

AL RAHIBAA

The Heir Apparent

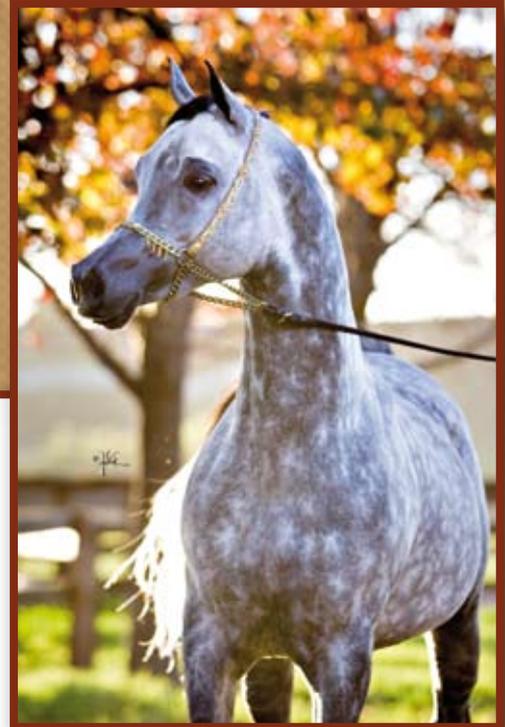
photo by April Vial



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by Tzviyah Idan - © All Rights Reserved

photos by April Visel, Javan, Menashe Cohen, Muhsen Onallah, Nancy Pierce, Suzanne, Shira Yeger



photos by April Visel

Al Raheb AA (Labeeb x The Vision HG) is already a star, and his star is definitely on the rise. An exceptionally beautiful stallion of extraordinary presence, Al Raheb is tremendously bold and masculine yet at the same time extremely refined. He has large, dark unforgettable eyes and an extreme head, which is very broad at the forehead and then tapers down in a generous dish to a small, beautifully chiseled muzzle. He is tall and regal with smooth flowing lines, a dazzling, living portrait of quality and type. Superb movement, perfect tail carriage, and a quiet nobility complete the picture.

The youngest of four full siblings sired by international sire Labeeb out of the legendary black The Vision HG, Al Raheb is perhaps a perfect blending of the best traits of his sire and dam. Bred by the famous Ariela Arabians in Bnei Zion, Israel, he was purchased while still a weanling by the astute Egyptian Arabian breeder Muhsen Onallah as a future herd sire for his Al Fawaz Stud. Now standing in America through 2012, remarkable stallion is already making waves from sea to shining sea.

SHOW RECORD

2006

Colt Foal Champion at the Israeli Egyptian Event.

2007

Junior Champion at the Galilee Arabian Horse Festival.
Reserve Junior Champion at the Israeli Egyptian Event.
Israeli Reserve National Champion Colt.

2008

Reserve Junior Champion at the Galilee Arabian Horse Festival.

2009

Bronze Medal Champion at the Israeli Nationals.
Gold Medal Colt at the Israeli Egyptian Cup.

2010

Bronze Medal Champion Stallion at the Israeli Nationals.
Gold Medal Stallion at the Israeli Egyptian Event.

2011

Gold Medal Champion Stallion at the Egyptian Event USA.
Supreme Champion Stallion at the Egyptian Event USA .



photo by April Fird



AL RAHEB AA
Grey Saklawi Jedran Stallion
Foaled 19 May 2006

A Look at Al Raheb's Pedigree

Al Raheb's impressive physical presence is an honest reflection of a flawless pedigree which shows a classic blending of Dahman and Saklawi lines. His sire Laheeb, a Dahman Shabwan by strain, traces back in the tail-female to the root mare Al Dahma through the prolific Bint Bint Sabbah. A son of international sire and former World Champion Imperial Imdal, Laheeb was the first straight Egyptian stallion in modern times to serve as head sire at a Polish state stud. He is also a great-grandson of US National Champion Stallion Ansata Ibn Sudan, and strongly linebred on both sides of his pedigree to Ansata Ibn Halima and Morafic.

Laheeb's dam, the classic AK Latifa is herself a granddaughter of Ansata Ibn Halima and Morafic, and her pedigree combines blood from America's earliest Egyptian programs with more modern Egyptian lines, including close-up breeding to two very valuable and consistent broodmare sires, Ibn Moniet el Nefous and Sirecho. Breed authorities agree that her son Laheeb is one of the most valuable Arabian stallions of his generation, impacting greatly not only on Egyptian lines, but on the entire breed.

The Vision HG, dam of Al Raheb, is certainly one of the most influential -- if not the most influential -- straight Egyptian broodmare of her generation and is an exquisite black beauty in her own right. A double granddaughter of US Top Ten Stallion The Minstril, The Vision is Saklawi Jedran Ibn Sudan by strain and traces back through the Zafaarana branch of this family to the Egyptian root mare Radia. Her sire is the extremely valuable Thee Desperado, the undisputed leading sire of Straight Egyptians worldwide bringing forward the Nazeer sire line through Morafic. Desperado's dam, AK Amiri Asmaar, is a direct daughter of the proven broodmare sire The Egyptian Prince out of a rare Zaghloul daughter sired by Ibn Hafiza. These rare outcross lines balance the strong linebreeding to Nazeer found throughout The Vision's pedigree. Her double grandsire, The Minstril, is out of the rare Ibn Galal I-1 daughter Bahila, herself a strong representative of the important blending strain Habban Enzahi, and carrying close-up bloodlines noted for superior athletic ability and excellent pigmentation.

The Vision's dam was the unforgettable bay mare Belle Star, a mare of exceptional refinement, her most remarkable characteristic being an extremely beautiful and chiseled face. Belle Star's dam, Alia-Aenor, was a direct daughter of The Egyptian Prince, which brings in even more close up blood to Moniet El Nefous through Morafic and Bint Mona. The Vision traces back in the tail-female to the exceptional Al Badeia broodmare Hasnaa Albadeia, a Kayed daughter out of El Ameerah [El Amira] and full sister to the very influential American imports Talal and Ansata Bint Zafaarana.

In the Beginning

It is only natural that the Ariela team would have had great expectations even before Al Raheb was born, as this foal would be another full sibling to the legendary Al Lahab, international champion Al Hadiyah AA, and proven producer and Israeli Egyptian Cup champion mare Al Hala AA.

Farm manager Chen Kedar recalls, "The Vision-Laheeb cross has always been a golden cross for us, and we awaited the birth of this new foal with great anticipation. My memory of Al Raheb as a newborn is that of an exceptionally smooth and refined colt with Vision's extreme head and lovely eye, and the longest of legs. Obviously stallion material, and definitely a colt to watch."

Muhsen Onallah, owner of Al Raheb and the Fawaz Stud, was also impressed by the colt early on. "I first saw Al Raheb when he was about two months old and still beside his dam. I knew then and there that I wanted him for my stud. He already looked like a stallion to me, and I felt an immediate and strong connection with him. The stallion I was looking for would have to be out of a mare who was a proven producer and by a stallion who was a supreme sire, and Al Raheb fit the bill perfectly."

"After watching him mature and looking over his first few foal crops, I feel confident that Al Raheb has absolutely fulfilled the promise of his pedigree. He and his progeny will continue to make a tremendous contribution to our own Egyptian program, and I am certain that he can be of great value to any Arabian breeder looking for a stallion who can stamp extreme type, show presence, and superior motion on his foals."

Under the Al Fawaz Stud colours Al Raheb achieved an enviable show record under the charge of the talented Arabian horse presenter, Mofeed Sabnini. These wins include: Junior Champion at the Galilee Arabian Horse Festival, Reserve Junior Champion at the Egyptian Event and Israeli Reserve National Champion Colt in 2007; Reserve Junior Champion at the Galilee Arabian Horse Festival in 2008; Bronze Medal Colt at the Israeli Nationals and Gold Medal Colt at the Israeli Egyptian Cup in 2009; and Bronze Medal Stallion at the Israeli Nationals and Gold Medal Stallion at the Israeli Egyptian Event in 2010, where he was presented by Frank Sponle.

From his very first foals born in 2009 his get were stamped with their sire's exceptional type and refinement, flowing lines and beautiful eyes. Last April the Al Raheb colt Al Manal (Omniet Al Ayun) won the title of Gold Medal Colt at Israel's 2012 Spring Show.

Al Raheb as a foal at the 2006 Israeli Egyptian Event – photo by Shira Yeger



photo by Suzanne

“Al Raheb compliments his pedigree. His ancestors have proven to continually produce horses of traditional classic Arabian type. The beautiful Belle Staar, Al Raheb’s granddam, founded a most successful family, as did her daughter, The Vision. Of course Imperial Imdal, AK Latifa, and Thee Desperado confirm Al Raheb’s solid foundation. Pillars of the breed indeed.”

Judi Forbis

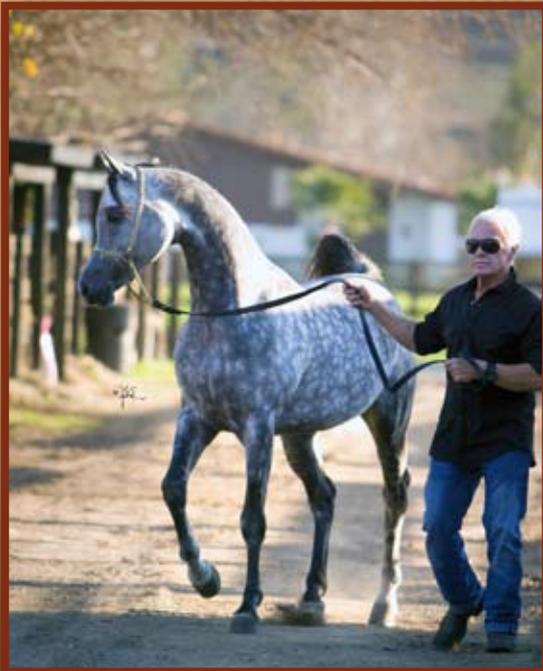


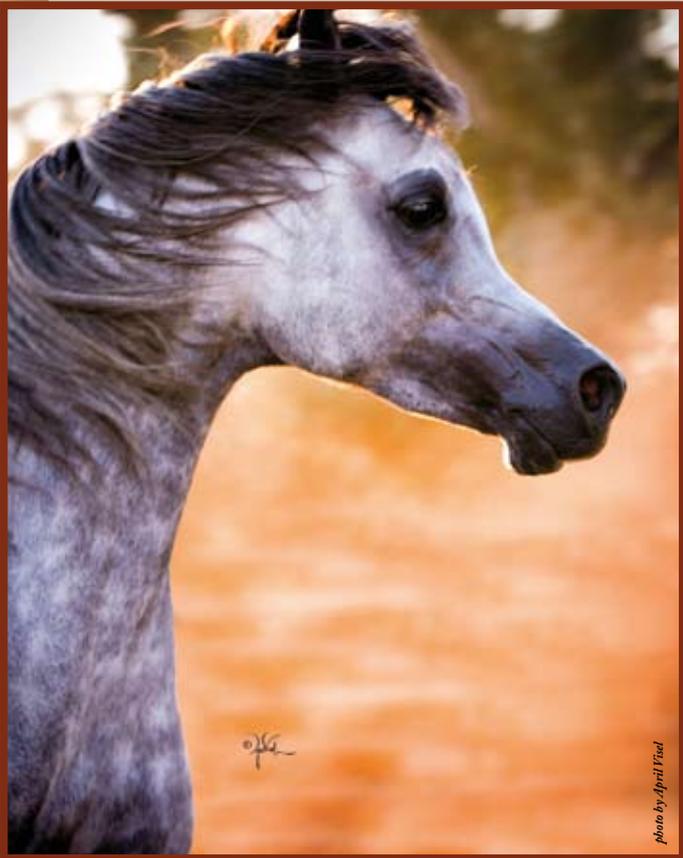
photo by April Tisd

“I am absolutely certain that Al Raheb has what it takes to be an important international sire. Out of the many world class stallions I could have leased from Europe or the Middle East, Al Raheb was my very first choice. He has an impeccable pedigree and is a stunning and striking individual with exceptional movement and a true star quality.”

Raymond Mazzei



photo by Judi



Off to America

Because of his sterling family credentials *Al Raheb* has been closely followed ever since he was born by veteran Arabian horse professionals from around the world. One very partial observer is the well-respected Raymond Mazzei of Furioso Farms in California. Mazzei, an Arabian breeder, trainer, judge and bloodstock agent, is very familiar with the Arabian horses of Israel and has been closely following the select straight Egyptians being bred there over many years. A good part of his business is making exceptional stallions available to his clients and associates that are able to consistently sire offspring which can win at important shows in America and abroad, and which then go on to produce winners themselves.

Mazzei is intimately familiar with *Al Raheb's* entire family, and for good reason. It was he who brought *Labeeb* to America after evaluating what the horse had sired from some of Poland's finest mares. Later he leased *Al Raheb's* three-quarter brother, *Al Maraam* (*Imperial Imdal* x *The Vision* HG), who holds the record as Israel's leading sire of show champions and was *The Vision's* very first foal. Both stallions did remarkable well at Furioso and left behind offspring of tremendous quality.

Mazzei is often in Israel for the important shows and kept a close eye on *Al Raheb*. Finally, in late 2010 he clinched the deal with *Al Fawaz* Stud that would send the horse to America. When this export was made public *Mazzei* went on record saying, "I am absolutely certain that *Al Raheb* has what it takes to be an important international sire. Out of the many world class stallions I could have leased from Europe or the Middle East, *Al Raheb* was my absolute first choice. He has an impeccable pedigree and is a stunning and striking individual with exceptional movement and a true star quality."

"He combines the nobility, elegance and flowing lines of *Labeeb* with the extreme type, expressive eye, and ultra-refinement of *The Vision*. As he matures he will only get better. I have looked at each and every one of his foals and am very impressed with their consistent high quality. Based on my past experience with these bloodlines I have no doubt that *Al Raheb* will be a phenomenal sire."

Manny Vierra of Valley Oak Arabians in California, is one of the most prominent American breeders to cover mares with *Al Raheb* last year. Vierra owns no less than eight *Labeeb* daughters and two *Labeeb* sons, and explained, "When I had the opportunity to first see *Al Raheb*, I thought he possessed all the great qualities that I needed to cross on my Polish mares and my straight Egyptian mares. I bred one of my best Polish mares, my Emigrant daughter *Euscera* out of *Elcantara*, a Pamir daughter who was US Top Ten mare, for a combination of Polish and Egyptian blood. I also chose *Al Raheb* for two of my straight mares, *Alidaria*, by *Thee Outlaw* (*Thee Desperado* x *Alidatress* by *Alidaar*), and *Jewelize*, (*Shahir LASB* x *Saphirre* by *Thee Desperado*)."

"I am very excited to have some of *Al Raheb's* first foal crop here in the US. I believe he will be a very good sire for outcross mares in this country and a great addition to the Valley Oak Arabians breeding program. I have been a long time fan of *Labeeb* and I am also a big fan of *The Vision*. I was able to visit Poland on numerous occasions to see what *Labeeb's* blood produced with Polish mares. The outcome was phenomenal and I expect no less from *Al Raheb*."

History Repeats Itself

In June of last year, *Al Raheb* was shipped cross-country to Lexington, Kentucky in order to compete at the prestigious US Egyptian Event, where he was presented by Steve Dady Stables. Like his full brother *Al Lahab* before him, *Al Raheb* was eventually chosen 2011 Egyptian Event Gold Medal Stallion and Egyptian Event Supreme Champion Stallion by a formidable panel of international judges.



The pure Polish mare EUSCERA (Emigrant x Elcantara by Pamir), owned by Valley Oak Arabians in California, is in foal to Al Rabeab for 2012. Photo by April Viesel



The beautiful colt HIL AL AL FAWAZ (Al Rabeab AA x Qatifa Sitara), bred by Al Farwaz Stud, now owned by veteran Arabian breeder Said Kheir of Jordan. Photo by Muhsen Onallab



The elegant Al Rabeab son AL RAHAB out of DZ Victoria Kurafa (HT El Khurafa x KZ Fiama by Baahir), owned by Ofri and Gil Ron. Photo by Javan



BINT MUSALIHA owned by Mubamad Najmi was Al Rabeab's very first foal, a filly out of the rare Malik daughter Musaliba ex Nil Nour by Jamil. Photo by Shira Yeger

Veteran breeder Judi Forbis was on hand to award the championship trophy and observed Al Raheb being presented at the Event. "Who will forget when Al Labab and his sire, Labeeb, presented themselves so confidently at the Egyptian Event in Kentucky and won Champion and Reserve?" she recalled.

"Now in 2011 it was Al Raheb's turn to take the spotlight. Everyone was watching him – myself included, albeit from a distance on the rail. A handsome stallion of kind demeanor, yet spirited, he stood out in the finals as one to beat. When the judges' cards were in, his win was a triumph not only for Al Raheb AA and his breeder, but for those horses and breeders in his past."

"Blood will tell" as the old saying goes, and for full brothers, Al Labab and Al Raheb AA, to win important international events, even though they are different in type, celebrates their quality. What a splendid opportunity to witness and appreciate uniqueness between individuals of similar or exact bloodlines. And, also, to contemplate how they will breed on."

"Al Raheb complements his pedigree. His ancestors have proven to continually produce horses of traditional classic Arabian type. The beautiful Belle Staar, Al Raheb's granddam, founded a most successful family as did her daughter, The Vision. Of course Imperial Imdal, AK Latifa, and Thee Desperado, confirm Al Raheb's solid foundation. Pillars of the breed – indeed."



HASNA AL FAWAZ
(Al Raheb AA x Dalaa Al Fawaz), a filly bred by Al Fawaz Stud
and owned by Mofeed Sachnini.
Photo by Muhsen Onallab

In February 2012 Mazzei brought Al Raheb to the all-important All Arabian Show in Scottsdale where he was presented to the Arabian public and attracted a tremendous amount of interest from prominent American trainers and other industry professionals. Their consensus was that Al Raheb is the straight Egyptian horse to breed from because he has what it takes to compete successfully not just against straight Egyptians, but against the very best show horses of any bloodlines the breed can offer. They were especially impressed with his tremendously supple and shapely neck, his very tight and good coupled body, and his superlative motion because these traits, especially when combined with extreme Egyptian elegance and type, all add up to make Al Raheb a superior show sire.





*Straight Egyptian colt by Al Rabeb AA out of an Al Baraki daughter bred by Raymond Mazzei, Furioso Farms.
Photo by Javan*



*The exotic 2009 Al Rabeb filly
AUSTORA AL FAWAZ
out of HV Ramses Mashallah,
owned and bred by
Al Fawaz Stud.
Photos by Menashe Cohen*



*Pictured above and below is the lovely 2010 Al Rabeb filly FARAH AL FAWAZ
out of IK Kamilla, bred by Al Fawaz Stud and owned by Khalid Faboum.
Photos by Menashe Cohen*



*The extremely refined 2009
Al Rabeb daughter
RAWAA AL FAWAZ
out of Qatifa Sitara, bred by Al Fawaz Stud
and owned by Moataz Younis.
Photo by Mubsen Onallab*



A Bright Future

Based on Al Raheb's record so far, it appears that Muhsen Onallah can look forward to a brilliant future for his stallion. Onallah quietly admits that there is already more than one offer on the table to stand Al Raheb in the Arabian Gulf once he leaves America, and the select Al Fawaz broodmare band, along with scores of experienced Israeli Egyptian breeders, patiently await the stallion's eventual return back home. A final decision on what the next step will be for Al Raheb will be made later on this year.

Raymond Mazzei cannot say enough about this horse, and says that his love and respect for him simply grow stronger with every day that passes. "Raheb has all the makings of a truly brilliant sire, and his greatest value is not the great job he does on straight mares, it is what he can do when

crossed with great Polish and other non-Egyptian show mares."

"Crossing Egyptian lines on other bloodlines is what produces the world's most beautiful Arabians. I am confident that Raheb will consistently pass on the traits that create truly great show horses -- and I am speaking here as the guy who managed both Labeeb and Al Maraam. I know his family inside and out and he has a pedigree that is bred to produce."

"The longer he is here, the more I appreciate his uniqueness compared to his full siblings, Al Labab and Al Hadiyah. Each of these is an excellent individual in his own right, and I really like them both. For what its worth, in my opinion, it is Al Raheb who is the most complete of all the three." □



*2011 Egyptian Event Supreme Champion Stallion Al Raheb AA poses with owner Muhsen Onallah (third from left) and family at the awards ceremony
Photo by Nancy Pierce*