



HRH PRINCESS HAYA BINT AL HUSSEIN WFP GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein is the daughter of HM Late King Hussein Bin Talal of Jordan (1935-1999) and HM Late Queen Alia Al Hussein (1948-1977), who died in a tragic helicopter crash. Princess Haya was born on May 3rd 1974. The late King Hussein and the late Queen Alia adopted Princess Haya's sister Abir Muhaisen in December 1973, and Queen Alia gave birth to HRH Prince Ali Bin Al Hussein on December 23rd 1975.

On April 10th 2004, HRH Princess Haya was married to HH Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and now resides with her husband in Dubai, traveling to her homeland Jordan often.

Professional Career

At the age of 13, Princess Haya was the first female to represent her country internationally in the Equestrian Sport (Showjumping). She won an Individual Bronze Medal in the Pan Arab Equestrian Games in 1992, and is the only female equestrian to ever win a Pan Arab Medal in Equestrian to date.

In 1994, the late King Hussein created "Team Harmony," an international showjumping string of horses. He wished for Princess Haya to study the structure of top class sports in order to restructure sports in Jordan when her competing career had ended.

Over the years, Team Harmony won 36 international classes, 8 national Grand Prix, 7 International Grand Prix's, and 1 Volvo World Cup Qualifier.

Team Harmony Training Bases

In the years 1995- 2002, Princess Haya competed internationally world wide at an average of 39 International Competitions a year.

- 1995 – 1997, Ireland: the late Paul Darragh / Alain Storme
- 1995 – 1997, Ireland: Tommy stack (amateur flat race jockey)
- 1997 – 1999, Germany: Paul Schockemohle
- 1999 – 2000, Holland: Hans Horn
- 2000 – 2001, France: Katie Monahan Prudent / Alice Debany Clero
- 2001 - 2002, France: Patrick Caron

Princess Haya became the first Jordanian athlete to give up her amateur status, and signed a commercial contract with Loro Piana, Italy in May 2000. She competed under their colors until October 2001. Jordan has no professional status for athletes, a legislation that Princess Haya has been advocating to instill since 1992.

- In 2000, Princess Haya competed in the Sydney Olympics, riding her late father's mare 'Lucilla II', and was nominated by the delegation to be Jordan's Flag Bearer in the Opening Ceremony.
- In September 2001, Princess Haya qualified for World

Championships in Jerez, Spain 2002, making her the first Arab woman to qualify and compete in an Equestrian World Championship.

- Princess Haya has recently also entered the discipline of endurance riding and has qualified for the World Endurance Championship 2005 in Dubai.

Awards and Nominations

- Princess Haya won the Jordanian National Showjumping Championships in the years 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990 and 1992.
- Princess Haya was twice (1988, 1992) decorated by her late father King Hussein, for excelling in her sport internationally.
- Voted "Athlete of the Year" by the Jordanian Public in 1993, and nominated "Athlete of the Year" by The Arab BBC Radio in 1994, after winning numerous National and International Events in the Arab and Asian Region.
- In 1996, Princess Haya also received an award from the Spanish Equestrian Federation as the Equestrian Personality of the Year.
- In March 2000, Princess Haya became the youngest person to receive The International Golden Helm Award from the International Association of Golden Helmsmen of Tourism, after setting up a tourism campaign at the request of her late father during her time training in Germany 1997-1999. This resulted in her raising the numbers of German and German speaking tourists to Jordan from 2% to 12.5% in a two-year period.
- The International Femmes Mythique Association nominated Princess Haya as one of the "Legendary Women".
- Princess Haya remains the first and only woman in Jordan to hold a heavy and articulated vehicles license, and as such was named Honorary President of the Land Transport and Mechanical Union by Jordan's Taxi and Truck Drivers. She is the only a member of the Jordanian Royal family to be member of a union.
- In February 2006, HM King Abdullah Bin Al Hussein II of Jordan bestowed the Bejeweled Grand Cordon of Al Nahda (Order of the Renaissance) on Princess Haya in recognition of her notable humanitarian efforts and her distinguished role as Goodwill Ambassador for the WFP. The Al Nahda is the highest decoration in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Worldwide Organizations

In parallel with her Equestrian career, Princess Haya's main concentration is focused on humanitarian aid, with a core interest in promoting health, education, youth and sports. Princess Haya works closely with various regional and global charities and social organizations:

- On May 1st 2006, Princess Haya was elected as President of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) and therefore became the first Arab to occupy this international position.
- Princess Haya is the first Arab and first woman to

become a Goodwill Ambassador to the United Nations World Food Program. Her appointment was supported by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, making her the second Goodwill Ambassador ever for the WFP.

- Member of the Athlete's Commission of the International Olympics Committee (IOC)
- Member of the Commission for Culture and Olympic Education of the International Olympics Committee (IOC)
- Member of the Honorary Committee of the Aachen School of Course Design (ASCD)
- Member of the Honorary Committee of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna
- President and Founder of the International Jordanian Athletes Cultural Association
- Member of the International Board of Directors of Right To Play, an athlete driven organization that is dedicated to bringing sports and recreation to children affected by war, poverty, disease and illness.
- Princess Haya also represented Jordan in the FEI General Assembly, (International Equestrian Federation) and was Chairperson of the Middle East and Western Asian Sub Group from 1992-1996.
- Honorary President of the Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing and Speech Impaired
- President of the Haya Cultural Center
- Honorary President of Dar Asma Bint Abi Bakr School for the Memorization of the Holy Quran, Dubai
- Honorary Patron of the Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Center (DUCTAC)
- Honorary President of the Emirates Arthritis Foundation
- Honorary Patron of Able UAE (Ability Based Learning Empowerment for children with special needs)

Education

HRH Princess Haya received her early education in Jordan. In 1985 she attended Badminton Boarding School for Girls in Bristol, England, where she accomplished 14 GCSE's. She next attended Bryanston School in Dorset, and there completed 4 'A' Levels in: Classical Arabic, English Literature, Politics and Government, and History. In 1992 she enrolled in St Hilda's College, Oxford University and graduated in June 1995 with an Honors Degree BA MA, in P.P.E. (Politics, Philosophy and Economics.)