

BAROUD III and NEVADA II (see below). As his pedigree suggests, Virgule is one of the top French sires today. His stats are impressive 16(6-2-5)Stks plcd. His offspring include 143 starts, 104 wins, 24 Stakes and 23 Stakes placed for a total of \$3,100,118.00. This is also the tail female line of TIDJANI, the sire of *ALA CROIXNOIRE.

MERJANE, born 1866 in Syria is the dam line of DENOUSTE (Latif x Djaima). Merjane is the 5th dam of DENOUSTE and we find him today mostly in Russian/Polish pedigrees as his son, KANN. was sold to Russia. Kann's son KOREJ sired some good racehorses there, including KNIPPEL and KOMPOZIDOR. DENOUSTE was also the sire of DRAGONNE.

WARDA, born 1821 in Hungary of the Seglawi race. Foundress of a very prolific family through DAMAS, DJOURA. DEBORA, DJERISSA, DRAGONNE. DRAGON. This is the dam line of DJELFOR 7(5-2-0) and DJOURMAN and likely the one behind a lot those "Dj" names. This is the tail female line of *HAFFIR EL RIMAL (below).

ZULMA, born in 1876, imported in 1880 from Syria of the Hamdanieh-El Sbaa race. An extremely successful line through BAROUD III, CHERI BIBI. BACCHANTE, NEDJARINE (dam of NEDJARI, the sire of Porta who is the dam of FORTA). Baroud III is noted mainly as a broodmare sire, but CHERI BIBI was a leading French sire from 1984-1994 over MANGANATE, and is the sire of *HAFFIR EL RIMAL 5 (1-0-1). Haffir's offspring have among them 38 starts 31 wins, 5 Stakes and 8 Stakes placed giving him a very high percentage as a sire. ZULMA, or NEVADA II, as it is most often referred to, is also the dam line of NIVOOUR de CARDONNE 17 (6-5-2) and *ALA CROIXNOIRE 3/9(4-3-1)4-1.

CHERIFA, born in Syria 1869 imported to France 1870 from the Chouimi-Sebaye race. This line comes to us today through HFIFA, SBAH HANI, BAD and ZMORA. It is more familiar to us through the Polish mare ELEANORA. but the top racehorse PASSEM LOTOIS is also from this family.

KALIFA, 1850 from Koheil- Hamdani- Arbi race. ANCHALLAH, DJEBELLA 2/8(4-4-0)O dam of the (filly) Derby winners RUTBAH 2/8 (7-1-0)D.O +2, URGENCE 2/6 (6-0-0) D+2 and SAGAR 2/7 (7-0-0)D.O.+2. At least Sagar still comes to us through her son GRAND 3/18(14-1-3)Crit x 2.

+8 but the rest of this family disappeared in World War II, 1945. There was another daughter of Djeballa, TROPHEE who won the Oaks and a son BRABANT who won the Criterium and was undefeated in all of his 6 starts and Rutbah produced another filly Derby winner, AKRE who had 3 wins from 3 starts and also won the Oaks. Quite a family. To my knowledge, Grand is the only representative therefore its status as dam line is no longer possible, but keeping it going through Grand is important both here and abroad as I have rarely seen such a concentration of classic winners in one family.

AISSA, born in 1867 and imported to France from Algeria in 1870 by Adjali out of Fatouma by Bou Maza. Comes to us today through RAZZIA III, who appears as the third dam through her daughter DIDIDA, of the magnificent, BENGALI D'ALBRET 24 starts, 7 places and 14 Stakes wins. ZID HTATOUSEL (a daughter of RAZIA III) is the very successful dam of HAF-FIR EL RIMAL, ZIPPY AL MAURY, DIDA CHERIE, MALIKA d'ALBRET all full siblings and classic winners. Other branches come through FLEUR du BERN to FLORALIE and FLEUR du CASSOU and also from FLEUR D'AVRIL to CARMENSITA, TOUT en KHANN and BIRIBI. FLORINE produced PELLA de la COSTE. QUITAINE produced NEFTA. A very black type family indeed.

*These are some of the most important families (dam lines) in French breeding. I hope this helps in making future breeding decisions as it seems we (North American breeders) have just been grabbing up a lot of French stallions without a lot of effort put into studying their pedigrees. As the tail female line is paramount in race breeding, no matter the breed, a look at French dam lines is an important place to start. A good stallion should have three things: pedigree, conformation and performance but pedigree is the most important one in my opinion since conformation and performance can be very random. An old Kentucky saying; "A horse may outrun his pedigree but he rarely outbreeds it." Bonne Chance everyone.

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Top: Nevada II. Middle: Vada de Domenjoi - Cherifa dam line Bottom: Malia D'Albret - Aissa dam line