



THE SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 20 Spring 2025

Perpetuation Preservation Purpose

Society for the Perpetuation of
Desert Bred





Looking back

All Studbooks are stories
of extinction.
Our Studbook is no different.

This is the import *Sticks of Jeddah, CRN 0003. She was born in Saudi Arabia in 1973, bred twice and succeeded in coming forward for four generations before her genetic potential was extinguished.

*Sticks of Jeddah is pictured at the top.
Below is Amirah Khalid el Taif with Carl Rodarty.

She was never bred but her sister Marida Khalid el Taif produced one litter that did not come forward.



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Where are we going and how will we get there?

Mary Beth Rogers

When I started in Salukis it never occurred to me that there was anything BUT AKC. By the time I met my first desert bred I was deep in the AKC ecosphere and not having AKC registration privileges had no context for me. I had purebred Salukis, Salukis were AKC registered. Meeting a beautiful Saluki who was of obvious quality yet could not be AKC registered seemed ludicrous. ALL of the Salukis I was taught to revere, Sarona Kelb, Orchard Shahin, Zobeid, and on and on, were themselves imports and direct descendents; and so I was introduced to the vagaries of a bureaucracy that had nothing to do with breeding Salukis but was applied to Salukis-AKC registration policy.

In the mid-seventies the majority of Salukis were not that far from their country of origin (COO) roots. Imports routinely appeared in Generation 5 and 6 of written pedigrees, always celebrated. By the mid Eighties COO Salukis were a vibrant part of SCSA Judge Education and hunting was successfully done by Salukis that then went into an AKC show ring and won top honors. The majority of Saluki Fanciers, then as now, saw no reason to NOT include Salukis from their homelands.

Today, we are in a world that allows relatively easy access to information from the Middle East. No longer are imports exotic curiosities. Our Studbook is witness to this reality. We now have access to fresh genetics easily. However, desire for performance credentials has changed.

Performance is no longer the Gold Standard across our AKC/FCI world, that is now Specialty wins and anything performance is simply icing on the cake with clear separations in type between working Salukis and Show ring Salukis now becoming normalized instead of stigmatized. Top performance Salukis rarely see a conformation ring and top Conformation Salukis rarely go in the fields.

No longer do we see huge numbers of Salukis lure coursing in the USA, in fact, most owners never SEE Salukis lure coursing or hunting. Pictures and videos via Social Media are a poor substitute.

We, as lovers of Salukis, are in danger of losing the very thing that makes our dogs unique and has meant millennia's of success- structurally unchanged-- work.

Those of us who sit on our Board see this change clearly, so we have started down a road to hopefully provide a map for others and provide a way for us to join together in our shared passion.

Please, enjoy the images from the Inaugural Saluki Desert Classic and join The Society in our endeavor to provide a fabulous experience both in the field with our 8000-year-old perfect hunters as well as in the show ring to see who those fabulous hunters are up close and personal. Yes, it is a small step, late in starting, but start we have.

On our front cover is *Kullah of Urfa, AKA Türk, owned and loved by Kathleen Tigan. Imported from SE Turkey in 1918, he has shown what a working Saluki can accomplish. On our back cover is a composit. At the top is a photo by Gertrude Bell from 1911, Sheikh Sukheil in today's Iraq. Next is the gallery in New Mexico at the SDC hunt in 2025, followed by a photo from SE Turkey out hunting, by Mary Beth Rogers. Finally, a Wilfred Thesiger image of Sheikh Zayed's hunting party in today's UAE-1948.



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The purpose of the Society News is to inform, engage, inspire, and entertain a diverse readership by presenting an intimate, timely, and honest portrait of the Saluki—its people and history, challenges and resources. The Newsletter endeavors to reflect the values of The Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis in the excellence of writing, visual presentation, commitment to accuracy, healthy discourse, and editorial balance.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Report 2024

May 12 – Elizabeth Dawsari made a motion that the Registrar committee construct a procedure in the future to deal with issues with an incomplete litter registration. Daniella Imre seconded the motion.

November 26 – Elizabeth Dawsari made a motion for a budget of \$3,000 to complete editing on the five recordings we currently possess. Paul Domski seconded the motion.

Paul made a motion to approve the stated fee changes, effective January 1, 2025. Elizabeth seconded the motion.

- The CRN fee will be raised to \$40.00.
- Litter Registration will be \$25.00
- Export Pedigree will be \$50.00
- Ownership Transfers will be \$25.00
- Name Changes will be \$30.00

Lauri Domski made a motion to approve that all registrations will be required to have AKC DNA on file with the Registrar activating and purchasing the kits at a cost of \$65.00 each. Ken Stahli seconded the motion.

Lauri Domski made a motion to remove the requirement of membership, which doubled registration fees. Elizabeth Dawsari seconded the motion.

Ken Stahli made a motion to accept emailing a pdf to the specified owner of critiqued salukis with the cost of a printed certificate at \$20.00 each. Elizabeth Dawsari seconded the motion.

Kathleen Tigan, SPDBS Secretary, 2024



Nominating Committee Report

As there were no nominations from the floor,
the Nominating Committee Slate is seated as per our By-Laws,
Respectively submitted Oksan Belova

SPDBS Officers

President/Registrar: Mary Beth Rogers

president@desertbred.org/spdbs.registrar@gmail.com

Vice President: Elizabeth Dawsari

Secretary: Kathleen Tigan

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Treasurer's Report

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

For the Period Ending December 31, 2024

BEGINNING BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2023	\$52,364.49
REVENUES:	
MEMBERSHIPS/SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$1,280.00
SUPPORTER FEE	\$10.00
CRITIQUES/CERTIFICATES/EXPORT PEDIGREE	\$420.00
HATS/ARABIAN NAMES/OTHER ITEMS	\$1080.00
NEWSLETTER	\$100.00
ADS	\$1117.00
INTEREST ON CD	\$606.80
DONATIONS	\$30.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$4643.80
EXPENSES:	
DIRECTOR & OFFICER INSURANCE	\$815.00
WEB SITE HOSTING/SERVICES	\$1768.37
SOFTWARE/MEDIA SERVICES	\$175.90
PRINTING/POSTAGE/SHIPPING	\$1416.65
SPACE AT 2024 NATIONAL	\$150.00
ADS	\$40.00
OTHER FEES-PAYPAL FEES/BANK FEES/FILING FEES	\$186.53
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4552.45
CASH RESERVE FOR EARTHQUAKE DONATIONS	\$1038.18
UNRESERVE CASH BALANCE	\$51,417.66
ENDING BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2024	\$52,455.84

Society for the Perpetuation of
Desert Bred



CRN 0868-023-1 — CRN 0903-024-2



Melik Rataki Ziba at HawksView

Bitch. CRN 0877-024-1

Cream, Feathered

February 20, 2024

Whelped in Ignacio, CO DNA V10151123

Breeders: Mary Beth Rogers/Lorraine Trenholm

Sired by *Kuhi of Iran (Imp. Iran)

CRN 0855-022-0/IRAPP00003235

x

Rataki Xyla CRN 0803-017-1

Owners: Karen Hoffman and Paul Perez

Melik Rataki Zamamdar

Dog. CRN 0879-024-1

Red based Grey, Feathered

February 20, 2024

Whelped in Ignacio, CO DNA V10151107

Breeders: Mary Beth Rogers/Lorraine Trenholm

Sired by *Kuhi of Iran (Imp. Iran)

CRN 0855-022-0/IRAPP00003235

x

Rataki Xyla CRN 0803-017-1

Owners: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers



Ordibehesht Melik Delnavaz Ravan Bacht

Bitch. CRN 0903-024-2

Black/Silver, Feathered

March 03, 2023

Whelped in Biedenkopf, Germany DNA V10139174

Breeder: Heike Bräuer

Sired by Ebubekir Estekam Ravan Bacht

DWZB 7772

x

Melik Boorchin Pari Ravan Bacht

CRN 0847-020-1/DWZB BE/RSH 9204787

Owner: Mary Beth Rogers

CRN 0868-023-1 — CRN 0903-024-2



Melik's Milagro of Urfa at HawksView

Dog. CRN 0868-023-1

Black and Tan, Brindle, Smooth

September 28, 2022

Whelped in Reno, NV DNA V10088149

Breeder; Kathleen Tigan

Sired By *Kullah of Urfa (imp. Türkiye)

CRN 0812-018-0

x

Melik Nazlee License to Kill at HawksView

CRN 0776-015-2

Owner: Kathlen Tigan

Qashani Fillah Saudiyya

Bitch. CRN 0874-024-2/ER43720/23

Silver Grizzle/Irish Marked, Smooth

July 27, 2023

Whelped in Finland, DNA V10121982

Breeder: Micaela Lehtonen

Sired By: Yamadan's Midnight Flight for Tallahamra

AKC HP58862502

x

Qashani Qawiyyat Al-Akraad ER 51738/17

Owner: Daniela Imre



Breakaway Little Hornet FA18 Sahar Paz

Bitch. CRN 0884-025-2

Black Grizzle, Smooth

December 17, 2003

Whelped in Grass Valley, CA DNA V10133895

Breeder: Brittany and Ehud Gat

Sired By: With You Forever Neshama Tova AKC

HP 49087802

x

Miraj Little Sunshine Neshama Tova

CRN 0870-023-1

Owners: Brittany and Ehud Gat

New Litters

Litter reported in June of 2024 by Ryan Scoggins, no photos available, 3 male puppies. LN 0891-0893

Sired by *Savach (Imp. Iran) CRN 0872-023-0 DNA V10123735

Out of *Balan (Imp Iran) CRN 0873-023-0 DNA V10123736

Whelped July 09, 2023

Fossil Creek Raphael

CRN 0842-023-3

x

*Balan

CRN 0873-023-0

Whelped September 13, 2024

3 Females, 5 Males

Bred by Chad Reynolds



New Imports



Uropa Laelaps Bint Phaeema Al Assli

Import France, Gen 2, Base COO: UAE

Bred by Morgane Schambourg

Owned by Fiona Bennett

Whelped October 23, 2023



Pouneh Zardi Tizpa Ravan Bacht

Import Germany, Gen 2

Base COO: Iran, Syria, Turkey

Bred by Heike Bräuer

Owned by Stephanie Annee

Whelped May 3, 2024

De'vran Si'rius Al Asmaanii
Import Switzerland Gen 1
Base COO: Iran
Bred by Maria-Teresa Alcantara
Owned by Kirby Overcash
Whelped September 3, 2024



Delayed Postoperative Hemorrhage

Report from Washington State University

Delayed postoperative hemorrhage (DEPOH) is a potentially deadly disorder that causes excessive bleeding and bruising in the hours and days following surgical procedures. It typically occurs one to four days after major surgery when blood clots begin to break down too soon in a process called hyperfibrinolysis. The severity can range from minor bruising to life-threatening hemorrhaging.

The only way to know if an individual dog has the mutant DEPOH gene is to have the dog tested.

Court MH, Kiser JN, Neibergs HL, Zhu Z, Dillberger JE. Identification by whole genome sequencing of genes associated with delayed postoperative hemorrhage in Scottish deerhounds. J Vet Intern Med. 2023 Mar;37(2):510-517. doi: 10.1111/jvim.16643. Epub 2023 Feb 13. PMID: 36780177; PMCID: PMC10061167.

Background: Delayed postoperative hemorrhage (DEPOH) is an important health concern for Scottish deerhounds. *(Editor's note: this applies to ALL Sighthounds including Salukis)*

Hypothesis/objectives: Identify genes associated with DEPOH in Scottish deerhounds.

Animals: Two hundred sixty-nine privately owned Scottish deerhounds.

Methods: Retrospective case-control study. DEPOH cases and controls were identified through an owner health survey. Genome-wide association analysis was performed using whole genome sequences from 8 cases and 17 controls. All cases and controls were genotyped for selected variants.

Results: Of 269 dogs, 10 met inclusion and exclusion criteria for DEPOH, while 62 controls had undergone similar surgical procedures without DEPOH. Genome-wide association analysis identified a single locus on chromosome 9 spanning 40 genes. One of these genes (SERPINF2 encoding alpha-2 antiplasmin) was directly linked to the pathophysiology of DEPOH. The entire cohort was genotyped for a missense SERPINF2 variant (c.605 C>T; p.A202V). Compared to dogs with the reference C/C genotype, the likelihood of DEPOH was significantly higher for dogs with the T/T genotype (odds ratio [OR] = 1235; 95% confidence interval [CI] = 23-6752; P = 0.0005) and with the C/T genotype (OR = 28; 95% CI = 1.4-542; P = 0.03).

Conclusions and clinical importance: SERPINF2 is associated with DEPOH in Scottish deerhounds. Genetic testing might be able to identify dogs that are susceptible to DEPOH.

The DEPOH mutation HAS been found in many Salukis who have been tested.

The treatment for DEPOH can be applicable for other post operative bleeding situations.

Test is available from Washington State University

Be prepared

BRINDLE SOLVED

Genetic testing for Brindle is now available through Laboklin in the UK.

<https://www.laboklin.co.uk/laboklin/showGeneticTest.jsp?testID=8893>

The new Brindle DNA test

The new brindle test can reliably detect all variants at the **K-Locus** including brindle: **KB**, **kbr**, and **ky**

The K-Locus

Brindle dogs exhibit distinctive stripes that distinguish them from solid-coloured or other non-brindled coat patterns. Brindle stripes are typically streaks of colour, often black, interwoven within a red base coat.

The colour of the brindle stripes is eumelanin and the colour of the base is pheomelanin. This means that brindle stripes are black unless the black is modified by other genes such as blue, brown, lilac, etc. The Red base varies and can be red, yellow, sable, fawn or cream.

The **K locus** plays a crucial role in determining coat colour inheritance in dogs.

Variants at this gene locus influence how pigments are distributed within individual hairs or across the dog's body:

The Gene Variants:

- There are two primary gene variants: KB and ky.
- When combined, they lead to three known alleles: KB, kbr, and ky.
- These alleles have specific effects on coat colour:
 - KB → uniform pigmentation / solid colours
 - kbr → brindle
 - ky → expression of the typical agouti patterns (DY, SY, AG, BS, BB1, BB2, and BB3).

KB Allele:

- If the dog has at least one copy of the dominant KB allele (genotype KB/*), the KB will be expressed.
- When the KB is expressed, this results in a solid-coloured coat in the pigmented areas.
- The KB does not allow the agouti patterns (The A-Locus) to be expressed.

ky Allele:

- The recessive ky allele allows eumelanin (black) and pheomelanin (red or yellow) pigments to be distributed in certain patterns known as the agouti patterns. The specific Agouti pattern of the dog (DY, SY, AG, BS, BB1, BB2, and BB3) is determined by the A-Locus gene.
- The A-Locus is fully expressed only when the dog is homozygous for the ky (ky/ky) at the K-locus ⇒ expression of the typical agouti patterns.

kbr Allele:

- The **kbr** allele, which is responsible for the brindle, is a heterogeneous duplication of KB and ky variants on one chromosome.
- It produces the brindle pattern: dark (eumelanin) stripes on a light (pheomelanin) base colour.
- Brindle appears only in areas where a light colour is otherwise present (e.g., black & tan markings).
- **kbr** is recessive to **KB** but dominant to **ky**.
- The expression of brindle varies, from isolated stripes to nearly completely dark dogs.
- It is not yet possible to determine the extent of these variations by genetic testing.



Notes about kbr:

- In the classic K-Locus test, which detects only **KB** and **ky**, if the dog is brindle, the result will always come back as **KB/ky**, however, not all dogs with the genotype **KB/ky** are brindle.
- Dogs tested **KB/ky** in the classic K-Locus test can be brindle, brindle carriers or non-carriers. This can only be detected by this new Brindle Test (8893).
- Therefore testing these **KB/ky** dogs for the new Brindle Test (8893), will reveal if the dog has any of the following genotypes:
 - **KB/ky**: the dog does not carry the brindle.
 - **KB/kbr** (Carrier) brindle is not expressed but it carries the brindle and can pass it on to its offspring.
 - **kbr/kbr**: the dog is homozygous for the brindle variant and will pass the kbr to its entire offspring.
 - **kbr/ky**: the dog is heterozygous for the kbr and the ky alleles and will pass the kbr to its offspring with a probability of 50%.

Depending on the breed and / or the colour of the dog, the classic K-Locus test may be sufficient (breeds which are not known to have brindle), however, in breeds which are known to have brindle, this new Brindle test (8893) is recommended.

Editors Note: For those wishing to KNOW if an individual Saluki is brindle this test will reliably tell a Breeder if the individual being bred carries the pattern. REMEMBER, you can have what appears to be a cream/red Saluki that is in fact, a black Saluki or a brindle Saluki as their E locus is presenting with e_1/e_{1-3} genotype which simply means BLACK will not express.

*This is **not** a test for "purity" in any way, it is simply a tool in your Breeder's tool-chest. It does not tell us HOW the pattern started, only if it is now present.*

Tirgan von Iransamin



Abdullah Khan Uzbek out hawking, painted in 1618



*Nazee, Imp Iran

Male, in Iran 2006



Melik Dorna de Mina Brindle

La'aban

The saga of La'aban, a feathered saluki belonging to a Bedouin falconer from the Bani Khalid tribe, is a classic example illustrating the absence of our breed's origin story. Extant in Saudi Arabia's ash-Sharqiyah Province during the mid-1970s, La'aban surfaces in European and American saluki pedigrees during the 1980s. Decades after his death, a few Western breed experts speculated about La'aban's lineage after seeing one or two of his descendants. They attributed various nationalities to him—English, Bahraini, Iraqi—not one of which was evidence based. La'aban was just a disembodied name bandied about. Today, roughly fifty years since he lived, nobody knows his pedigree, who bred him, or from whence he came.



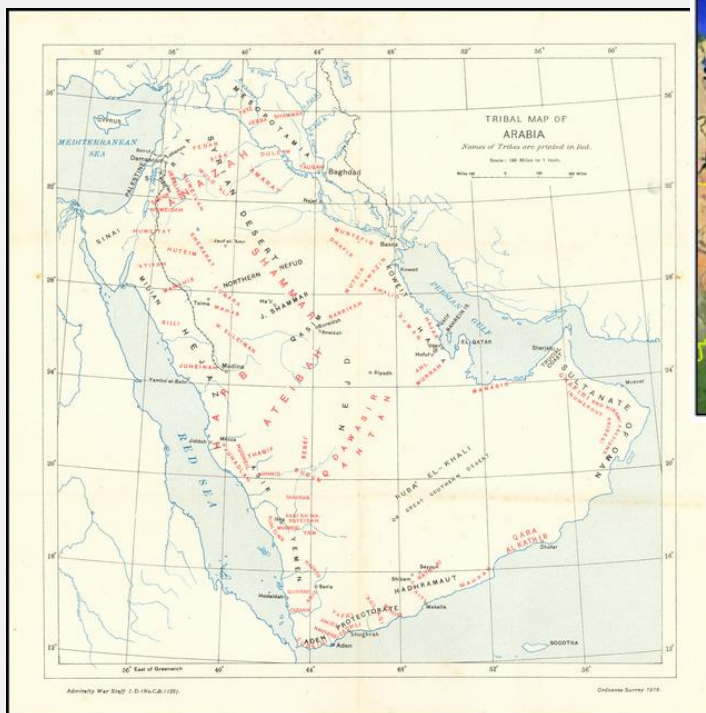
©Elizabeth Al-Hazzam Dawsari



©Elizabeth Al-Hazzam Dawsari

La'aban's existence in a Saudi Arabian Bedouin household naturally limited Westerners' exposure to him. For many, he was a saluki on the opposite side of the globe, his life a mystery to people who never lived among the diverse cultures of the Middle East. An oft cherished fallacy in need of dismissal is that Bedouin form a monolith—from north to south, east to west—in which everything has been the same for centuries. Same traditions, same history, same cuisine, same pastures, same animals, same dialects or language, same societies, and so forth.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The Arabian Peninsula is an enormous chunk of geography, and for the past many hundreds of years, if not longer, camel-herding Bedouin down south in Wadi Dawasir have had little in common with sheep-herding Bedouin up north along the Euphrates in Mesopotamia. That fact is evidence based.



National boundaries did not exist until the early twentieth century dissolution of the Ottoman Empire. Where Bedouin pastured their herds traditionally corresponded to the seasons and conditions on the desert. A powerful tribe allied with others such as the Anazah (Arabic: عنزة) and Al-'Ajman (Arabic: العجمان), Bani Khalid roamed from Najd in Central Arabia as far north as Iraq and Syria. There were no "countries of origin" before World War I. British and French colonial powers divvied up the former Ottoman empire, drawing arbitrary lines in the sand dividing North Arabia into their spheres of influence, border crossings which required papers and permits from British and French authorities. They impeded Bedouin migrations and eroded the pastoral culture of the tribes by confining them within what became national boundaries.

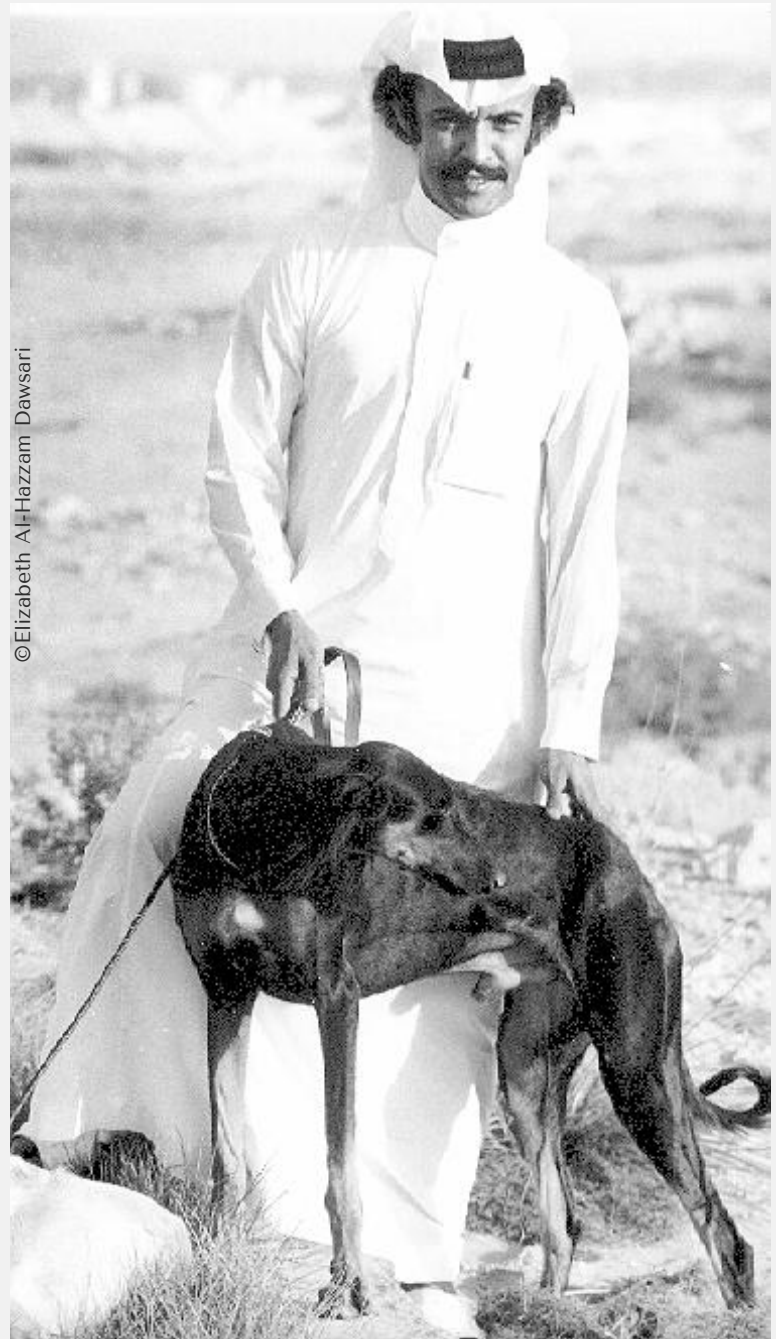
Many tales of curious origin circulate about the Bedouin and their legendary horses, camels, and salukis. La'aban's story is no exception, his hunting ability celebrated along with that of the princes who ostensibly hunted with him in the Kingdom and elsewhere. How many of these narratives can be verified?

There is much I cannot tell you because I did not circulate within the orbit of the Bani Khalid women of Barghash an-Na'imi's family, which is where information about this saluki resided. However, I can share with you what little I do know—that which was told to me by my husband, Dr. Fahd Al-Hazzam ad-Dawsari, and his confrère, Awadh al-Otaibi, and that which I remember experiencing or seeing with my own eyes long ago.

My introduction to La'aban was memorable. Unaware of arrangements between Barghash and Dr. Fahd, I had no idea the saluki would reside temporarily in our house; I was not present when La'aban arrived. Upon returning home, I was greeted by a tall, friendly saluki I had never seen before. What might have been a shock for some people seemed quite ordinary to me; my husband loved salukis and they were a constant presence in our household.

That night I was dismembering chickens in preparation for cooking our evening meal. La'aban wandered into the kitchen and without a sound effortlessly stepped up onto the kitchen counter where I was working. He disturbed nothing, and just leaned over the platter gazing at the chicken parts. A perfect gentleman, he watched my every move, politely indicating his desire for dinner. Following his meal of rice, chicken and yoghurt, he retired to the majlis, rejoining my husband and visitors awaiting their dinner.

La'aban's manners were perfection. My seven-year old son could clip a lead on his collar and stroll around our compound proudly displaying the tall saluki. Despite his size and might, La'aban never offered to pull away or cause my son discomfort. I would not presume to hazard a guess regarding La'aban's age during that period, but he was in his prime and Barghash was hunting with him.



Years after his death, the most prevalent foreign narrative subsequently attached to La'aban by Americans was that he came from Bahrain. That theory was so logically presented that even I almost believed it, but it is not a fact; La'aban's beginnings remain a mystery to this day. What is known is that he was owned by Barghash, a Bedouin who associated with my husband.

Barghash and my husband's family lived in a Bedouin community that sprang up near Al Khobar and Dhahran along the road to Dammam. This enclave, dating from the 1950s, originally consisted of residences designed to house Aramco's indigenous workers and their families. Employees could apply for low cost housing loans, and my husband's uncle, who worked for the company, was eligible to participate in this program. Bedouin in this new housing development kept sheep, goats, chickens, and even, in the case of my husband's family, a cow. Many of these Bedouin families were fresh off the desert. Few possessed salukis or raptors.

Al-Khobar in the 1960s. Photo by Robert Holmes



The primary source of information about La'aban is derived from Dr. Fahd's social interaction with Barghash. As is the custom among Bedouin, the head of the household hosts men of the family as well as neighbors and friends in the majlis after evening prayers. Barghash trusted Dr. Fahd, going so far as to ask him to take La'aban to Aramco veterinarian Dr. David Fairhall for inoculations, which is when La'aban lived with us, and how Dr. Fahd and I had the opportunity to shoot the only currently known photographs of La'aban. If others exist, I am eager to see them.

Descendants of La'aban appearing in Western stud books include three daughters, Najma, Sun-X Bint La'aban, and Jet, as well as grandson La'aban II al Khalij. Sun-X belonged to my husband and me, and has descendants in the United States and Germany. I personally cannot attest to facts regarding Najma or Jet other than to repeat what my husband was informed of at the time, and what I saw. Dr. Fahd understood that Barghash bred Jet and gave her to a German woman before John Burchard acquired her. I saw Jet in Saudi Arabia, but I never saw Najma. About her, I know nothing.

I met Jet when I visited John Burchard's wife and little son at their modest Al Khobar house to check on Sha'ilah, a saluki bitch that formerly belonged to my husband and me. I also saw a male referred to as Dasman. His phenotype was fairly characteristic of the feral dogs roaming outside Al Khobar and Dammam at that time, but his background is unknown to me.

Imagine my surprise when I read Jane Waldron Gruz's article, "A King and Two Salukis," published in the May/June 2008 issue of Aramco World, mentioning Sha'ilah, a saluki gifted to my husband by an associate from the Al Murrah (Arabic: آل مرة). Contrary to what was implied in that article, Burchard had no knowledge of Sha'ilah's source until I informed him during his mid-1990s visit to Arizona.

<https://archive.aramcoworld.com/issue/200803/a.king.and.two.salukis.htm>

Dr. Fahd understood that La'aban II al Khalij was whelped in ash-Sharqiyah. I never saw this saluki in Saudi Arabia but may have seen him subsequently in Switzerland or Spain during the 1980s; I cannot remember. He was exported from Saudi Arabia to Europe where he became the subject of much animus and controversy owing to a Swiss registration fiasco allegedly due to the fact that he was a smooth, like Jet and Sun-X, rather than a feathered saluki. The disputed pedigree and paperwork has nothing whatsoever to do with the saluki's lineage and origins. Unfortunately, non-Arabic-conversant Europeans have created confusion by recording La'aban II al Khalij's name incorrectly and somewhat creatively as Laba'an, Laba'An and Leban in various Western sources.

Elizabeth Dawsari and Sha'ilah,
March 1974



Sidebar:
Abdelrahman Munif wrote a novel set in the 1930s that was evocative of the Bedouin community of Thuqbah in the 1950s. Cities of Salt was originally published in 1984 Beirut by The Arab Institute for Research and Publishing. It was and may still be banned in a number of Arab countries.

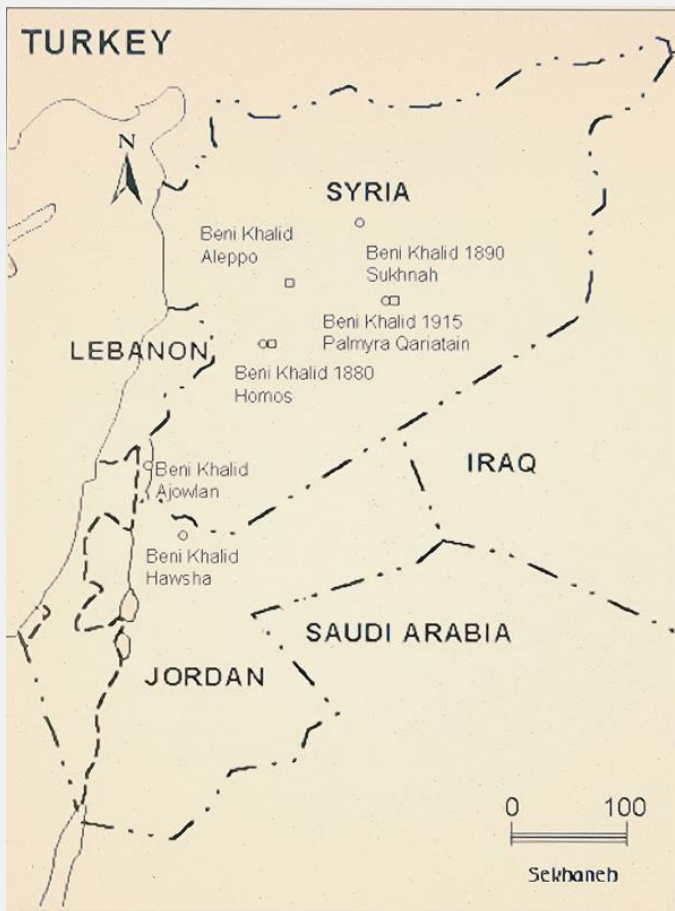
Barghash died some years ago. However, a vignette of historic and current data regarding the Bani Khalid (Arabic: بني خالد) might shed some light regarding the geographic extent of the tribe and vast region from where La'aban could have originated. For the record, Bani Khalid is also written as Banu Khalid in some Western sources, as will be seen below.

Historically a tribal confederation and dominant force ruling Najd for three hundred years, Bani Khalid wielded considerable political influence in Central and Northern Arabia from the 15th to the 18th century, and under the Ottomans during the early 19th century. Their authority was diminished when the Wahhabis and Al Saud ascended to power. Bani Khalid are associated with Al Qassim Province in Najd, which is south of Hail, north of Riyadh, and to the west of ash-Sharqiyah (The Eastern Province). At their greatest extent, the tribe's pastures stretched from Iraq in the north to the borders of Oman and the Gulf in the south and east respectively.



"The Banu Khalid are of Eastern Arabia ... [and] ... before the Wahhabis took over, were the most powerful Bedouin tribe in Eastern Arabia, but ... since the 19th century they are not counted any longer among the great tribes of Arabia. ... The nomadic Banu Khalid have their own pastures north of the 'Ajman, but share [pastures] with the 'Ajman on the Summan high-plateau [Author's note: Al-Suman Plateau extends from the borders of Kuwait and Iraq in the north to the Empty Quarter in the south, and from the Arabian Gulf in the east to the sands of Al-Dahna in the west] and adjacent region ... with the Dhafir [Author's note: another tribe, as is the Khaza'il] and another with the Khaza'il (Iraq). ... Some of the celebrated strains of Arabian horses originated among the Banu Khalid." (Carl Raswan. The Raswan Index and Handbook for Arabian Breeders. Santa Barbara: 1990. vol. 1, page 358)

As was true during Barghash's time, a considerable number of Bani Khalid today reside in Eastern and Central Saudi Arabia. The wars of the 21st century negatively impacted tribal members living in Iraq, Syria, and Jordan, forcing many to become refugees.



"Bani Khalid is one of the large Bedouin tribes that has expanded throughout the Middle East: from Saudi Arabia to Iraq, Syria and Jordan among others. In the beginning of the 20th century, several subtribes of Bani Khalid migrated annually through the northern Badia [Author's note: The Syrian Desert. Arabic: بادية الشام Bādiyat Ash-Shām], but following the establishment of the modern states, newly made borders divided them. Despite this, the tribal ties have remained strong, with frequent and active communications across the borders." (Päivi Miettunen and Mohammed Shunnaq. Tribal Networks and Informal Adaptive Mechanisms of Syrian Refugees: The Case of the Bani Khalid Tribe in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. American University of Beirut. 2020.

https://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/Documents/publications/research_reports/2019-2020/20200215_tribal_networks_and_informal_adaptive_mechanisms_of_the_refugees.pdf)

Map of Bilad Al-Sham in 2005
showing the Bani Khalid Tribe according to
Dr.Wassef Al-Sekhaneh,
Yarmouk University.

THE SALUKI IN AMERICA

THE EARLY YEARS

Excerpt from the 1986 SCOA Yearbook

by Carol Ann Lantz

When asked to write this history of the Saluki for the Yearbook, I felt it would be more interesting to deviate from the usual chronicle of Saluki events that spell out the progress of our breed in the United States because those facts have been written over and over again in many publications. Instead I opted for a more intimate portrayal of the breed in those first years through the people, the kennel names, and the individual dogs that figure in the background of so many present-day Salukis.

THE PIONEERS

Though it has been reported that a Saluki was brought into the United States as early as 1861 with a few other importations following, it was not until the mid 1920s that the breed began its traceable growth in America with the importations of Senator Edwin Macomber of Rhode Island and Mr. W. Ralph Dodd of San Francisco, California. The English-bred Luella and Gola of Grevel and Sarona Dhole, bred by Brigadier General and Mrs. Lance of England, are generally considered to be the first imports, but one cannot tell from the sequence of registration numbers since there were no Salukis registered until 1930. Later born American-bred Salukis were sometimes registered before their parents. Ch. Sheik of Ro-Akbar, for instance, was registered in June of 1930, but his parents, Luella and Gola of Grevel, did not appear in the stud book until August of 1931. I might add at this point that it seemed to be the practice of those very early breeders not to register an entire litter but rather to wait for the buyers to register their puppies individually; therefore, it is difficult to trace the depth of the Saluki population of those times. Furthermore, one notices that in several instances only one or two puppies were registered from a litter, and we are all aware that Salukis generally have medium-to large-sized litters. Later on Mr. Edward K. Aldrich registered all his puppies and then transferred them to subsequent buyers, giving us a much clearer picture of the Saluki census of this day. It is noted in doing Saluki research of this early period that the name of an owner, breeder, or Saluki will appear once or

twice and then never surface again . . . and it can also be assumed that there were litters from which none were ever registered. Those first dogs seemed to change hands rather frequently between the time of importation, registration, and later breeding; Luella of Grevel was imported by Senator Macomber, registered by Mrs. Arthur Neeves in the stud book of August 1931, but by the next month's stud book, a Bergniel Mahomet was registered, his dam listed as Luella of Grevel, and his breeder as Katrin P. Vietor, indicating her ownership of Luella!

Senator Macomber used the suffix "Bararey-Jibal" to identify his Salukis, and that name is familiar to all who study the early pedigrees, for it filters through the ground stock of the great kennels that were to follow. At the time of his death in the early 1930s, most of the stock was acquired by Evelyn Southwick of Massachusetts. She registered her first two puppies in April of 1935 using as her brood matron Hibral al Bararey-Jibal, who had previously been owned and used for breeding by a Mrs. Sarah Waller of Chicago. Evelyn did not use a kennel name, and her dogs are hard to spot when simply skimming a pedigree, but she bred conservatively through the thirties until a disastrous fire at the very end of that decade destroyed all her stock. It is most fortunate that both Mrs. Anna Marie Paterno and Mr. Aldrich had already acquired important foundation Salukis from her efforts on behalf of our breed.



Mrs. L'Hommedieu and three of her Salukis in the 1930's.

Mr. and Mrs. S.Y. L'Hommedieu of New Jersey were the first to register a Saluki — she was Jinniyat of Grevel, an English import; another English import, Peggy of Allenfoot, was added a year later, bringing in the Iraqi strain so prized by Mr. Aldrich and the Honorable Florence Amherst of the Amherstia Kennels in England. The L'Hommedieus were strong supporters of Salukis in several ways — they brought Salukis out at the shows, showing their Sand Spring string consistently and registering their carefully bred puppies. Well into the late forties, their influence was felt in the Saluki Club of America, she as Secretary and he as the Club's delegate to the American Kennel Club.

Among the very earliest imports in 1930 and 1931 are three Amherstia bitches, Amherstia Natisha, Amherstia Nazarat, and Amherstia Royaia Ahwa, all with the O'Redledge suffix added, and Sarona Nadir, bred by Miss D. Crookenden and Mrs. E. Milson of England. These four formed the root stock of the Redledge Kennels of Consuelo and Carol B. Hills of Ipswich, Massachusetts. Though the Redledge activity was limited to just a few of the early years, it formed part of the bedrock of Saluki breeding in America.

Mr. James Morgan, also of Ipswich, Massachusetts, imported Rushford Said and Rushford Taz-eet in 1930 and 1931,



Amherstia Natisha O'Redledge

breeding them at least once in the following years. It should be noted here that Mr. Morgan used the kennel name "Sarona," which can cause confusion when studying these old pedigrees, as we normally connect the Sarona name with Brigadier General and Mrs. Lance's famous kennel in England. There are numerous confusing situations concerning names when we look into Saluki background.

At the very end of the thirties and into the early forties, Mrs. Joseph Willard of New York and Fairfax, Virginia, imported two dogs and two bitches from the Honorable Mrs. Mervyn Herbert of England. Several offspring from combinations of this stock were registered but do not seem to appear in later pedigrees. About the same time, Mrs. Michael Wohl of Pennsylvania was active in our breed, finishing at least one champion and raising a litter or two with the Ab-Ah suffix, which will be discussed later on when I talk about names.

Though it is generally believed that Salukis established their foothold in California after World War II, you may be surprised to learn that all was not quiet on the West Coast during the formative years. One of the first to import Salukis into the U.S. was the earlier-mentioned W. Ralph Dodd of San Francisco who bred Zillah of Sarona, a daughter of the imported Sarona Dhole and Rushford Dilcusha. Zillah appears in the stud book of July 1930. In that same edition Mr. Maurice Talbot of Hollywood registered Haji Khan Sheik of Darwin and Kachiri of Grevel, both imports, and



Sarona Dhole and Sarona Nurnish

their son, Hazaan Sheik el Bokkara, owned by Mrs. Carl Prollius, also of Hollywood. Between 29 February 1928 and 18 January 1933, the records show that Haji Kahn Sheik of Darwin and Kachiri of Grevel produced at least seven litters, with just a puppy or two registered from each. One from the last litter, Sheik el Ra, was the first Saluki imported into Canada in the mid 1930s. A granddaughter of the pair, El Haddifa, when bred back to her sire, Mahmud Ibn Muhammad (Hazaan Sheik el Bokkara x Jameel al Bararey-Jibal), bore a litter of six in 1939 for breeder Harry S. Connable of Moneta, California, but little evidence is left of that activity. Mrs. Prollius had brought Jameel and Kahwa

al Bararey-Jibal from the East, later selling Jameel to Mrs. Sylvia Watt of Oakland, California, who also eventually acquired Princess Kachiri who was from one of those seven litters. All of these early Golden State Saluki breeders were members of the Saluki Club of America.

All of the above contributed to the slow but steady growth of Salukis in the United States. According to Mr. Aldrich's writings, it was a combination of ill health on the part of some plus the Great Depression that slowed progress to a crawl during the 1930s, and it is thanks to them that at least some Salukis were registered. We credit them all for their contributions to the better days that followed.

With the foregoing as a background, I would like to draw a word picture of the three great kennels of the 1930s and '40s which were built on foundations left by these pioneers.

DIAMOND HILL, MR. EDWARD ALDRICH

Edward Kimball Aldrich, Jr., was a small man, crippled by a twisted spine which caused him to limp, and very deaf — because of the latter handicap, he never spoke on the phone. He was very much a gentleman of the old school, Victorian in manner, rather eccentric, and devoted to Salukis. A lawyer by profession, he practiced in France during his early years as an attorney. His father had been a prosperous Providence, Rhode Island hotel owner and businessman; when the hotel burned in 1888, the elder Mr. Aldrich erected a business block on the spot, and there Mr. Aldrich, Jr., maintained his law office. As a student at Brown University, I often stopped by his office on a Saturday morning after classes, and we would discuss the last show or the newest litter of puppies. Because of his hearing problem, the whole building must have known the latest news in Salukis before we finished our conversation! He had a primitive hearing aid, but he rarely used it. His home had been on Brown Street near the University (of which he was a 1902 graduate), but by the time I met him in the forties, he had moved permanently to his summer home in a hilly section of Cumberland, Rhode Island, known as Grants Mills. A high elevation in the area was called Diamond Hill (later a ski slope and summer recreation spot), and that was the origin of his kennel name. Mr. Aldrich was daily driven back and forth to his office in Providence. He was a bachelor.

Mr. Aldrich's house was a typical two-story New England structure and had sun porches on the west side. He lived on the second floor, and kennel manager Walter Browne and his family occupied the first floor. There were long buildings directly behind the house and one to the right of the driveway, as well as smaller buildings here and there. The kennel runs had high fences, and the whole operation was ideal for the Salukis. A very large pen ran down the right side of the driveway almost to the street; a sign on the front of this pen identified those beautiful dogs running inside as Salukis. The house still stands today, as well as the

long building directly behind. After Mr. Aldrich's death, the property was bought by the Diocese of Providence, and the house is now home for the Sisters who staff the Mercymount School which was built to the right in what was a field. If I am in the area I will occasionally drive by just for old time's sake and soak up a little nostalgia.

Mr. Aldrich's study was in the second-floor sunporch and was a fascinating clutter of Saluki magazines, books, pictures, and all sorts of his memorabilia. Dorothy Redinger and I spent many an afternoon feeding our thirst for Saluki knowledge through his collection lore. In those days (early 1940s) there were around 100 dogs at Diamond Hill, but not all of them were Salukis. Mr. Aldrich also raised Schip-



Mr. Edward Aldrich & Dimond Hill Dogs

perkes; he was a judge of that breed and considered a leading authority. The Diamond Hill population also included an Irish Terrier, an Irish Setter, and a few Greyhounds. The top Saluki population was at a time when there were litters, and the highest figure I could find in his writings was about 69 Salukies' after Mr. Aldrich's death, the dispersal sale advertisement listed 43 available Salukis. Consultation with Mrs. Edith Browne Mason confirms those figures.

Mr. Aldrich's involvement with Salukis spans the time slot between those early importations and late forties' spreading of the breed's popularity. He alone survived the lean thirties (in terms of continuous Saluki progress) and earned the phrase often bestowed on him by such canine publications as *Dog World* of "The Dean of American Saluki Breeders." We are indebted to him not only for the wealth of information he shared with the Saluki fancy through his columns in the *AKC Gazette* and other publications, as well as his personal letters, but for his breeding program through the thirties that almost single-handedly, at times, registered enough puppies with the AKC to keep us from slipping back into the miscellaneous classes. He was President of the Saluki Club of America for many years until his death on 20 October 1947 at age 68.

Mr. Aldrich started his kennel with the purchase of the two Amherstia bitches, Nazarat and Roayla O'Redledge, earlier

imported by the Hills family of Redledge. About the same time, he purchased Redledge Abu Ben Adam (Sarona Kataf [an import] x Sarona Nadir). This dog's headstudy illustrated Mr. Aldrich's *AKC Gazette* column for many years. *Redledge Shaiba* (Redledge Armari [Redledge Abu Ben Adam x Amherstia Natisha O'Redledge] x Amherstia Nazarat O'Redledge) and *Sand Spring Jeremiah* (Sand Spring Shareer [Sarona Dhole x Jinniyat of Grevel] x Sand Springs Sheba [Ch. Sheik of Ro-Akbar x Zillah of Sarona]) were added shortly afterwards, and while he did use them in his breeding schedule, they do not appear as frequently as the others. Their names are italicized only to make for easier reading. In the mid 1930s he imported El Zolario from England, another of the valued Iraqi line; El Zolario completed his championship in 35 days after his arrival from England and for years was pictured in the *AKC Dog Book* to illustrate the standard. He was a light red who suffered from a stubborn skin condition, and he did not live to be a very old dog. Because of a relatively early death and the loss of progeny of his in distemper outbreaks, there were, unfortunately, far too few descendants to carry on his line. Two more potent sires were added to Mr. Aldrich's kennel around the same time: *Ch. Hadji* (Mazaghan Dhole [Sarona Dhole x Jinniyat of Grevel] x Peggy of Allenfoot), a dark red bred by Mrs. L'Hommedieu, and *Akbar Malik* (Ch. Sheik of Ro-Akbar x Malukah al Bararey-Jibal [Ch. Sheik of Ro-Akbar x Ch. Zillah of Sarona]). Akbar Malik (called Mark Anthony at the kennel) was a white and red parti-color who suffered a crippling injury to his right foreleg and could never be shown. He sired seventeen champions — in those days an admirable record. These Salukis were the basis for Diamond Hill, and their names surely blazed a trail in the annals of Saluki bloodlines.

Mr. Aldrich's first litter was whelped in August by Redledge Abu Ben Adam and Amherstia Roayla Ahwa O'Redledge. They were all golds and fawns. His second litter, a



Redledge Abu Ben Adam

repeat mating of the first, came along in August of 1934. In his very early breedings he did not use the Diamond Hill prefix but would add a suffix comprised of two or three letters of the parents' names for easy identification, hence the first litter was the Ab-Roa group, Ab from Abu and Roa



Ch. Diamond Hill Hadji, 1944

from Roayla. The second was the Ab-Ah family, again Ab from Abu and Ah from Ahwa. The San-Shas in 1935 (*Sand Spring Jeremiah* x *Redledge Shaiba*) and the Ha-Ras in 1936 (*Ch. Hadji* x *Rashka Ab-Ah*) followed, after which time he abandoned that procedure and simply gave them one — or two-word names. From the early 1940s on, all his Salukis carried the Diamond Hill prefix. The Ab-Ah litter was a bonanza for the breed, for from it came *Ch. Halmah* who, in her first litter (sired by *Ch. Hadji*) gave us litter mates *Ch. Marjan II* and *Ch. Valda*, who went on to found the future Saluki dynasties named *El Retiro* and *Pine Paddocks*!!

I digress here to explain a little about names. Mr. Aldrich was a highly intelligent, educated, well-read man, but he didn't seem to have too much imagination when it came to naming his Salukis. To begin with, just about all his dogs carried the names of the English ancestors, but he didn't stop there. In the case of *Halmah*, for instance: there is a distant *Halmah* in the old pedigrees, and there was a *Halmah Ab-Roa* and the famous *Ch. Halmah Ab-Ah* — later on there was a *Diamond Hill Halmah*. Many of his dogs had the Roman numeral II, indicating an earlier puppy of that name. Even more confusing is the case of *Roayla Ahwa*. There was *Amherstia Roayla Ahwa O'Redledge*, a *Diamond Hill Roayla Ahwah*, a *Diamond Hill Roayla*, and a *Diamond Hill Ahwa*!! I mentioned earlier that a breeder in Pennsylvania was using the Ab-Ah suffix which had little to do with the original Ab-Ahs except that *Ch. Rihan Ab-Ah* was one grandam of the litter. I insert this tidbit of information here because if you are interested in pursuing the old pedigrees, you must be very certain of the name you are following because a letter or two or an unnoticed Roman

numeral can easily send you down a path that ends far from your intended genetic destination.

If you'll forgive me for one more departure from the narrative, I would like to insert a word about color. I know that several people have done in-depth studies on this subject in more recent years, but I just want to relate the picture as it was then. Though some of the early dogs were black and tan, that color was not common by the time I got into Salukis. When I picked out my first puppy (from the last Ch. Hadji x Ch. Halmah Ab-Ah breeding), I was told I "could have any puppy but the black one." This was to become Ch. Diamond Hill Scheherezade, the only black and tan the Hadji-Halmah combination had produced. There was only one black and tan (a tricolor, to be more accurate) at Diamond Hill at that time. She was El Retiro's Queen Tai, a daughter of Mrs. Paterno's Queen Amytis (also a tri) owned by Mrs. Walter Browne. Even more rare was the parti-color.

Akbar Malik, in the forties, was the only parti-color in the country, though early registrations from the Bararey-Jibal lines showed several who were registered as white or with the color white listed first, indicating a parti. The vast majority of all the early Salukis were creams, fawns, and reds, some with white markings and black trim. One of those early California dogs was registered as "liver and tan" (could that have been a chocolate???) — and there are at least two brindles who appeared in the old days, one springing from the Amherstia-Redledge background and another bred by Evelyn Southwick from the Bararey-Jibal lineage. Parti-colors finally returned to the scene when



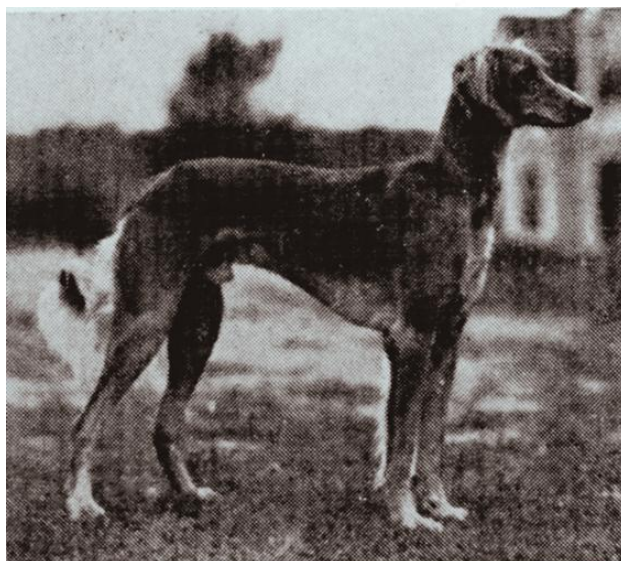
Redledge Shaiba

Dorothy Redinger bred her Zohra II to Ch. Sultan, Akbar Malik being the sire of both parents. Woodlake Malikah was a rich red and white parti. In 1945 Mrs. Knapp's first home-bred litter by Ch. Giafar II (litter brother of Woodlake's Zohra II) and out of Ch. Jelfreh Val Malik produced Akbar Tazi and Akbar Tirzah of Pine Paddocks, who were

mostly white with cream markings. Akbar Malik was also the double grandsire of that litter.

Two of Mr. Aldrich's 1935 San-Sha litter were registered as black and white, but they were not at Diamond Hill in the early 1940s. Grizzles were also a rarity, though several were registered as grizzles in the late 1930s.

Mr. Aldrich benched a fine string at the shows up until his death in 1947, and he sent two, Ch. Kataf and Ch. Sultan (both Akbar Malik x Halmah Ab-Ah), out on the road with handler Emery Wolfe. Though it was Ch. Kataf who piled up the most wins, it was Ch. Sultan who left his mark on the breed through several litters sired in the late forties for at least three breeders. He kept a group of puppies coming along which he sold to those who met his strict standards for Saluki ownership. If he liked a prospective buyer, he was most generous; if he didn't, there was no amount of money that could pry one of his Salukis loose from Diamond Hill.



Ch. Abu Ab Ah, Diamond Hill Knls.

Though Salukis were obviously gaining ground, there were still serious problems. Distemper was a cruel and frequent visitor to Diamond Hill — indeed, to all kennels of the time because the effective vaccines of today had not yet been developed. Whole litters were lost to the devastating effects of this disease. I recall one eagerly awaited litter sired by Ch. Malik-el-Zobair x Ch. Halifah, both parents sired by Ch. El Zolario. This was to be the first (and, as it turned out, only) litter by this big palest-of-cream dog. In due time, seven beautiful puppies arrived, only to be struck down by distemper — every one died.

In reading Mr. Aldrich's writing of the times, he notes that missed litters were often a problem too, so the numbers of Salukis bred at Diamond Hill would have been greater had it not been for these situations. Because of fear of bringing in distemper, Mr. Aldrich would not take back a puppy he had sold which did not work out in its new home; instead, he would place it with those who loved, understood, and



L. to R.; Ch. Diamond Hill Akbar Malik, Akbar Malik

knew the breed. I was the happy recipient of three of these dogs.

After Mr. Aldrich died the kennel was dispersed. It is almost impossible to believe that a man who had spent the last 20 years of his life in dedication to a breed he loved — and he was a lawyer by profession, you will recall — would not make provisions for his beloved hounds after his death, but such was the case. The dogs were part of the residue of the estate that passed to a man who didn't particularly care for dogs in general, let alone Salukis. Mr. Browne did his best to see that the dogs reached the proper hands. Ch. Malik-el-Zobair went to Mrs. Knapp, and Dorothy Redinger bought back her Woodlake Akbar Gola, who had been a "stud puppy" when she bred Zohra II to Ch. Sultan. Joseph Peterson, who had been with Diamond Hill for some time, took Ch. Sama II, a grand old lady who was litter sister to Ch. Marjan II and Ch. Valda. Akbar Malik, frail and aged, spent his last days here at my place, and the Brownes retained a few. Though some reached owners new to the breed, few ever were to become important in the later world of Salukis.

Not only were the dogs left without provision, so too were most of Mr. Aldrich's accumulated data on the breed. He truly did not intend for this to happen, for I read in the Saluki column of the *British Dog World*, May 1947, a letter from him to columnist Gwendolyn Angel (Mazuri Salukis) in which he said in reference to the death of the Honorable Florence Amherst, "How unfortunate that her material was destroyed. When the mood and time permit, I must arrange mine, of which there is great quantity . . ." It is to be noted that he wrote this just a few months before his own death.

And thus the era of Diamond Hill ended, but the name lived on through the careful breeding of the next group of

devoted Saluki lovers.

We cannot pass from the story of Diamond Hill without a word about the man behind the man of that famous house of Salukis. Mr. Walter Browne, an insurance broker by trade, came to work for Mr. Aldrich in 1934. A man with an unerring eye for a fine dog (of almost ANY breed), he had particular interest in Beagles, racing Greyhounds, and horses. His influence in the breeding program, his loving care of all the dogs at Diamond Hill, his freely shared advice and help with any questions a new owner might have, and his expert handling which showed off the Salukis to their absolute best advantage were all attributes which those of us who knew him will always treasure. He was such a dear man!! In the mid 1950s the Saluki Club of America awarded him *Dog World's* "Man of the Year" award in recognition of his devotion on behalf of Salukis.



Left — Ch. Sultan, Right — Kataf

Editor's Note

WHY, does what Carol Ann Lantz memorializes here matter to you? Does what happened in the formative years of AKC matter today???

Understanding how our breed began in the US, who the dogs were, is very similar to understanding our current generations of Imports via the SPDBS Studbook. The populations are similar, the extinctions are similar although for differing reasons. Today, we have access to information that was not available 100 years ago, knowledge is easily obtained for those that choose to look.

100 years ago the constant search for new genetics was of paramount concern, today that is not the case.

Ours is not a breed that needs "perfecting", he remains the perfect multi-purpose sighthound. His genome remains intact. We are not "showdogs" we are working dogs that should also be shown. Examining our registration roots is an excellent way to understand how Salukis ONLY shown and bred for the showing are diverging from Salukis who have 8000 years of work behind them—the Salukis on which we built our AKC Studbook today.



Thoughts on Breeding-Mary Beth Rogers

Mrs. Florence Nagle

1894-1988

Why do we care about an English Breeder of Irish Wolfhounds who was also a Thoroughbred race horse trainer when women were not allowed a Trainer's License?

I became aware of Mrs. Nagle as Bill and Betty Deemer were mentors in my early days with Salukis and great supporters of my incorporation of Tek Kulak Turkish Salukis. The Deemers were Irish Wolfhound breeders of great success and stewarded at our National for many years while we were at the Kentucky Horse Park. The Deemers taught me much about how to SEE my Salukis, how to assess young puppies, and how to comport myself when in dog fancy kerfluffles.

I will also impart that Bill Deemer was adamant that I, as a breeder, had to know what correct conformation was, decide what was an eliminating fault (for me) as I made decisions, and NEVER breed any Saluki who had three eliminating faults.

While it is an insecure site, the entire text, which also addresses Mrs. Nagle's ideas on feeding, exercise, and showing, can be found at this link
<<http://www.irishwolfhounds.org/sulhamstead6.htm>> It is well worth the read.

Sulhamstead Kennels was the major force behind Irish Wolfhounds in the United Kingdom for much of the last century. Florence Nagle and her husband James were founders of the Irish Wolfhound Coursing Club (English hare hunting) and always bred for hounds that had working ability as well as good conformation. The two were not separated across the long life of Sulhamstead Kennels.



Much of what the Deemers imparted to me came straight from their mentor, Mrs. Florence Nagle. Some of what Mrs. Nagle believed I certainly do not, she was a proponent of inbreeding. Personal experience, practical experience, and science are all clear on the inherent danger with this kind of breeding but her methods of selection bear a great truth that I have learned to trust. The following page is compiled from a tape recordings at the Killybracken Get-together in 1971. It is the foundation upon which I still make decisions today.



· I try to breed a dog that can still do the job that he was meant to do. I only breed once or twice a year.... Quality, not quantity. I've only bred in all my life from about eight or nine or ten bitches. I never breed more than three times to a bitch. I only have about fourteen dogs; I never have more. And I keep my old ones. But you mustn't be sentimental about it. The thing is to look at your puppies and see if you've got one that's special. Keep that one and then let the others go at fourteen weeks of age or so.

· I've had to start over three times - we couldn't feed dogs during the wars - and I've always started from the back end. The rear end is more important than the front end, of course - it is the engine. A dog can propel himself with good hindquarters and a bad front but he can't drag himself along with bad hind legs. And you must have muscle, because, if you don't have muscle, you don't get the right shape.

· At what age do I look for temperament? I don't look for it - it comes. You must breed for temperament. And don't let anyone tell you that it's because they're inbred that their temperament is bad. If you inbreed to good temperament, you'll have even better temperament, but if you breed to bad temperament, you'll have a dog that you can do absolutely nothing with. Temperament is an essential thing and it must be bred for.

· People should not in-breed if they don't know everything way back. It's not a job for anybody that doesn't know what he's doing, because you can stamp in as much as you can stamp out.

· It is a fallacy to think that, if you have an excellent dog's brother, you can use him at stud and get the same result as with the better dog because the pedigrees are the same. You don't know. You can have eight puppies and they can inherit different genes and be quite different. You can get a famous racehorse from a particular breeding, then breed the same way again and get a thing that's half a furlong behind all the rest. It depends on what genes they inherit.

· You can't breed good stock from parents and grandparents and great-grandparents that have had various faults. Some of the stock that is being bred today is from animals that shouldn't have been bred from at all. When you have mass breeding, that is what occurs. That is why the old breeders are so very careful as to what they breed from. Don't breed from animals that have all sorts of queer faults behind them. They are bound to come out.

· Every dog has probably three faults. But some faults are much more important than others. A bad shoulder, a bad conformation, is a shocking fault. The dog is going to pass that on to its puppies.

Introducing Gary!

Melik Rataki Zargar at Ash-Shi'ra

Gen 1 - *Kuhi of Iran x Rataki Xyla

with his best buddy

Rataki Yaar-Jan at Ash-Shi'ra FCH CGC JSR



The Salukis at Ash-Shi'ra

Susan and Bill Schroeder

ashshira@sbcglobal.net

#garythesaluki

#yaarjangoes

#salukisatashshira



CH Melik Rataki Yaadegar e Bokaan
Generation 3
Oksana Belova



Traditional Tazi of Türkiye: Observations from the Field

© Oksana Belova



Foreward

My journey to Türkiye (Turkey) began with a simple desire: to witness firsthand the Tazi (Saluki) in its traditional environment. Having been interested in these magnificent sighthounds for many years, I wanted to move beyond photographs and secondhand accounts to develop a deeper understanding of how these dogs live, work, and are bred in their countries of origin. This article shares observations from my recent travels through the Urfa region and beyond, where families have maintained these hunting companions for countless generations.

The Ancient Contract: Tazi Dogs of Southeastern Türkiye

Introduction

In the remote villages surrounding Şanlıurfa (commonly known as Urfa) in southeastern Türkiye, an ancient partnership persists virtually unchanged since the dawn of agriculture. My journey to observe the traditional Tazi—known in the West as Saluki—was not merely an expedition to see dogs in a foreign setting, but a voyage across time. These dogs offer us a rare glimpse into our species' original relationship with domesticated animals, unclouded by the sentimentality and anthropomorphism that characterize modern Western pet-keeping. The Tazi exists as they have for millennia: as functional entities within human societies that still remember what most of us have forgotten—that dogs were tools long before they were companions.

The Deep History of an Interspecies Alliance

The relationship between humans and hunting dogs represents one of humanity's earliest and most transformative technological innovations. Archaeological evidence suggests that as early as 10,000 BCE, as humans transitioned from purely nomadic hunting to more settled agricultural patterns, specialized hunting dogs became increasingly important.

Intriguingly, Göbeklitepe—humanity's oldest known monumental temple complex, located near Urfa and dating to approximately 11,500 BCE—contains stone carvings that some archaeologists interpret as canid figures. While definitive evidence of domesticated dogs at the site remains limited, the presence of these images at such a pivotal location for human cultural evolution suggests that canines may have already held significant symbolic importance for the pre-agricultural societies of this region. That these ancient carvings exist in the same geographical area where traditional Tazi breeding continues today creates a compelling, if speculative, thread connecting modern practices to humanity's earliest monumental expressions.

These early hunting dogs were essentially living technology—breathing, self-replicating hunting tools with capabilities humans lacked: speed, scent detection, and instinctive prey-tracking algorithms embedded in their neural circuitry.¹ What we observe today in the Kurdish villages surrounding Urfa is the continuation of this ancient contract. Unlike the Western reconceptualization of dogs as family members with human-like rights and emotional needs, these rural communities maintain the original parameters of domestication: the dogs provide specific utilitarian functions; the humans provide the minimum care necessary to maintain those functions.

The Tazi's history is inseparable from the broader pattern of human cultural evolution in the region. While Western cynology might frame these dogs as "primitive" or "undeveloped," this perspective reveals more about our modern biases than about the dogs themselves. The Tazi has not failed to evolve—it has successfully maintained its ecological niche for thousands of years, a remarkable achievement in evolutionary terms.

Contemporary Manifestations of Ancient Patterns



In Kurdish villages throughout the region, the spatial arrangement between humans and dogs physically embodies ancient social hierarchies. The dogs exist outside human living spaces—kenned or tethered in yards—marking a clear boundary between human and animal domains. This separation is not incidental but fundamental to understanding the traditional human-canine relationship: proximity is functional rather than emotional.

This boundary becomes particularly clear when one enters a Kurdish home. These dwellings maintain meticulous cleanliness, with light-colored carpets covering all floors and a strict custom of removing shoes at the entrance. Meals and çay (tea) are traditionally served on these carpets, with family and guests seated in a circle on the floor—a practice that further emphasizes the importance of maintaining an immaculate interior space. The immaculate domestic interior stands in stark contrast to the outdoor spaces where animals reside. In such a context, allowing hunting dogs indoors would be as culturally incongruous as inviting livestock into the living room—a fundamental category violation that transcends mere practicality.

Women in the village maintain distance from the dogs, many expressing outright fear. This gender-based boundary reflects the historical division of labor where hunting with dogs was primarily a male activity, while domestic spaces remained female domains. The dogs thus become not merely animals but boundary markers between gendered spheres of influence—a living manifestation of social structures that predate written history.



Paradoxes of Care and Culture

The physical appearance of these dogs contradicts every Western assumption about proper canine care. During my visit, despite unseasonably warm weather, the dogs remained adorned in beautifully crafted coverings that revealed unexpected cultural investment. These were not crude wrappings but handwoven carpet-like garments of vibrant colors and intricate patterns, comprised of two rectangular panels of woven wool sewn together with ropes attached to secure around the dog's body. Their leather collars, too, displayed considerable artisanship—decorated with colorful glass beads and metal ornaments. This aesthetic attention juxtaposed sharply with their living conditions: simple outdoor kennels often consisting of nothing more than a cement dog house with dirt floors.



I observed several puppies showing symptoms of parvovirus—a highly contagious disease preventable through vaccination but common in regions where veterinary resources are limited. To the Western observer trained to see dogs through the lens of companionship, these conditions present a paradox—different priorities in care alongside decorative attention. However, through the lens of cultural analysis, we might understand the colorful garments and ornate collars as markers of the dogs' value within the community—not as companions requiring the same medical interventions Western dogs receive, but as culturally significant working animals worthy of visual distinction. The presence of parvovirus, while concerning to Western sensibilities, reflects not neglect but rather the reality of limited veterinary infrastructure and different approaches to animal husbandry that have shaped these dogs for centuries.

The Selection Algorithm

Perhaps the most illuminating aspect of traditional Tazi breeding is its selection mechanism. Unlike Western purebred dogs, subject to selection based on increasingly arbitrary physical standards codified by kennel clubs, the Tazi continues to evolve under the pressure of functional necessity. Dogs that hunt successfully reproduce; those that don't, don't. This elegantly simple algorithm has maintained their functionality for thousands of years without written records or scientific breeding theories.

While speaking with various villagers through Yusuf—himself a local breeder who communicated with me in a combination of English and Russian—I learned that breeding decisions throughout the region are made based on hunting prowess rather than aesthetics. When a particularly successful hunting dog emerges, efforts are made to breed it—not to conform to a predetermined "look" but to reproduce its practical abilities. This approach stands in stark contrast to modern Western dog breeding, which often selects for pronounced physical characteristics that can compromise health and functionality. The dogs I observed varied significantly in appearance—some taller, some more heavily built—





though all displayed the smooth, short coat characteristic of Turkish Tazi in this particular Kurdish region of southeastern Türkiye. This differs distinctly from the "feathered" varieties found in other parts of Türkiye and neighboring regions.

Their physical condition revealed their working status: active hunting dogs displayed defined musculature and alert posture, while those that weren't used for hunting (whether kept for breeding, companionship, or other purposes) showed different physical development. Most striking was the variation in temperament—hunting-active dogs exhibited an almost unsettling intensity that transcended typical canine behavior. They possessed a primal focus that seemed to render humans nearly invisible to them—not aggressive, but utterly consumed by their environmental awareness. Their eyes reflected a singular purpose, scanning constantly, bodies perpetually tensed as if electricity rather than blood flowed through their muscles. When the slightest movement flickered at the periphery of their vision, the transformation was immediate—their entire being locked into a predatory stillness that felt ancient and untamed by millennia of domestication.

This was not the eager-to-please intensity of working breeds familiar to Western observers, but something far more elemental—the pure distillation of predatory focus, unmediated by human bonding. In contrast, non-hunting dogs displayed more submissive and friendly behaviors toward humans, lacking that wild edge that made their hunting counterparts simultaneously fascinating and slightly unnerving. This morphological and behavioral diversity within a functional type represents the original pattern of dog "breeds" before Victorian-era standardization. The Tazi is not so much a standardized breed as a landrace—a regional population adapted to local conditions through millennia of coevolution with human hunters.

Commercial Threats to an Ancient Partnership

The greatest contemporary threat to this ancient human-canine partnership comes not from within the traditional practices themselves, but from external commercial forces that are transforming the fundamental nature of the relationship. Wealthy buyers from Gulf states offer substantial sums for these dogs, primarily for racing or display. This commercial pressure introduces a new and potentially disruptive selection mechanism based on speed alone or, worse, mere appearance, disconnected from the holistic functional adaptations that hunting requires.

During my journey, I visited a kennel where Tazi were being deliberately crossed with Greyhounds to create faster racing dogs specifically marketed to Gulf customers. This hybridization represents a profound deviation from traditional breeding practices—prioritizing pure speed over the balanced suite of adaptations that made these dogs successful hunters for millennia. The breeder openly acknowledged that these crosses fetched higher prices than traditional Tazi, creating a powerful economic incentive to abandon preservation in favor of modification.



The emergence of this market coincides with broader socioeconomic changes in the region. Yusuf, who served as my guide and interpreter, explained that over the past two decades, many villagers began selling their homes and relocating to urban centers—drawn by economic opportunities and modern conveniences unavailable in rural areas. In their place, affluent city dwellers purchased these properties as vacation homes, fundamentally altering the social fabric of these communities. This timeline roughly correlates with the rising popularity of dog racing in Gulf states, where the sport has transformed from a traditional pastime to a high-stakes commercial enterprise with substantial purses.

This shift has profound implications beyond just the dogs' physical characteristics. As traditional hunting families leave their ancestral villages, they take with them generations of knowledge about breeding, training, and working with these dogs. The new vacation homeowners have little interest in maintaining hunting lines or traditional practices. Meanwhile, those who remain find selling dogs for racing more lucrative than maintaining them for hunting. The result is a rapid unraveling of the socioecological system that sustained these dogs for millennia—the very selection pressures that created the Tazi are being replaced by market forces that favor a fundamentally different animal.

Against the tide of commercialization, I visited one family that steadfastly maintains the traditional hunting relationship with their Tazi. Located in a village just 25 kilometers from Urfa, this household continues to keep and work with their dogs according to practices passed down through generations. During my visit to their household over an Eid al-Fitr meal of sour bulgur köfte and chickpea soup the family patriarch demonstrated an encyclopedic knowledge of his dogs' lineage, recounting the hunting accomplishments of ancestors going back five generations. His son explained that they view their dogs not as possessions to be sold but as inherited partners in an ancient practice—the embodiment of knowledge passed down from their forefathers.

When I asked about the dogs' diet the reply was simply: "bread, food, bone.", meaning they're fed the leftovers from the family's own consumption: pieces of yufka (a thin, round flatbread baked on convex metal plates over open fires) that women prepare for family meals, remnants from the household's cooking pot such as the chickpea soup we were sharing, and bones remaining after the family has consumed meat. This practical feeding approach—simultaneously economical and waste-reducing—further emphasizes the dogs' status as working extensions of the household rather than pets requiring specialized nutrition. This pattern is not unique to dogs—it repeats throughout human history. When traditional practices encounter global market forces, the original systems that maintained them for millennia can collapse within a generation. The Tazi of Anatolia now stands at this precarious juncture between preservation and transformation.

What Western Saluki Enthusiasts Might Learn

For those accustomed to Western Saluki breeding and keeping, traditional Tazi husbandry in southeastern Türkiye offers several valuable insights:

First, the emphasis on hunting function over standardized appearance has maintained different selection pressures than those common in Western Saluki breeding. While breed standard conformity and show ring success often guide Western breeding decisions, the Tazi continues to be shaped primarily by hunting performance—a difference that potentially impacts everything from soundness to genetic diversity within the population.



Second, the distinctive temperament of hunting Tazi reveals how deeply working environment shapes behavior. The intense, almost primal focus of active hunting dogs contrasted sharply with the more approachable nature of their non-hunting counterparts—a distinction largely determined by their working role rather than deliberate selection for specific character traits. This natural differentiation might offer perspective for Western Saluki breeders navigating the balance between maintaining coursing ability and producing dogs suitable for modern home environments.



Third, the seemingly paradoxical approach to care—simple cement kennels with dirt floors alongside elaborate decorative coverings and ornamented collars—demonstrates different cultural priorities that reflect the dogs' status within their community. Western Saluki owners might find it enlightening to observe how these dogs are simultaneously working animals and cultural treasures, with the investment in decorative elements signifying their importance even when practical housing remains utilitarian. This balanced perspective might offer a middle ground between the sometimes polarized Western views of Salukis as either delicate housepets or purely functional hunting machines.

Fourth, the traditional relationship offers a window into the breed's historical context. For Western Saluki preservation efforts, understanding these traditional human-canine partnerships provides valuable perspective on the environments and working conditions that shaped the breed's development. The resilience and adaptability of these dogs within their original cultural context might inform ongoing discussions about which traits are truly essential to the breed versus which are more recent cultural preferences.

Ethical Considerations in a Cross-Cultural Context

My observations in Türkiye illuminate the danger of applying Western ethical frameworks to traditional practices without historical context. Western dog enthusiasts might instinctively condemn the keeping conditions I observed—the tethering, outdoor housing, minimal grooming, lack of veterinary care. Yet this reaction reveals our own cultural biases rather than objective ethical truths.

The Tazi of Anatolia are not Western pets subjected to substandard care; they are working animals existing in a relationship with humans that predates our modern conception of pet-keeping by thousands of years. To demand that these traditional communities suddenly adopt Western standards of dog-keeping would not only be culturally imperialistic but would likely destroy the very selection pressures that have maintained these dogs' unique adaptations.

However, ethical complexity emerges when considering the commercial exploitation of these dogs. When removed from their functional context and transformed into racing machines or status symbols, the dogs enter a new ethical framework—neither traditional working animal nor beloved Western pet, but commodities. This transformation demands ethical consideration precisely because it disrupts an ancient balanced relationship between species.

Conclusion

The Tazi of southeastern Türkiye represents more than just a geographic variant of the Saluki; it embodies a living connection to our shared canine heritage in its original context. Families like the traditional hunting family offer a window into the functional partnership that predates our modern reconceptualization of these ancient sighthounds.

What struck me most was the paradoxical approach to these dogs—utilitarian in their housing yet adorned with cultural significance through their decorative elements. This duality offers Western Saluki enthusiasts a more nuanced understanding of the breed's origins. These dogs exist simultaneously as both functional hunting partners and culturally significant symbols, mirroring tensions within Western Saluki communities between performance-focused breeders and those emphasizing conformity to modern standards.

Perhaps the most valuable insight from this journey is recognizing the speed with which Western Saluki keeping has diverged from these traditional practices. In just a century—a mere moment in the breed's history—we have transformed our relationship with these dogs. As we consider the future of the breed, we might find wisdom in these ancient practices, not as models to replicate exactly, but as reference points that help us distinguish which elements of the Saluki are truly foundational and which are more recent cultural overlays.

The Tazi of Urfa stands neither as a primitive ancestor to be "improved" nor as a perfect original to be romanticized, but as a reminder of the adaptive partnership that created these remarkable dogs. In understanding this living heritage, we gain perspective not just on the dogs themselves, but on our own evolving relationship with one of humanity's oldest animal partners.

[1] Coppinger, R., & Coppinger, L. (2001). *Dogs: A Startling New Understanding of Canine Origin, Behavior & Evolution*. Scribner. The Coppingers' research demonstrates how dogs' hunting behaviors represent evolved neural algorithms that process environmental stimuli in ways fundamentally different from human perception.



PAUL AND LUCIAN

PEREZ

WITH PARISA.

AND ZAM

JUDGE ROBERT PLACE



MELIK RATAKI ZAMANDAR

PERSIAN

The Perez Family, California



ATTASH DE BOORCHIN OF IRAN

MELIK PARISH

Congratulations to all
those who represented
the Breeders and Salukis
of the Society at
FCI Worlds!

Joosnam Hayat Ravan Bacht



Representing Germany, Eva Milani & Peter Plow
Sired by
Melik Boorchin Osve Ravan Bacht (gen 1)
out of
Banu Buthaynah Ravan Bacht

5th place of 59

Afra de Boorchin of Iran



Garamiyas Meridiana Mahzad



Representing the UK, Lina Liljeros
Sired by

HawksView's Secret of the Cosmos at Greendale (gen 3)
out of
SE LCCh Garimiyas Rounaq

16th of 59

Melik Qashang



Representing Italy, Barbara Degli Esposti
Sired by

Melik Nadin Jenn (gen 2)
out of

*Tayre of Urfa (Import Türkiye)

**FCI World Coursing Champion
2025**

Representing Finland, Pirjo Puttonen

Sired by
Gare-Qush of Iran (Iran)
out of
Tooka of Boorchin (Iran)

6th place of 59

Nox Infinita Avada Kedavra



Representing Finland, Hanna and Arto Ojanperä
Sired by
Melik Boorchin Oghab Nox Infinita (gen 1)
out of
Nox Infinita Ardea Cinerea

2nd place of 43

Nox Infinita Cui Sidhe



Representing Finland, Hanna and Arto Ojanperä
Sired by
Melik Boorchin Oghab Nox Infinita (gen 1)
out of
Nox Infinita Athene Noctua

5th place of 43

Nox Infinita Expelliarmus



Representing Finland, Siiri Lehto
Sired by
Melik Boorchin Oghab Nox Infinita (gen 1)
out of
Nox Infinita Ardea Cinerea

**FCI World Coursing Champion
Open 2025**

Melik Boorchin Pazhal



Representing Belgium, Wilfried Bormacher and
Josianne Leloup
Sired by
*Gare-Qush of Iran (Imp Iran)
out of
*Qushabee of Boorchin (Import Iran)

Alparz de Boorchin of Iran



Representing Finland, Hanna and Arto Ojanperä
Sired by
Gare-Qush of Iran (Iran)
out of
Tooka of Boorchin (Iran)



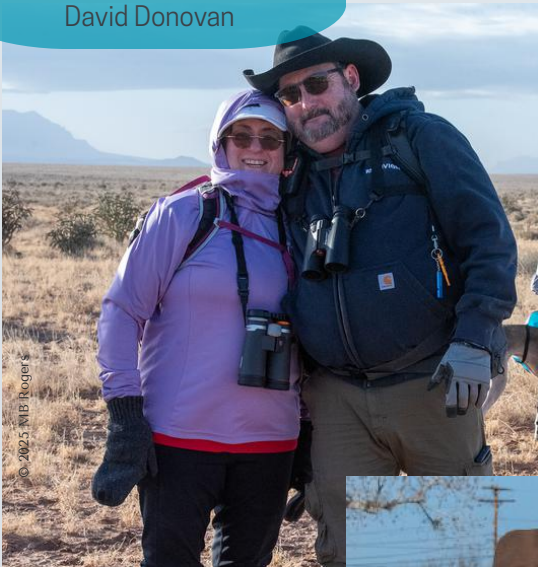
El CAMINO

Saluki Desert Classic

by Mary Beth Rogers

COFFEE SHOP
Dining & Lounge

Devorah Hayman and
David Donovan



Mary Beth Rogers



Robert Place



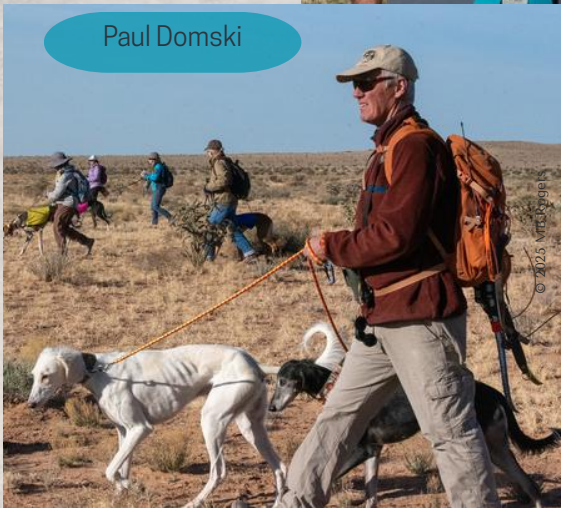
Joe Minor



Devorah Hayman and
Robert Place



Paul Domski



Joe Minor and
Lucian Perez



THE FOLKS THAT MADE
IT ALL HAPPEN IN
NEW MEXICO

Sue Nelson



SALUKI DESERT CLASSIC WINNER



EL RIYAH RAVANI TAL AL ARZ
BRED BY LINDA DEUTSCH AND STEPHANIE ANNEE



The Society held our first Saluki Desert Classic Hunt/Match event the first weekend in March. It was a wonderful weekend, our hares decided to show up, our Gallery was fabulous, David Donovan did a superb job with our Gallery, Robert Place was a patient and informative judge, Devorah Hayman was our excellent Field Clerk, Sue Nelson was our capable match Chair, while Joe Minor cheerfully sorted through our Match entrants, including many pups and owners who were first timer exhibitors. Paul and Lauri Donski were invaluable helping get things set up, working with our Huntmaster to keep us happy in the field, arranging our venues, and providing food.

The goal was to start a weekend event for all Salukis that would safely introduce new people and inexperienced Salukis to the world that has been inhabited by our dogs for 8000 years or more. Our Match was intended to show new owners what a Conformation show could be, and the link between working in the field and judged Conformation. The two activities should not be separated. On both counts we succeeded.

I cannot express how thankful I am for all those who contributed suggestions as we started down this road, who cheerfully worked to make our success a reality, and those who came out to the fields to try hunting and then to came to the Match. We DID finish our two days in the field by noon, including a final!! Karen Hoffman provided invaluable input on how to set up our draw for the field, and our overall structure was outlined quite meaningfully with Kathleen Tigan at her kitchen table giving us a great road map forward.



After our first day hunting, we successfully critiqued six Salukis on Saturday afternoon. A big thanks to our three Judges, Daniela Imre, Monica Stoner, and Robert Place. Monica gets a special thanks as she was not well and came anyway (well masked), bringing her measuring stick and gentle hands as she worked her magic convincing Salukis, who thought all of this was needless, to stand and allow us to see them! Daniela was able to go home so her Hunt winner Shepherd could rest and she could take care of her other Salukis. Robert critiqued after a morning in the field.

Sunday's match after the morning hunt was quite fun as we saw new handlers and novice Salukis all become showdog teams, briefly. Our hope to be able to see, up close, the Salukis that had just hunted now in the Conformation ring was realized. While not everyone who was in the field was able to come, many did.

Our format worked better than we could have hoped. We were successfully in the field early, we actually DID finish each day by noon, including a final! Our Huntmaster David Donovan did a wonderful job of keeping the gallery engaged and paying attention. Robert Place, our Esteemed Judge, did a fabulous job and took the time to show Novices how to slip, how to release, and why the gallery works the way it does

Memorable Field Moments were our 11-year-old Lucian Perez slipping his Salukis both Saturday and Sunday then becoming a Handler in the ring. Chad Reynolds walking in the gallery, daughter Roxie on his shoulders, followed by Roxie using her Saluki Malone as a pillow during the critique. Paul Donski gave his girl, Hazel, to a new hunter to slip in Finals on Sunday which allowed our new hunter to learn how to slip AND slip the Saluki that won the hunt Sunday.

Most of all, the new Saluki hunters that joined us in the gallery were truly a breath of fresh air. Without a good gallery it is hard to have a good hunt and they were, without exception, cheerful, attentive and made our hunts fun, rewarding, and successful.

Barbara Nkele and
Stephanie Annee



Seth Hall



Cathy Garrett and
Barbara Nkele

Justin Hise and
Carissa Grall



Carissa Grall



Paul Perez



Stephanie Annee, Cathy Garrett, Barbara Nkele, Robert Place



Lorraine Trenholm



Lucian and Paul Perez



Lucian Perez



Stephanie Annee
and Daniela Imre



Daniela Imre



**GALLERY PHOTOS,
SDC HUNT-DAY ONE**

It should be noted that we took to heart that we had NO rules, NO expectations, and our main goal was a positive experience for everyone. Our format was designed to be a LEARNING format with each event being a standalone event. We fielded two Stakes, one for Masters (experienced Salukis and hunters) and Novice (new to field Salukis and/or hunter). We did our draw right after closing the hunt entries. We first drew our Masters as we put at least one Master in each course. This meant the Masters always ran under yellow until Finals. We brought in an unentered Master Saluki on Sunday to run with two Novices who was not scored. This meant all Novices were able to run with an experienced Saluki which helps them learn what this is all about...CHASE THE HARE! It worked beautifully.

We awarded points each day to the overall hunt winner, regardless whether Master or Novice, and we awarded points to each stake. Robert judged the Salukis regardless of Stake designation. I then took Robert's placements for the overall day's winner, and tallied the placements and points for Masters and Novice.



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Our Match Chair, Sue Nelson, truly stepped up. She had our Judge, Joe Minor, go over an AKC Champion and show all of our new owner/handlers what would happen in the ring including the ring pattern. We then started with Open Dog, followed by Open Bitch and down the classes. Puppy classes were judged after Open and Bred By Exhibitor. This meant the puppies and their handlers would see how it all worked and be better prepared. Sue had show leads galore, so all Salukis were on show leads in the ring. I will note some of those puppies were extremely smart and figured it out faster than their handlers! Joe's patience and kindness as a Judge was showcased as he helped many a novice (both canine and human) understand what was wanted, allowing a young Saluki go from total novice to Best of Opposite Sex. We closed with our Fun class that awarded Best Feathers and Best Feet.

As far as organizing and structure, we will fine tune a bit but the concept was very successful and we certainly had a great time. We hope more will join us next year as we do it again!

Lauri Domski



Laine Sladen, Rachael Warburton, Lorraine Trenholm



Chad and Roxy Reynolds



Steve and Rachael Warburton



Laine Sladen, Tyler Sladen, Rachael Warburton



Lucian Perez, Christina Pollick, and Stephanie Annee on the line



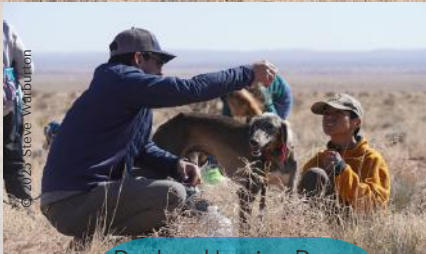
Laine Sladen



Chad, Ashley, Roxy Reynolds



Paul and Lucian Perez



Stephanie Annee Daniela Imre



Christina Pollick Tommy Ripper



Lucian Perez and Paul Domski

GALLERY PHOTOS SDC HUNT-DAY 2

HUNT RESULTS

Saluki Desert Classic March 1							
	Course 1	Final	Total	Hunt Placement	Stake	Stake Placement	SDC Points
Strider	71		71		Master		4
Ekko	73	77	150	2	Novice	1	6
Shepherd	76	75	151	1	Master	1	(6+5) 11
Parisa	74		74	4/5	Novice	2/3	4
Shayla	73		73		Novice	4	3
Wren	75	73	148	3	Master	2	5
Raven	74			4/5	Novice	2/3	5

Melik's Asal Shahin e Sheyda Laa Yudaani
 Desertsy Tamarisk Ejaz El Riyah

 King Solomon's Hunters Haroe Bashoshanim
 Melik Parisa
 Suez Shayla in Red

 Melik Elika'i Laa Yudaani
 El Riyah Ravani Tal Al Arz

Saluki Desert Classic March 2							
	Course 1	Final	Total	Hunt Placement	Stake	Stake Placement	SDC Points
Hazel	78	73	151	1	Master	1	(6+5) 11
Cid	74	76	150	2	Novice	1	6
Molly	73		73	4	Novice	3	4
Lemy	not judged						
Zam Zam	75	72	147	3	Novice	2	5

Melik Qerqi Abi
 Cid Ravan Bacht S'aad el Badia, BCAT
 Qashani Fillah Saudiyya

 Melik Rataki Zamamdar



King Solomon's Hunters
 Haroe Bashoshanim
 Hunt Winner
 Masters Stake Winner Day One



Melik Qerqi Abi
 Hunt Winner
 Masters Stake Winner Day Two



Desertsy Tamarisk Ejaz El Riyah
 Hunt Second Place
 Novice Stake Winner Day One



Cid Ravan Bacht S'aad el Badia,
 BCAT
 Hunt Second Place
 Novice Stake Winner Day Two.

Christina Pollick and Klaus



Lucian Perez and Parisa



Reynolds Ranch Littermates



Andoni Garrote and Plentzia



Reynolds Ranch Littermates

Stephanie Annee and Zardi



Frannie Zeller, Gail Goodman and Azar

THE SALUKI DESERT CLASSIC MATCH

Open Dog Class

Paul Domski and Hazel



Daniela Imre and Molly

Andoni Garrote and Plentzia

Cid, Paul Perez and Zam-Zam

Stephanie Anne and Raven,
Lorraine Trenholm and Zarifa



Lorraine Trenholm and Zerang



Sue Nelson and Pink



Chad Reynolds and Malone



Lorraine Trenholm and Zende

Frannie Zeller and Chicklet

Open Dog	
1	Midbar Sipur shel Al Azar
2	Ch. Timaru Eyes of the World, JC
3	Melik's Palang e Sheyda Laa Yudaaani
4	Cid Ravan Bacht S'aad el Badia,BCAT
Bred By Exhibitor Dog	
1	Reynolds Ranch Angus
2	Rataki Melik Zerang
6-12 Month Puppy Dog	
1	Reynolds Ranch Archer
2	Reynolds Ranch Angus
3	Reynolds Ranch Amon
4-6 Month Puppy Dog	
1	Suez Issibaa Ping Pong
2	Suez Issibaa Patent Pending
Best Feathers	
	Ch. Timaru Eyes of the World, JC
Best Feet	
	Reynolds Ranch Amon

Open Bitch	
1	Qashani Fillah Saudiyya
2	Midbar Sipur l'Atid Kanahora
3	Rataki Melik Zende
4	Melik Parisa
Bred By Exhibitor Bitch	
1	El Riyah Ravani Tal Arz, BCAT
2	Rataki Melik Zarifa
6-12 Puppy Bitch	
1	Issibaa's O'Omani
2	Pouneh Zardi Tizpa Ravan Bacht
4-6 Month Puppy Bitch	
1	Suez Issibaa Printzesa de Plentzia
2	Suez Issibaa Patent Leather Pumps
Best Feathers	
	Suez Issibaa Printzesa de Plentzia
Best Feet	
	Rataki Melik Zende

MATCH RESULTS

Best in Match
El Riyah Ravani Tal Al Arz, BCAT



Best of Opposite Sex
Reynolds Ranch Archer

Ekko



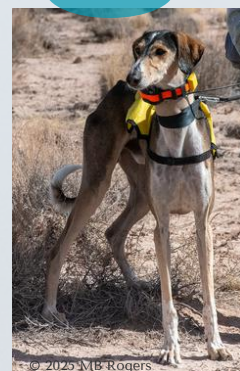
Zam-Zam



Molly



Shepherd



Shayla



Cid and Zam-Zam



Raven



Hazel



Hazel



THE SALUKIS OF THE SALUKI DESERT CLASSIC HUNTS

Lemy and the
Hare



Wren and Lemy



Strider



Cid



Cid and Molly



Parisa and Zam-Zam



Qashang

FCI WORLD COURSING CHAMPION 2025

MELIK QASHANG

Treasured by Barbara Degli Esposti

Argenta, Ferrara

Italy



SKY SONG TROPHY WINNER,
MULTIPLE AOMs FROM OWNER HANDLER

DC MELIK'S BAANU-ABEE E SHEYDA LAA YUDAANI

CGC, TKN, SC



CHERISHED BY
JAN ISLEY AND CAROLA BUTLER



SHOWN BY CAROLA BUTLER

The Bros

PROPER

Greendale Black Pearl of
Halfeti
SC, CGC, DCAT

*Bred by
Julia Holder & Richard Gentry*

SPATZI

Garamiyas Mago Mahyar
for Greendale (Sweden)
SC, CGC, BCAT

Bred by Pia Hoggren



Conformation Pointed & Free Coursing Fanatics

Thanks to all connected to these boys over the years. They are loved.

Sophia Therese Pitakis & Michael J. Mogus

Tal al Arz River El Riyah



Tal al Arz Radames El Riyah



*Rhett, Breed & All Breed Winner
2024 Autumn COBRA Derby*



Tal al Arz Radames El Riyah

*Rhett and River
are run and
cherished by
Rosemarie Vinch
Purple Rose*



*Celebrating our
roots*

*&
Succeeding in
the show ring
and on the field*

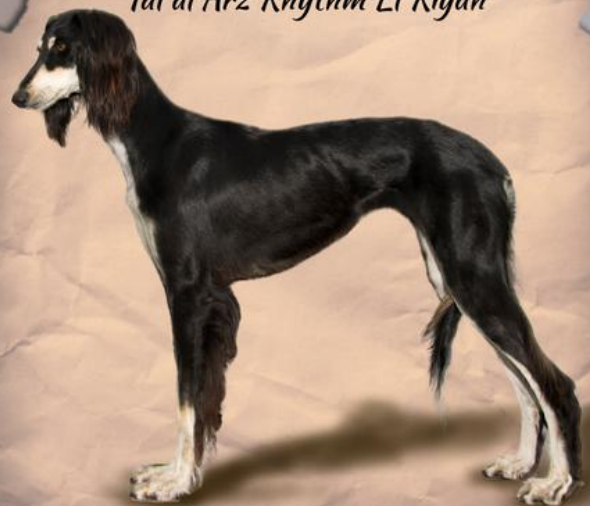
*Bred by
Linda Deutsch
and
Stephanie Annee,
the girls are shown
by Linda.*



Tal al Arz Rapunzel El Riyadh



Tal al Arz Rebecca El Riyadh



Tal al Arz Rhythm El Riyadh

OUR GERMAN FAMILY



IMPORTED FROM GERMANY.

*Pounce Zardi Tizpa
Ravan Bacht*

BRED BY HEIKE BRÄUER



Cid Ravan Bacht Saad el Badia

BRED BY MIRKO ALBERTAZZI

SPDBS INAUGURAL SALUKI DESERT CLASSIC - WINNER HOVICE STAKE DAY 2 HUNT

STEPHANIE ANNEE- GEORGIA



SPDBS II AUGURAL SALUKI DESERT CLASSIC OVERALL WINNER
LEGS (ASFA) BUNNY HOP TRIAL BIF APRIL 13



El Riyah Ravani Tal Al Arz

STEPHANIE ANTHEE- GEORGIA

Running



George and Mary Beth Rogers

on the wild side!



HUNTING



TIMELESS