

# News

from

■ by **Judith Wich**

photos by Dr. Nasr Marei

*Albadeia Arabian Stud looks back to a long history full of excellence and importance. The stud farm was founded in 1935 and is famous for outstanding horses of a distinctive type. However, Albadeia is constantly evolving and developing. The owner Dr. Nasr Marei shares with us the latest exciting news about his breeding program.*

**Judith Wich: The year 2007 saw a historic exchange between your Albadeia Stud and Ariela Arabians, Israel. Please tell us more about this project!**

*Dr. Nasr Marei: Driven by my urge to improve the quality of my horses, I always look for new fronts. My gene pool is well-rooted and old and filtered through many decades of breeding and selection. Acqui-*

*ring new experiences through the years of breeding, visiting farms, seeing more horses around the world and I may add, the exposure I get by judging the most important shows of*

*Europe, the Middle East, Australia, Africa and the Americas enabled me to recognize areas of weakness as well as strength in the quality of the horses I have.*

*As all breeders know, injecting some fresh bloodlines and the attributes of certain horses will certainly enrich the gene pool and provide the breeder with more genetic tools to employ.*

*Through the last few years, I did that by using few selected non-Albadeia stallions in my breeding program. Most recently, I imported Simeon Sharav (Asfour x Simeon Shuala) and used him with great success. He is a stallion that definitely has added another dimension to my program by siring horses like Haytham Albadeia, Tammam Albadeia, Ghaith Albadeia, Tarneema Albadeia, Sajda Albadeia and many others. I consider these horses to be assets for the future of Albadeia.*

*I also used Majd Al Rayyan (Safir x Ansata Nawarra) who was leased from Al Rayyan Farm of Qatar. He produced some extremely beautiful horses like Rayyan Albadeia, Tasaheel Albadeia, Kenooz Albadeia and many others who have fulfilled my expectations.*

*For the current breeding season I de-*



# Albadeia strid

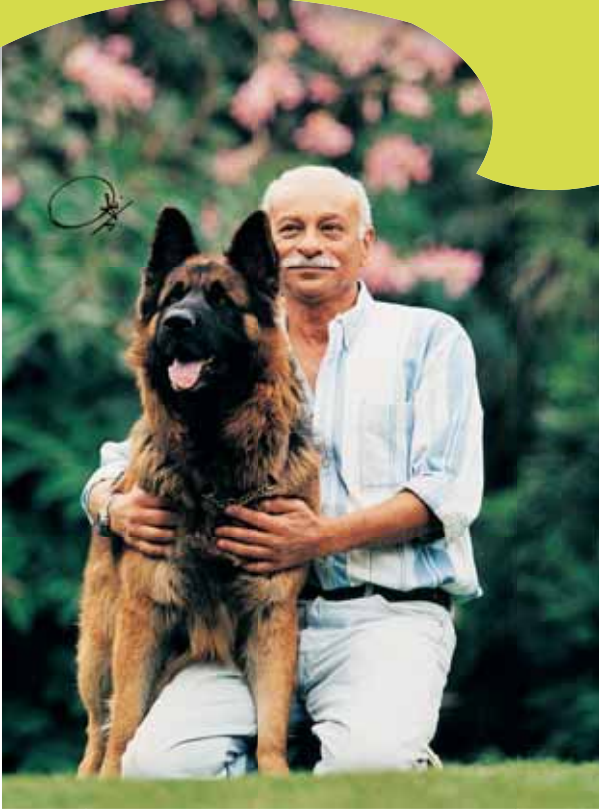
*decided to seek another stallion to continue implementing the changes that I thought will better my horses. I was judging at the Brazilian National Championships in November 2007 and I thought of Laheeb (Imperial Imdal x AK Latifa) who belongs to Ariela Arabians of Israel. This stallion was always in the back of my mind but thought that he will be hard to get. I considered him to be probably one of the best stallions I know of at present that can add significantly to the Albadeia gene pool. In addition, his get are superb as we all know. Al Lahab, the multi- and World Champion is one example. His full sister, Loubna again is multi- and World Champion. I always wanted Laheeb but knew that he was leased to Poland's Janow Podlaski and then went to the USA. I expected that Ariela Arabians was very keen in having him back home after over 6 years abroad.*

*Anyway, I decided that I will have nothing to loose by asking Chen Kedar, the manager of Ariela. I called her from Brazil and asked her whether I could lease Laheeb for Albadeia for a breeding season. To my sur-*

*prise, Chen told me that it was funny but she actually wanted to call me to ask if she can lease Simeon Sharav and thought that I may turn her down! The exchange was agreed on, on the spot. Both of us were very happy. Simeon Sharav is now with Ariela in Israel and Laheeb is at Albadeia. Both stallions will be bred to some of the best mares and are going to have a tremendous impact on both sides of the common borders. We also agreed that they will not only breed mares of both farms, but also others who belong to other breeding programs.*

**Judith Wich: What are your hopes for the Albadeia breeding program resulting from this exchange?**

*Dr. Nasr Marei: When I select a new stallion to use on my mares, my goal is to add or change some characteristics lacking in my herd without subtracting any that I already have and want to keep. After almost eight decades of breeding, Albadeia horses have attained a certain type and look. Drastically changing this would not be appropriate in my view and could lead to the loss of identity. Laheeb is a very correct and balanced stallion. He is a "complete" horse. Laheeb has a wonderful body with amazing harmony. The length of his body matches very well that of the neck. The shape of shoulder and their angle is*



Dr. Nasr Marei

*almost perfect. The way the neck is set with its lovely shape, uprightness and length just adds to the correctness of the body. When we move on to the head with its masculine prettiness, small and beautifully shaped ears, proper eye set and jaw bone, intelligent and serene eyes and the square muzzle with flared nostrils, we end up with a remarkable head.*

*Laheeb's body may be considered to be somewhat longer than the backs I have on my horses. However, the back's length balances well with the length of the neck, the depth of croup and the breadth of the shoulder blades.*

*Laheeb's croup is ideal. Just right in my opinion as far as its depth, shape and tail set are concerned. In movement, he employs the strength of his hind quarters to propel him up and away in a powerful and yet agile movement. This is coordinated with a strong animated movement from his front quarters where movement originates from the shoulders.*

*Laheeb's body covers a lot of ground. He has a wide chest with extremely correct four legs.*

*Last but not least, Laheeb's disposition is amazingly charming. He is a gentleman with all what this word entails. Laheeb is sweet, easy to handle, with no bad habits whatsoever, even during breeding.*

*All these traits are a breeder's dream. I am sure that with my mares who are also very strong in many of the characteristics mentioned above, he will produce outstanding foals. Laheeb will just emphasize many of these attributes and hopefully improve the areas that have shortcomings.*

**Judith Wich:** *Which young breeding horses at Albadeia do you evaluate as especially promising?*

*Dr. Nasr Marei: The outcome of my past experiences in using stallions that are somewhat distant from my bloodlines speaks for themselves. As mentioned above, Simeon Sharav has produced some foals who I consider will contribute to the future of the Albadeia breeding program. Many of his outstanding colts and fillies have won major championships and*



## Laheeb

*possess great breeding potential. Haytham Albadeia (out of Galagel Albadeia) is now a proud prime sire at Albadeia, standing next to some of the best stallions I have ever bred like Magd Albadeia, Farid Albadeia and his son Nagham Albadeia. He has sired two exquisite colts. Another young stallion of his, Tammam Albadeia (out of Tamimah Albadeia) stands at Albidayer Stud in Sharjah next to some exquisite horses belonging to Sheikh Mohammed Al Qasimi. Tarneema Albadeia (full sister to Tammam), recently sold to Italy, won the National Foal Championship when she was a weanling. Simeon Sharav was also used by other breeders resulting in some wonderful get like Nasr Alsharbatly and Jomana Alsharbatly. Both were National Junior Champions.*

*My second example is the use of Majd Al Rayyan. When this stallion was brought in, many local breeders told me that he is not of the standard that comes up to Albadeia horses. He has his faults like any other horse. A "perfect" horse is yet to be found. Recognizing a horse's shortcoming*





## Tammam *Albadeia*

is the first step before a breeder can successfully use him. That is where the breeder's experience, talent and knowledge plays its role. I selected some specific mares to be covered by Majd. Again the outcome was extremely satisfying. Kenoz Albadeia (out of Farha Albadeia) and her full sister in blood, Tasaheel Albadeia (out of Bashoosha Albadeia) are outstanding. Their dams are by Farid Albadeia out of Gelgelah Albadeia, the multi- and World Champion Mare. He has also produced a very promising colt, Rayyan Albadeia (out of Hekayet Albadeia). I am counting on this colt to be a show ring winner and superb future stallion.

**Judith Wich: Who are the current main pillars of your breeding program?**

*Dr. Nasr Marei: I consider the following horses to be the significant ones on which I will base my future breeding program:*

**Stallions:**

*Magd Albadeia (Rashdan x Bint Makhous)*

*Farid Albadeia (Ameer Albadeia x Farida) – Next January he will be 25 years old!*

*Simeon Sharav (Asfour x Simeon Shaula)*

*Naghham Albadeia (Farid Albadeia x Dnada-*

*nah Albadeia)*

*Haytham Albadeia (Simeon Sharav x Galagel Albadeia)*

*Ghaith Albadeia (Simeon Sharav x Tamimat Albadeia)*

*Dahoom Albadeia (Farid Albadeia x Simeon Safir)*

*Mohanad Albadeia (Magd Albadeia x Simeon Safir)*

**Mares:**

*Tamimah Albadeia (Bar Sama Halim x Anisat Albadeia)*

*Sahlallah Albadeia (Bar Sama Halim x Nadrat Albadeia)*

*Simeon Safir (Asfour x Simeon Safanad)*

*Hekayet Albadeia (Anaza Bey Shahh x Simeon Safir)*

*Sondos Albadeia (Farid Albadeia x Mahasen Albadeia)*

*Zaghroudat Albadeia (Adl x Kamar Albadeia)*

*Isaad Albadeia (Jaafar Albadeia x Zaghroudat Albadeia)*

*Kamarain Albadeia (Inshallah Albadeia x Kamar Albadeia)*

*Galagel Albadeia (Imperial Madori x Anhar Albadeia)*

*Farha Albadeia (Farid Albadeia x Gelgelah Albadeia)*

*Bashoosha Albadeia (Farid Albadeia x Gelgelah Albadeia)*

*Semha Albadeia (Magd Albadeia x Zaghroudat Albadeia)*

*Shaza Albadeia (Jaafar Albadeia x Sondos Albadeia)*

*Itlalah Albadeia (Simeon Sharav x Sondos Albadeia)*

*Sajda Albadeia (Simeon Sharav x Aayat Albadeia)*

*Ghalia Albadeia (Simeon Sharav x Galagel Albadeia)*



## Farneema *Albadeia*





Magd  
*Albadeia*

*Judith Wich: Which young breeding horses at Albadeia do you evaluate as especially promising?*

*Dr. Nasr Marei: The above horses are the pillars of my program and will shape the future. However, many young ones will soon be integrated in the program. For example among the colts are:*

*Rayyan Albadeia (Majd Al Rayyan x Hekayet Albadeia)*

*Taj Albadeia (Imperial Baraag x Tmimah Albadeia)*

*Samer Albadeia (Haytham Albadeia x Sondos Albadeia)*

*Among the fillies, I consider the following to be extremely valuable for the future plans at Albadeia:*

*Kenooz Albadeia (Majd Al Rayyan x Farha Albadeia)*

*Tasaheel Albadeia (Majd Al Rayyan x Bashoosha Albadeia)*

*Amoora Albadeia (Magd Albadeia x Kamarain Albadeia)*

*Those are only a few.*



Simeon  
*Sharav*





Nagham *Albadeia*



Haytham *Albadeia*



Ghaith *Albadeia*



Dahoom *Albadeia*



## Tamimat *Albadeia*

**Judith Wich: What are the characteristics of a typical Albadeia Arabian?**

*Dr. Nasr Marei: Albadeia has acquired a certain look since the breeding philosophy has been carried on and evolved, based on a certain vision. In a nutshell, the objective is to retain the "Classical" type, correctness and have stronger movement. Many of my horses today reflect these attributes. I know that these are somewhat subjective terms and can be interpreted in different ways.*

*In this case, I would suggest that you look on some of the photos here, on my website and in previous articles in Tut-to Arabi and Desert Heritage and you will know what I mean.*

**Judith Wich: Do you plan to present again some of your Arabians in the European showring?**

*Dr. Nasr Marei: The competition in the international show circuit has now become fierce. In order to be placed among the winners' row in major competitions, it requires horses of superb quality. Producing individuals as such is not an every day happening. In other words, I can not produce a "Gelgelah" every other year.*

*I would like to send some young horses back to Europe to represent the "new" Albadeia horses that would be able to compete with certain degrees of success. Next show season,*

## Simeon *Safir*



## Hekayet *Albadeia*

*I will send Rayyan, Kenooz and maybe Tasaheel Albadeia to Europe to show in 2009-10. I have two more fillies and possibly a colt that are planned for the following show seasons.*

*As a dedicated straight Egyptian horse breeder, I am handicapped by a smaller gene pool compared to breeders who are using other bloodlines like the Polish, American, Spanish and more. Their chances of producing winners are greater than mine. The area from which they are doing their selection is hundreds times wider. Keep in mind that straight Egyptian Arabians constitute no more than 3% of the total Arabian horse population worldwide. By simple mathematics, it is clear that it is more difficult to produce show winners by using such a small population. It is not like many claim that straight Egyptians are inferior*





Sondos  
*Albadeia*

or that they can not move, etc... The fact is that most of the other bloodlines which have produced champions, have Egyptian blood in them (e.g. the legendary Marwan Al Shaqab, El Shaklan and many more). Others like Eternity Ibn Navarrone, Escape Ibn Navarrone, Khidar, Gazal Al Shaqab etc. are half or part Egyptian.

We should also not forget that in the last decade many World and other major Championships were won by straight Egyptians. For example, Al Adeed Al Shaqab, Loubna, Gelgelah Albadeia, Bint Saida Al Nasser and many others, were extremely successful.

**Judith Wich: Which role does the Arabian horse play in your life?**

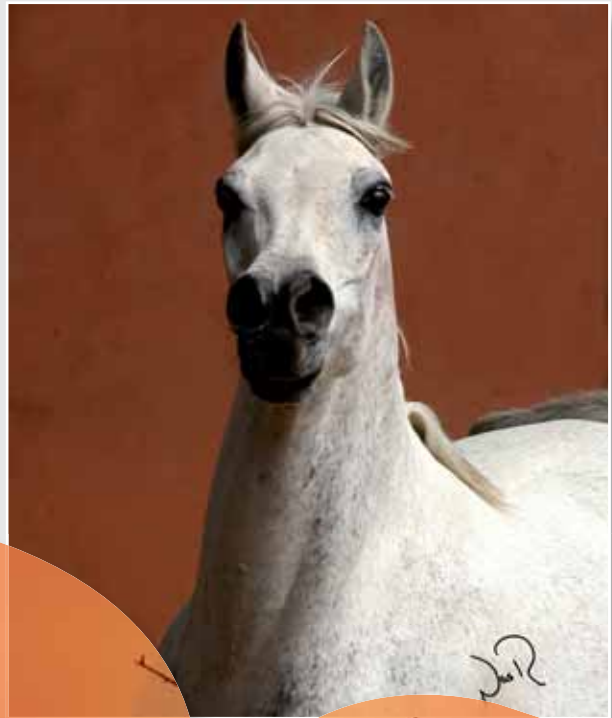
*Dr. Nasr Marei: The Arabian horse is now my life. I have retired from active work mid 1990's from a career that took me from being a professor at university to a businessman. Horses were always with and in me since childhood. However, after retiring from other occupations, I devoted all my time to breeding, judging and photographing (for my own pleasure) horses. I live on the farm and wake up every morning hearing my stallions greeting their mares. From my bedroom window I can see the stallions looking up at me from their own windows. I see, feel,*

*smell and love them every minute of the day. I travel to the five continents year around to "experience" the horses everywhere. I visited places that I never thought I will visit. I made friends and renewed old friendships in every country I stepped in. I exchange knowledge and gain experience all the time. I would have never retired from active career prematurely unless I had the horses to fill my life.*

**Judith Wich: Imagine you could look into the future and see Albadeia Arabian Stud in five years ahead. What would be your hopes for the future?**

*Dr. Nasr Marei: The efforts that my grandfather and my father did since 1935 in founding and establishing the Albadeia breeding program should not be wasted. I do feel a great responsibility to carry on that heritage and legacy. I am proud of what I did since I took over the breeding*

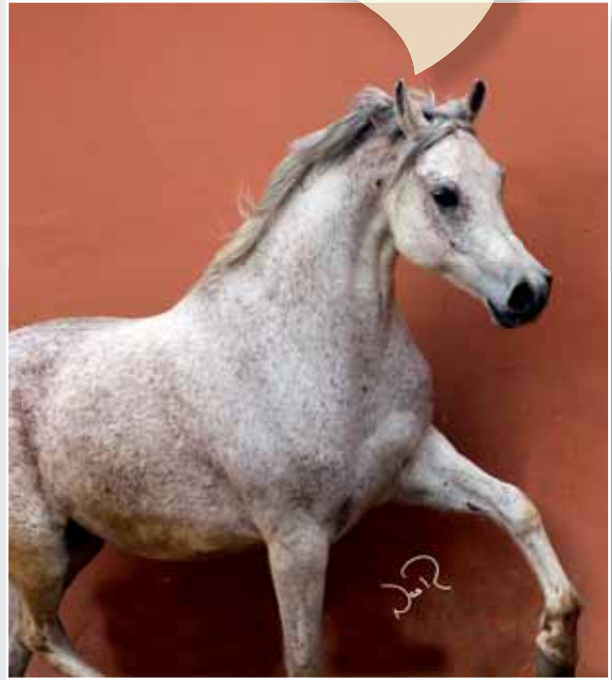
## Zaghroudat *Albadeia*







Isaad  
*Albadeia*

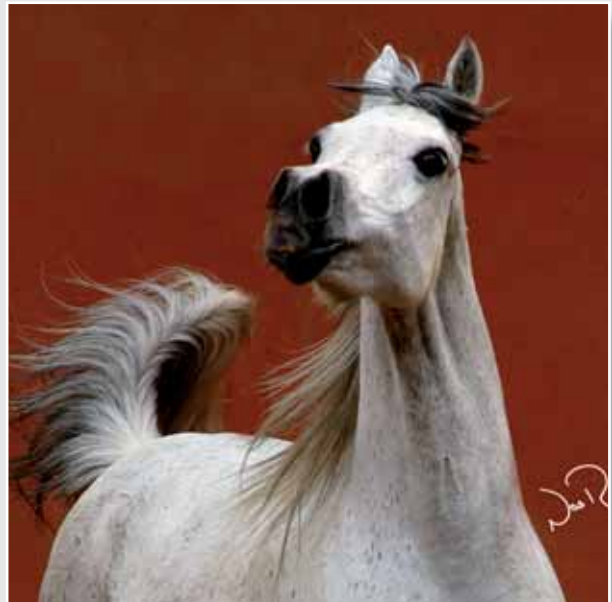


Galagel  
*Albadeia*

*program in the early 1990s. I believe that with the solid foundation that I inherited, it was easy to leap in the future and have more "modern" horses. I was able to show my horses abroad and win in major shows internationally. Albadia horses are more recognized than ever and have been utilized in many breeding programs abroad and in Egypt. I do hope for the future to continue pursuing what I am doing – seeking the elusive "perfect horse". I realize that this is probably a dream. Believing in this dream is what drives and motivates me. □*



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