal El Dine's stud by Jack Humphrey in 1932, Photo courtesy of the late Carol Lyon's collection



Rasheed (Jamil x Zareefa) 1917 grey stallion photographed at Prince Kemal El Dine's stud by Jack Humphrey in 1932, Photo courtesy of the late Carol Lyon's collection

while the Serra family is mainly from the Babson breeding with a rare line coming from Egypt to Germany then to the U.S. [See *Desert Heritage* n. 14/2008: Serra The Beautiful White Mare].

Bint Dalal family:

The Bint Dalal [Al Hamra] family goes back to the Dahman Shahwan mare Bint El Bahreyn. Bint Dalal and her daughter Bint Bint Dalal (x Ibn Rabdan) have only male representatives coming from the Prince. These males were all stallions in the Inshass stud:

- El Zafir 1930 grey stallion (Awad x Bint Dalal)
- Mekdam 1932 bay stallion (Rustem x Bint Bint Dalal)
- El Belbesi 1936 chestnut stallion (El Zafir x Bint Bint Dalal)

Zareefa family:

The Zareefa (Blunt) family goes back to the Saqlawi Jidran mare Ghazieh from Abbas Pasha. Zareefa was bred by the Blunts at Sheykh Obeyd and later obtained by the Prince. She is a daughter of the beautiful and famed Radia. Zareefa produced two foals that became a part of Prince Kemal El Dine's stud, the stallion Rasheed (x Jamil) and the mare Bint Zareefa (x Hadban).

Rasheed sired three get at Inshass that are found in today's breeding:

- El Zahraa 1934 chestnut mare out of Zahra (1922)
- Bint Kareema 1935 grey mare out of Kareema (Inshass)
- Ragaa 1937 chestnut mare out of Saada (1931)

Bint Zareefa produced two foals at Inshass that are found in today's breeding:

- El Moez 1934 grey stallion by Ibn Fayda
- Abla 1936 bay mare by El Zafir



Ibn Fayda (Ibn Rabdan x Fayda) 1927 bay stallion shown as an older horse



Bint Serra (Sotamm x Serra) 1923 bay mare pictured at the Babson farm shortly after importation in 1932



El Moez was an important sire at Inshass but is most remembered as the sire of the legendary Sameh. Abba is remembered as the grand dam of Anter.

Fayda family:

The Fayda (Feyda) family also goes back to the Saqlawi Jidran mare Ghazieh from Abbas Pasha. Fayda was bred by the Blunts at Sheykh Obeyd and later obtained by the Prince. She is represented only by her son Ibn Fayda 1927 bay stallion (x Ibn Rabdan). Ibn Fayda became a sire at Inshass stud and sired:

El Moez 1934 grey stallion out of Bint Zareefa (1926)

Adham 1937 black stallion out of Zahra (1922)

Aziza 1938 bay mare out of El Kahila (1921)

Zaher 1939 black stallion out of Zahra (1922)

Serra family:

The Serra family also traces back to Ghazieh. Serra's only female link is through her daughter Bint Serra (Sotamm) and imported to the U.S. by Henry Babson. Her three get that are in Egyptian breeding are:

Fay El Dine 1934 grey stallion by Fadl (1930)

Fa Deene 1937 grey mare by Fadl (1930)

Fa-Serr 1947 black stallion by Fadl (1930)

Serra also produced a son Zareef by Rustem whose blood narrowly survives via his daughter Atlus 1941 grey mare out of Zamzam.

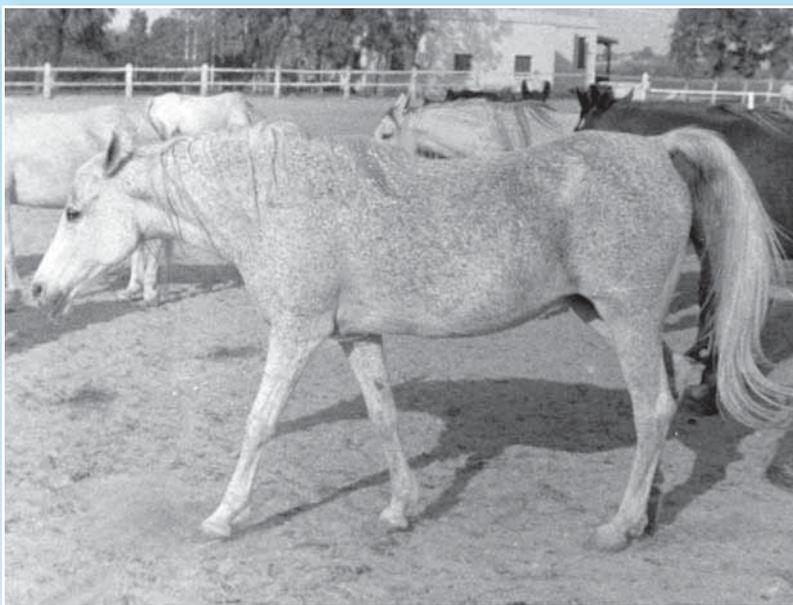
Rustem and Sotamm:

Prince Kemal El Dine's stallion Rustem was a sire in England before coming to Egypt. Two Rustem sons of the Prince's breeding are the above mentioned Mekdam and Zareef. The only Prince Kemal El Dine bred daughter of Sotamm in modern Egyptian breeding is the previously mentioned Bint Serra. Sotamm's son Kazmeyn was bred in England and then imported by the RAS.

In examining the lists above it is apparent that the Saqlawi strain dominates with 3 mares and one stallion. The Dahman mare Dalal Al Hamra is represented through her male representatives, El Zafir, El Belbesi and Mekdam. The impact of Prince Kemal El Dine's breeding program spreads far and wide throughout Egyptian bloodlines yet today most of it comes down through the Inshass stud.

Ghazala I a 1941 grey mare (El Moez x El Zahraa) bred by the Inshass stud shown here in old age. She represents 100 percent of the combined breeding programs of Prince Mohammed Ali and Prince Kemal El Din. She is tail female to Bint Yamama while combining key animals from Prince Kemal El Din.

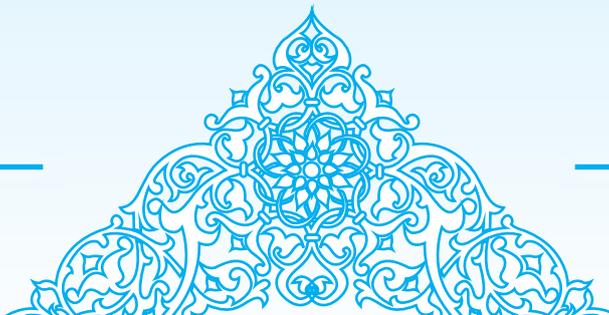
If one were to extend the pedigrees back a few generations of Prince Kemal El Dine's breeding program one would realize that he had a truly magnificent concentration of some of the most celebrated of the Ali Pasha Sherif horses.



Ghazala I



Ghazala I's daughter the beautiful Zobeya (Zabia) a 1951 grey mare (Adham x Ghazala I)





Anter (Hamdan x Obeya) 1945 chestnut stallion, rich in the blood of Prince Kemal El Dine's breeding program. A key sire of many great mares and stallions, he was one of the last of the Inshass sires before the stud closed its doors. His incorporation into the EAO was very significant.

*One can go through the pedigrees of many famous Egyptian Arabians today and find Sotamm prevalent in them through his son Kazmeyn who sired Bint Samiha (dam of Nazeer), Zareefa RAS (dam of El Sareei) and Bint Sabah (dam of *Bint Bint Sabbah, Bukra, and Sheikh El Arab) and Sotamm is also prevalent through his daughter Bint Serra. Rustem appears primarily through Bint Rustem and Mekdam. Fortunately the Inshass stud was built on a number of the Prince's horses assuring that his vision would continue. In looking at the wonder pictures of the stallion Anter, I cannot help but wonder if he might meet with Prince Kemal El Dine's approval of the horse of his vision and sometimes*

I see his image harkening back to the days of the chestnut horses of Ali Pasha Sherif and of the Blunt's Sheikh Obeyd stud.

The combining of horses from these two famous Princes of Egypt's royal history has stood to this day as a worthy tribute to their passion, vision and commitment to the noble Arabian horse of the desert galloping freely across the sands along the Nile. □

