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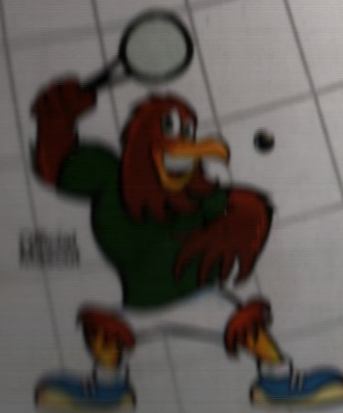
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**BANK ALFALAH
World Open Squash
Championship 2003**

**12 - 21 December
Lahore - Pakistan**



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MESSAGE

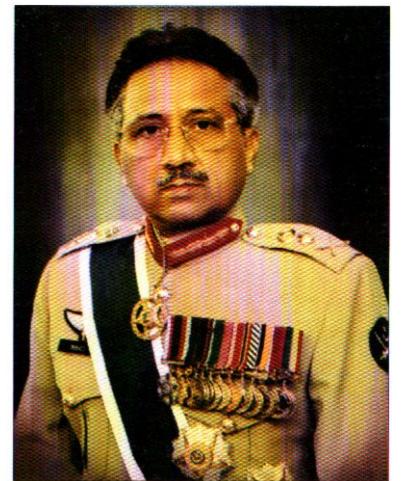
It gives me great pleasure to offer my felicitations to the Pakistan Squash Federation and the Punjab Squash Association on the auspicious occasion for staging the Bank Alfalah World Open Squash Championship 2003 in the historic and cultural capital of Pakistan Lahore.

The honour belongs to Pakistan a country rich in traditions, heritage and proud of a glorious history and accomplishment in the game of squash-racquets, to be hosting this premier world class squash tournament. I am sure the guests who have come to play will not only delight us with the best of their performance but will also enjoy the hospitality, the warmth and the friendship of the people of Lahore and Pakistan, equality of which we as a people are proud.

My sincere thanks to Bank Alfalah, the main stay and sponsor of the World Open Squash for their generous support to the game. I also thank the allied Sponsors who have contributed handsomely to make this event rememberable and possible.

My best wishes and the warmest felicitations to the organizers, the game and the players of the tournament.

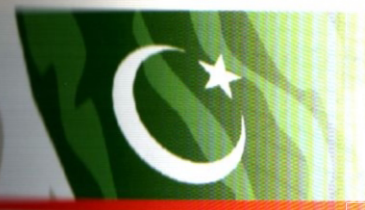
GENERAL PERVEZ MUSHARAF
President, Islamic Republic of Pakistan





MAIN DRAW

1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	Quarter Finals ¼	Semi Finals ½	Final Winner
1* Peter Nicol {ENG}	Round 2 Match 1	Round 3 Match 1	Quarter Final Match 1	Semi Final Match 1	
Hasham Muhammad Ashour {EGY}					
32* Davide Bianchetti {ITA}	Round 2 Match 2	Round 3 Match 2	Quarter Final Match 1	Semi Final Match 1	
Gavin Jones {WAL}					
10* Gregory Gaultier {FRA}	Round 2 Match 3	Round 3 Match 2	Quarter Final Match 1	Semi Final Match 1	
Jonathan Kemp {ENG}					
27* Rodney Durbach {RSA}	Round 2 Match 4	Round 3 Match 3	Quarter Final Match 1	Semi Final Match 1	
{Q7} Qualifier 7					
7* Karim Darwish {EGY}	Round 2 Match 5	Round 3 Match 3	Quarter Final Match 1	Semi Final Match 1	
{Q1} Qualifier 1					
31* James Willstrop {ENG}	Round 2 Match 6	Round 3 Match 3	Quarter Final Match 1	Semi Final Match 1	
Lee Drew {ENG}					
13* Mansoor Zaman {PAK}	Round 2 Match 7	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Lars Harms {SUI}					
22* Olli Tuminen {FIN}	Round 2 Match 8	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Cameron White {AUS}					
3* David Plamer {AUS}	Round 2 Match 9	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Muhammad Essam A. Hafiz {EGY}					
29* M. Azlan Iskandar {MAS}	Round 2 Match 10	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Glenn Keenan {AUS}					
9* Amr Shababa {EGY}	Round 2 Match 11	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Bradley Ball {ENG}					
23* Adrian Grant {ENG}	Round 2 Match 12	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Peter Genever {ENG}					
5* Anthony Ricketts {AUS}	Round 2 Match 13	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Cameron Pilley {AUS}					
Wael EL Hindi {EGY}	Round 2 Match 14	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Alister Walker {ENG}					
15* Simon Parke {ENG}	Round 2 Match 15	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Ben Garner {ENG}					
21* Muhammad Abbas {EGY}	Round 2 Match 16	Round 3 Match 4	Quarter Final Match 2	Semi Final Match 1	
Viktor Berg {CAN}					



MAIN DRAW

1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	Quarter Finals ¼	Semi Finals ½	Final Winner
Dan Jenson {AUS}	Round 2 Match 9	Round 3 Match 5	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
26* Renan Lavigne {FRA}					
Mike Corren {AUS}	Round 2 Match 10	Round 3 Match 5	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
17* Mark Chaloner {ENG}					
{Q5} Qualifier 5	Round 2 Match 11	Round 3 Match 5	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
20* Nick Matthew {ENG}					
Laurens Anjema {NED}	Round 2 Match 12	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
6* Ong Beng Hee {MAS}					
{Q4} Qualifier 4	Round 2 Match 13	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
25* Shahier Razik {CAN}					
Tommy Berden {NED}	Round 2 Match 14	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
12* Martin Heath {SCO}					
{Q3} Qualifier 3	Round 2 Match 15	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
19* Omer Elborolossy {EGY}					
Shahid Zaman {PAK}	Round 2 Match 16	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
4* Thierry Lincou {FRA}					
John Williams {AUS}	Round 2 Match 17	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
24* Nick T aylour {ENG}					
{Q8} Qualifier 8	Round 2 Match 18	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
14* Graham Ryding {CAN}					
Borja Golan {ESP}	Round 2 Match 19	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
Farrukh Zaman {PAK}					
{Q2} Qualifier 2	Round 2 Match 20	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
8* Lee Beachill {ENG}					
Joey Barrington {ENG}	Round 2 Match 21	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
18* Alex Gough {WAL}					
LIAM Kenny {IRL}	Round 2 Match 22	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
11* Joseph Kneipp {AUS}					
{Q6} Qualifier 6	Round 2 Match 23	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
28* Stefan Casteleyn {BEL}					
Jean-Michel Arcucci {FRA}	Round 2 Match 24	Round 3 Match 6	Quarter Final Match 3	Semi Final Match 2	
2* John White {SCO}					

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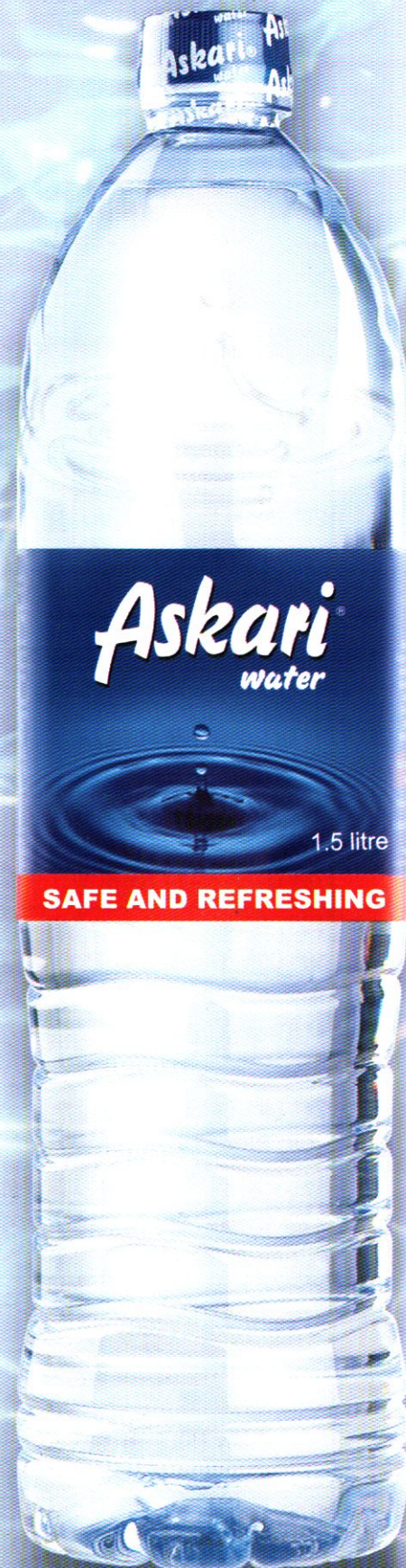


BANK ALFALAH
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Championship 2003

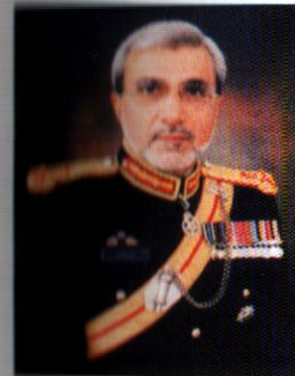
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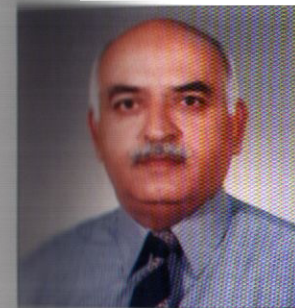
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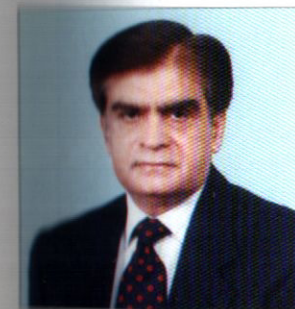
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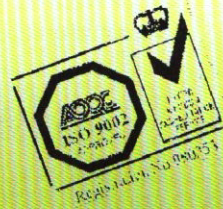
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World Open preview

By Khalid Hussain

The historic city of Lahore will be at the centre of the squash world from December 12 to 21 when it will play host to the eagerly-awaited 2003 Bank Al-Falah World Open featuring all the top stars of international squash.

It will be for the first time since 1996 that the showpiece event of the World Tour will return to Pakistan.

Seven years ago legend Jansher Khan won his record eighth World Open title in Karachi which has hosted the tournament thrice in the past.

Though there will no Jansher this time to hog the limelight, all the current big guns of the World Tour will gather in Lahore for the World Open that will offer a cash basket of US\$175,000.

England's world number one Peter Nicol leads the list of top professionals while other leading players include Scotland's pre-tournament favourite John White and Australia's defending world champion David Palmer.

However, three of the top four players of the world could not even reach the semi-finals of the Qatar Classic - a tournament that served as the dress rehearsal for the World Open - which means that predicting the winner of the World Open this year will be a difficult job.

It is the fourth time that the professional circuit's biggest and most important tournament has taken place in Pakistan.

However, it is for the first time that the World Open has been staged in Lahore as on the previous three occasions Pakistan hosted the extravaganza in Karachi.

The World Open was brought to Pakistan for the first time in 1984 when the Pakistan Squash Federation (PSF) then known as the PSRF hosted the tournament at the PIA Squash Complex in 1984. The title was won by a young Jahangir Khan who achieved that honour with an enviable ease. Almost a decade later, things were different for the aging legend who was beaten in the final by his nemesis Jansher Khan in the 1993 World Open that took place at the brand new Asif Nawaz Squash Complex in Karachi just before the World Men's Team Championships.

Jansher bettered his own record of seven world titles when he added another to his tally by beating Rodney Eyles of Australia in the final of the 1996 World Open that also took place at



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the Asif Nawaz Complex. It was the last time that Jansher won the world crown as he had to remain away from the 1997 World Open held in Kuala Lumpur because of a court order in Malaysia where he was sued by his ex-wife. The then world number one skipped the 1998 edition held in the Qatari capital of Doha because of injury problems.

Following Jansher's exit from the circuit in the late nineties, Peter Nicol has established himself as the world's number one squash player.

Though Nicol, who switched from Scotland to England in search of better training facilities and sponsorship, has been threatened time and again by Canadian Jonathon Power, Australian world champion David Palmer and Scotland's John White but he has managed to keep them at bay in recent years.

Nicol as the world number one will head the 64-man draw of the World Open main rounds though there will be various players with good chances of winning the coveted crown.

It will be the first time that a World Open taking place in Pakistan will start without a local favourite for the title. In 1984 it was Jahangir while in 1993 and 1996 it was Jansher.

This time Pakistan's best player in the World Open draw will be Mansoor Zaman, a world number 15 from Peshawar. Mansoor along with his younger cousins Farrukh and Shahid Zaman will feature in the main draw.

The tournament is being hosted by the Punjab Squash Association (PSA) led by Lt Gen Zarrar Azeem. As the PSA president, General Zarrar is the man responsible for making Lahore as one of the major destinations on the World Tour. Last year he helped revive the Pakistan Open once again making it a major event of the international squash calendar. The General has also played a major role in bringing back the World Open to Pakistan.

Bank Al-Falah, the major sponsors of the Pakistan Open last year will be the title sponsors of the World Open providing a purse of US\$175,000. The World Open has also attracted a number of co-sponsors like Samsung Mobile Phones, PIA, Global Telecom and many more.

The organisers are convinced that with the sort of arrangements that have been made for the successful hosting of the World Open, the tournament will go down in the annals of history as one of the most memorable squash events of all time.





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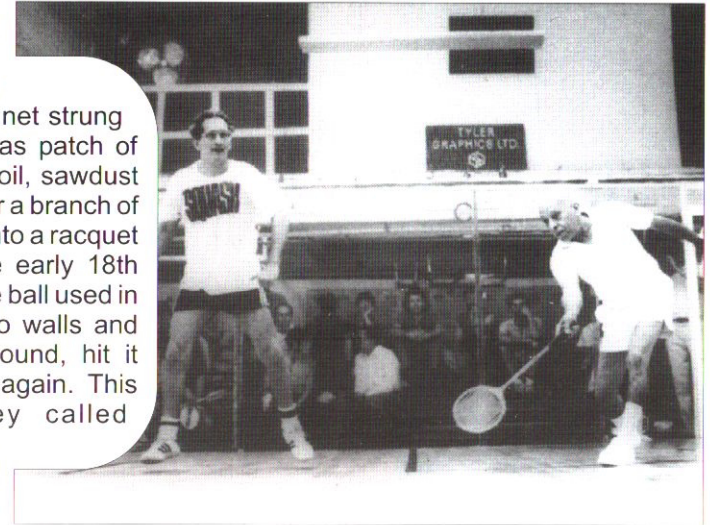
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SQUASH PAST & PRESENT

Karamat Ullah Chaudry | Tournament Director

I wonder how many of you know that the game of Squash was born out of Tennis. The original game of tennis started in the 12th century in France when monks patted a ball back and forth over a fishing net strung across the courtyard of a monastery. The ball was patch of leather with dog hair sewn inside and filled with soil, sawdust and sand. Later, the monks employed a thick stick or a branch of a tree to hit the ball. This stick was later developed into a racquet by the Dutch, but not till the 15th century. In the early 18th century, prisoners in a London Jail started hitting the ball used in



tennis on to walls and on the rebound, hit it again and again. This game they called

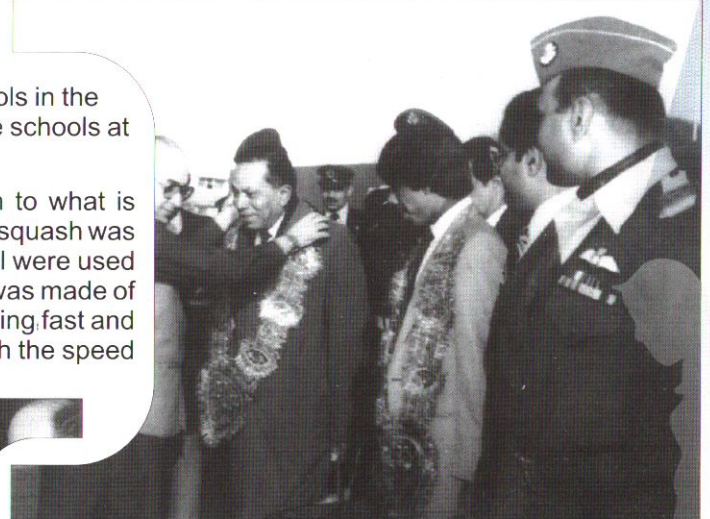
"Rackets." The game developed subsequently, racquets and balls improved and the courts even got a roof in order that the game could be played in inclement weather. The floor was cemented and Rackets became a vastly popular sport. Then came along a deviation of the game of Rackets which came to be called "Fives" which was the ancient version of hand ball, in fact it was more or



less a game of Rackets but instead of a racket, the five fingers were used to pat the ball towards the walls. This game of Fives gained popularity in schools in the United Kingdom, the notable among which were the schools at Eton and Rugby.

The combination of Rackets and Fives gave birth to what is known as Squash today. The pioneer of the game of squash was the Harrow School where sidewalls and a front wall were used in courtyards. The bat or racquet was long, the ball was made of very hard rubber, consequently the game was lightning fast and the players found it impossible to come to terms with the speed

generated by the ball. Boys at Harrow set about to slow down the game and in the process they invented a ball using soft rubber and shortened the racquet to slow down the game. Towards this end they succeeded. This then became what is known as squash today.



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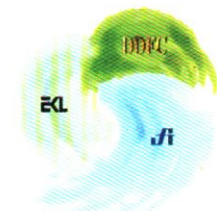
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Squash had come to stay and in the late 19th century, squash courts blossomed all over schools, at Lords Cricket Ground, Cambridge University and the Royal Automobile Club in London. It was around this time probably that the Punjab Squash Association Squash and Racket Ball Courts were constructed in Lahore. Amendments were subsequently made in the early 20th century to the composition of the squash ball material, and by 1934 the ball speed was reduced to half. As all sorts of court dimensions were in use, it was decided in 1928 to standardize court size, and the dimensions of 32 feet (9.75 meters) by 21 feet



(6.4 meters) were selected. Philadelphia in USA became a hub of squash activities across the Atlantic, and squash spread to Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Germany, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Kenya and Sudan.

A dramatic rise in the popularity of a squash came after the Second World War with Pakistan dominating the world scene in the fifties through its four champions Hashim Khan, Azam Khan, Roshan Khan and Mohibullah Sr. This was followed later, but to a lesser extent by Aftab Jawaid and Mohammad Yasin in the

sixties, when Barrington literally ruled the squash world.

In the seventies, when Geoff Hunt demolished all opposition, Qamar Zaman, Mohibullah Jr and Gogi Allaudin did challenge him but with marginal success. But the total domination by the Pakistani pair of Jahangir Khan and Jansher Khan was seen in the eighties and nineties, when these two world champions and squash legends



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completely dominated the world squash scene with unprecedented and phenomenal success.

Squash courts have been a great beneficiary of technology. Racquets are lighter, stronger and have a lot more whip now than ever before, the ball speed is just right, and most importantly, is consistent throughout the world. This has made the game all the more exciting. The Glass Revolution has completely changed the complexion of the game. First came the back glass wall which opened up the game to a lot many



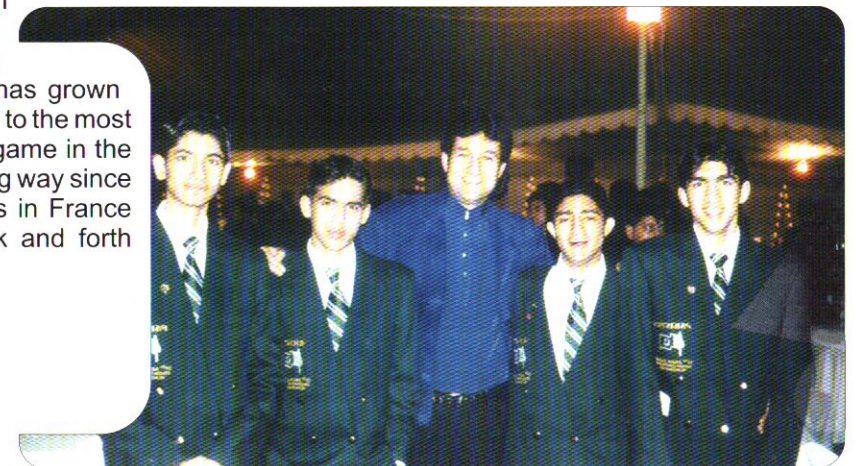
World Junior Champions 2002

spectators behind the Back Wall. Then came the three side glass wall court which further increased the capacity. Finally we have the four side glass wall court which is portable, such as the one in which the world open 2003 is being played in Lahore. This type of court is now being used in most international tournaments all over the world. Increased television coverage is now possible leading to a dramatic rise in the levels of sponsorship. The portable glass court has made it possible to hold tournaments at stunning locations such as the Grand Central Railway Terminal in New York, at Canary Wharf, London's Trendy Shopping Center, in Royal Albert Hall in Central London, at Symphony Hall in



Pakistan Squash Team 2003

Boston, at the Pyramids in Egypt, and at the Fortress Stadium in Lahore. In about 140 Years squash has grown from a school boy past time to the most enthralling and explosive game in the world. We have come a long way since the monks in ,monasteries in France patted a leather ball back and forth across a fishing net.



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The Legends of Pakistan squash

Hashim Khan



The father of Pakistan squash, Hashim Khan is the man who brought a newly-born country on the world sports map single-handedly. At the time of his birth probably in 1914 Hashim's family was unfortunately poor. Poverty, however, in those days was not unheard of as the entire neighbourhood of 'Naya Gaon' (New Village) commonly known as Nawakilli survived on meager resources. But something other than poverty set their family apart from their neighbours. Hashim's father, Abdullah knew an art that was to change his offspring's fate forever. Abdullah had an affiliation with a sport called squash that was to be the part of parcel of Hashim's life. Hashim first started his love affair with squash as a ball boy but rose to become the sport's most successful player. Being a bright youth invented a unique competitor for himself. He started playing against Hashim Khan. For him there were two Hashims on the court. One was he while the other was his rival. And what a competition it was. Those games were instrumental in lending him the speed and skills that became the scourge for other leading players of the world of his era. Hashim's first appearance in a competitive tournament was in prestigious Western India Squash Championship which used to be organized by the Cricket Club of India in Bombay. He played three easy matches on his way to the final with Abdul Bari, the most accomplished player in the entire region of India at that time and a favourite to retain the title, but Hashim beat him flat and square which really ruffled his feathers.

At the ripe old age of thirty-seven years, Hashim was to embark on the trip of a lifetime when he reached London in the winter of 1951 on a chartered air force plane along with several military and government officials. Hashim was a sight to watch during that trip.

Hashim, who had only known squash as a tough game and played bare foot on cemented courts baked by the afternoon sun, found himself in completely alien surroundings. The courts here were covered, the flooring was made of wood and the temperature was cool. Having lived in abject conditions throughout his humble beginnings it was only natural for Hashim to adapt the leisurely style of this game quickly.

TITLES - THE BRITISH OPEN.

He won the Scottish Open and then reached the final of the British Open where he met Egyptian legend Mahmoud El Karim. The little wonder had no problems against the highly-rated Karim, winning 9-5, 9-0, 9-0 in just 33 minutes.

The squash world had found a new king. Hashim returned home, a hero. Pakistan was less than four years old and the nation was in dire need of recognition abroad. Hashim gave his countrymen their first taste of international success. The Governor General was in the welcome party that received Hashim at the Karachi Air port.

In the coming years, Hashim dominated the international squash scene, which was at that time confined to a few events in the United Kingdom with the British Open being the biggest tournament.

He could not win the 1957 British Open - against Roshan Khan - because of an injury in the final but returned with a vengeance the very next year to win his record seventh crown. That feat was only overtaken by Australian legend Geoff Hunt and later by Jahangir Khan who now holds the record of ten consecutive titles.

Hashim did not only become the best squash player in the world. He gave the game a new meaning. With his devilish speed, his superb fitness and a whole new variety of shots, he gave squash a new image.

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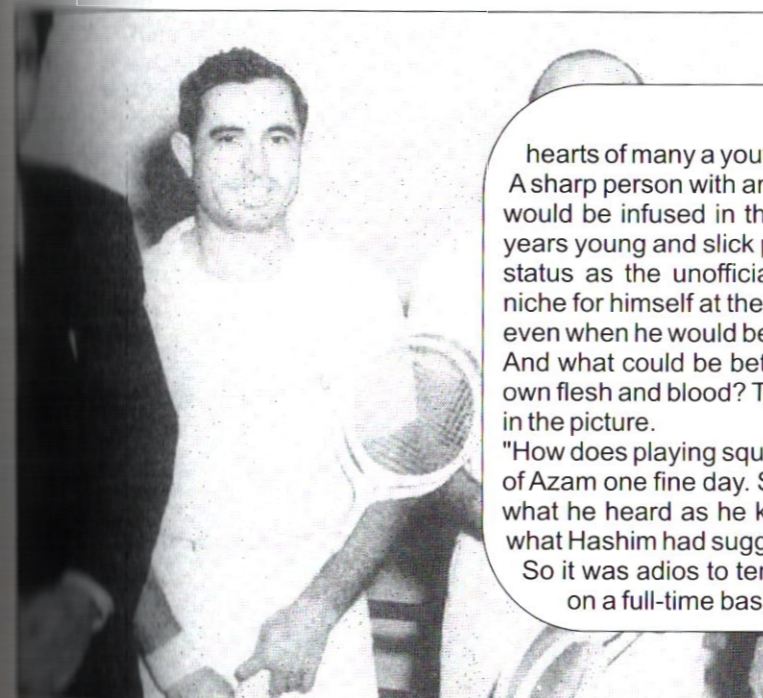


After Hashim squash was never the same again. It was because of his rise as the British Open champion that players started concentrating a lot on speed and stamina. It was because of sheer hard work and determination that Hashim reached the pinnacle of success.

Azam Khan

The celebrated Azam Khan is revered as one of the greatest squash players in Pakistan, Britain and others parts of the world where squash is played.

Azam's story is almost as interesting as is the life of his elder brother - the indomitable Hashim Khan. Eleven years Hashim's junior, Azam was a competent tennis player at a time when his invincible brother



stamped his superiority in the British Opens of 1951-52.

After returning home following his victory in the 1952 Open, Hashim was fully aware of the fire he had alighted in the

hearts of many a youth of his homeland for this competitive sport.

A sharp person with an insight, Hashim realized that, as new blood would be infused in the veins of this budding game, within a few years young and slick professionals would soon be threatening his status as the unofficial champ of the world. Besides creating a niche for himself at the very top he wanted his name to be immortal even when he would be no more.

And what could be better than creating another champion of your own flesh and blood? That's where Azam, his younger sibling came in the picture.

"How does playing squash sound to you?" inquired the senior Khan of Azam one fine day. Since junior looked up to his brother he liked what he heard as he knew that there must be something deep in what Hashim had suggested.

So it was adios to tennis while squash it was from then onwards on a full-time basis. Switching from one sport to the other was not easy. Nevertheless the way Azam handled the racket was proof enough that he was a natural.

Hashim had been planning a trip to Britain for junior the following year, and in 1953 his kid brother was ready to hit the soil of England.

Azam touched toes in England and his target was the British Open. But at that time the British Open was limited to the top 16 players only and being a recent recruit Azam was denied a direct entry.

In those days there were no qualifying tournaments either. Since Azam had managed to reach the final of the Professional Championship, he deserved a place in the British Open.

A last-minute trials match was held at the Lansdowne Club against a leading British amateur Brian Phillips. Azam won the match and got an entry in the British Open draw. He won a tough first round match against Englishman Alan Fairbairn and was awarded a walkover in the quarterfinals.

Also reaching the semi-finals were Hashim Khan and another Pakistani Safeerullah Khan, their brother-in-law. The only non-Pakistani in the last-four stage was Roy Wilson. The Englishman defeated Safeerullah while in the other semi-final Hashim was extended to the fullest by Azam before the holder pulled off a 9-6, 4-9, 9-7, 8-10, 9-4 victory.

Azam continued to figure prominently in the British Open during the coming years but his first title finally came in 1958 when Hashim pulled out of the competition due to an injury. He went on to win three more titles but was forced to call it quits after he snapped an Achilles tendon in 1963.



He could have made a comeback on the circuit but a great tragedy struck when his eldest son died. After Nawaz's death Azam was a broken man losing interest in life for quite a long time. Azam played in seven British Open finals and is still regarded as the supreme shot maker and strategist. Even Hashim never beat a British Open final opponent the way Azam beat Roshan Khan in the 1959 final. He won 9-1, 9-0, 9-0.

Roshan Khan

Roshan was an accomplished player even as an unknown young man. A player with a distinctive style, that was yet to be seen in his village, Nawakilli. Though Roshan only has one British Open title tagged with his name, he is an important member of the Khan dynasty - a player who should have won a lot more titles.

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Lack of work forced Roshan to move to Karachi from Rawalpindi in 1951. As a player those were very frustrating couple of years for Roshan and he did not know how to get through that trying period. He was jobless, homeless and was almost penniless. His only salvation was his love of squash and that is exactly how he passed his time playing with his brother Nasrullah who also became his coach and trainer. Roshan needed that lucky break which was nowhere in sight.

While it was a job at the Air Force that gave an opportunity of a lifetime to Hashim back in Peshawar, for Roshan it was the Pakistani Navy that came in to his rescue.

Though Roshan was at that time the national squash champion, all that the navy could offer him was a lowly job as a messenger. But Roshan was more than happy to grab it. He was married by then and already had a son and the family was in desperate need of a decent shelter and some means of livelihood.

It may not have been a very respectable job, but his affiliation with the Navy finally led to the realization of his fondest dream - to get chance to play Hashim Khan who by then had garnered an aura of invincibility.

It was because of Pakistan Navy that Roshan got a chance to travel all the way to Britain.

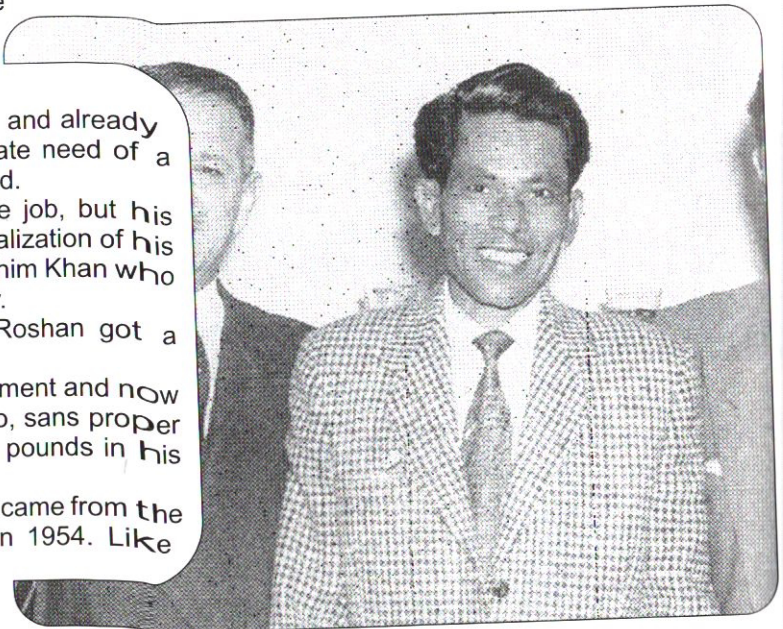
For years he had been waiting for this moment and now that it was finally here he was all set to go, sans proper clothing, no professional kit and only five pounds in his pocket.

So dressed in a used, over-sized coat that came from the navy store, Roshan landed in London in 1954. Like divine help, Nasrullah too managed to join him there, which was naturally a great relief for Roshan who was finding life difficult in an altogether foreign land.

Money was scarce in the first couple of weeks, but Roshan managed to overcome this hurdle by winning the Dunlop Championship - one of the richest events in Britain at that time.

Roshan defeated Azam Khan in the semi-finals and in spite of a foot injury outplayed Mahmoud El Karim 9-6, 9-1, 9-0 in the final. The title win enhanced Roshan's status as a contender for the British Open final where Hashim and Azam were already installed as the favourites.

But Azam took sweet revenge of his defeat to Roshan in the Dunlop Championship by beating his compatriot in the semi-finals of the 1954 British Open. By then Roshan had untangled him of the jinx that



made him an angry man in the earlier day Karachi and London for competition and Roshan came back for the British Open tough battle in which Roshan once led 2-1. But Roshan was self right in 1957. The victory came as a morale-booster tournament that year. He defeated debutant Hashim in the final.

Though Hashim won the opening game recovery to take the next three 9-5, 9-2, 9-6. However, those were the only few moments and only British Open title. He injured both knees, which reached the British Open final of major tournaments.

In spite of his painful knees, Roshan reached the British Open final of major tournaments. The scores were 9-6, 9-2, 9-6. Roshan was most cherished by his fans.



Mohibullah

towards life and squash, this man primarily left-handed Mohibullah was a fierce competitor who would beat the best in the world. He and his brother were invited to the White House for an informal meeting with President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1960. Mohibullah enlightened the President of his desire to live and work in America.

Back in 1957, Mohibullah had impressed everyone with his slick show in the semi-finals to Roshan Khan but not before a couple of very good



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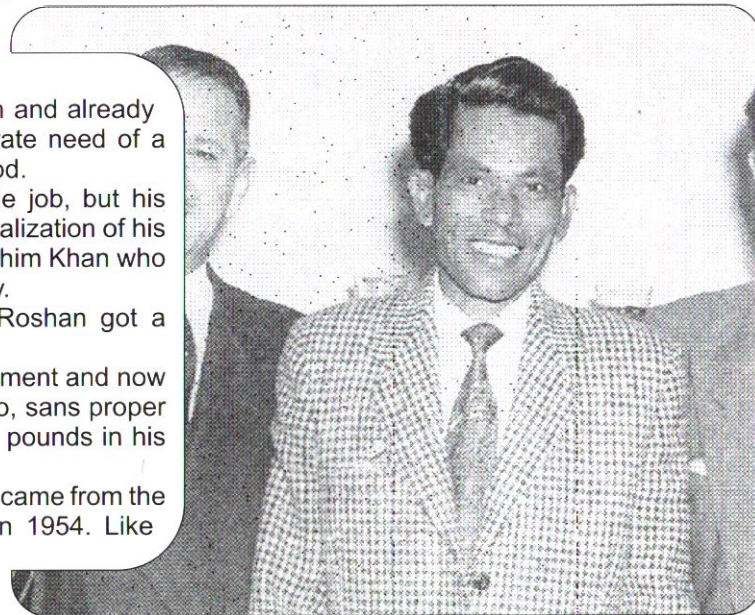
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made him an angry man in the earlier days of his professional career and he was now shuttling between Karachi and London for competition and coaching.

Roshan came back for the British Open in 1955 and was this time beaten by Hashim but not before a tough battle in which Roshan once led 2-1. But Roshan was still sure that he was good enough for the British Open crown and finally proved himself right in 1957 - his best year as a squash professional.

He started the year with a victory in the Dunlop Championship but not before a grueling final against Azam Khan that left Roshan with broken teeth.

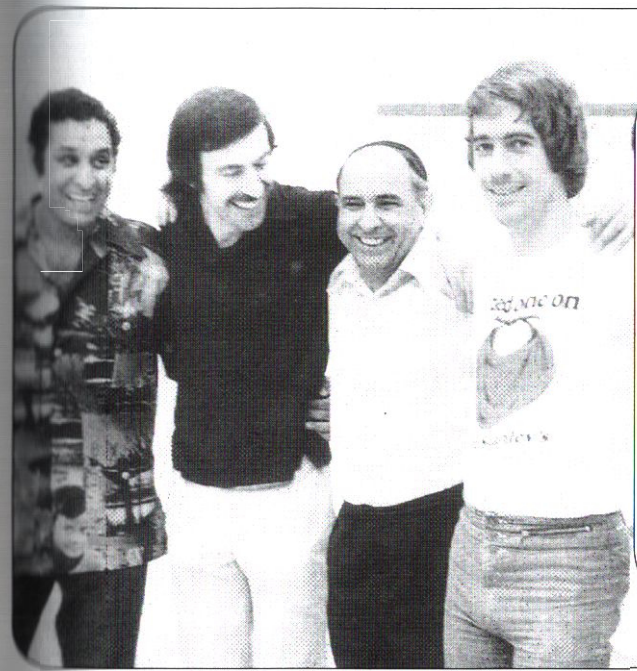
The victory came as a morale-booster ahead of the British Open. Roshan was at his peak in the tournament that year. He defeated debutant Mohibullah Sr. - nephew of Hashim and Azam - in the semi-finals and finally managed to realize his most cherished dream, that of defeating the mighty myth Hashim in the final.

Though Hashim won the opening game 9-6, Roshan was not ready to give up as he made a forceful recovery to take the next three 9-5, 9-2, 9-1. Roshan was jubilant. This was his once in a lifetime.

However, those were the only few moments of glory for Roshan as his downfall began soon after his first and only British Open title. He injured both his knees, which made him so vulnerable that he could not defend his title in 1958.

In spite of his painful knees, Roshan reached the British Open final after a two-year lay-off but was butchered mercilessly in the final by Azam Khan. The scores read 9-1, 9-0, 9-0. During the rest of his career, Roshan mostly figured in the semi-finals of major tournaments. He, however, made his mark on

the North American circuit where he won the US Open three times.



Mohibullah Khan Sr.

Mohibullah was Hashim and Azam Khan's nephew. While most of the other Khans of that era were late arrivals on the international scene, Mohibullah's kinship with Hashim and Azam helped him make his British Open debut as a nineteen-year-old in 1957. Mohibullah Sr., as he came to be known later after a namesake of his joined the circuit in the late sixties, was a completely different man from his two uncles. While Hashim and Azam hailed from a humble background, Mohibullah was born with a silver spoon in his mouth as his family had managed pretty well for themselves.

He was a man free from care having developed a taste for the finer things in life. This was one of the reasons that despite the potential and latent talent, Mohibullah could only win the British Open once. Unlike the other Khans who had a very serious approach

towards life and squash, this man primarily played for his own satisfaction. Though casual in style, the left-handed Mohibullah was a fierce competitor who would beat the best on his day.

Mohibullah fell in love with America during his trip in 1960. He and Roshan had gone there to play a number of exhibition matches. As a part of the tour, they also played on the Pentagon courts where they were invited to the White House for an informal meeting with President Kennedy. It was there that Mohibullah enlightened the President of his desire to live and work in America. The request was accepted then and there.

Back in 1957, Mohibullah had impressed everyone with his slick show in the British Open where he lost in the semi-finals to Roshan Khan but not before a couple of very good performances.



It was the year when Roshan became the British Open champion, beating uncle Hashim in the final. In 1962 when his name was added to the roll of British Open champions. Mohibullah played and lost in three British Open finals to Azam Khan. His crowning glory, however, came in 1962 when his name was added to the roll of British Open champions.

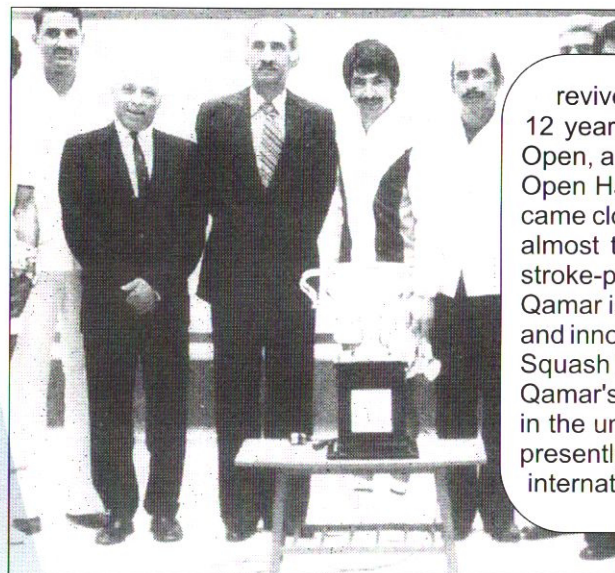
A hard-hitting and acrobatic player, Mohibullah defeated Egyptian master Abou Taleb in the final of the 1962 Open.

But for Mohibullah and Pakistan there was a title drought in the coming years.

In 1963, Mohibullah failed in his campaign to defend the title bowing out in the semi-finals. The defeat ended Pakistan's supremacy in the British Open that had lasted for thirteen years.

After that, Mohibullah could never again become a force to reckon with in the British Open. He made his final appearance in the tournament in 1972, ten years after winning his only crown, but that was after staying away from the softball game for the best part of a decade. Mohibullah lost in the quarterfinals to the famous Australian, Ken Hiscoe.

Qamar Zaman



This wily yet laid-back magician was the man who revived Pakistan's supremacy in the British Open after a gap of 12 years. After Mohibullah Senior's triumph in the 1963 British Open, a host of Pakistanis strived to add their name to the British Open Hall of Fame. Aftab Jawed tried and failed, Gogi Alauddin came close but lost at the last hurdle while Mohibullah Junior was almost there but the honour went to Qamar, one of the finest stroke-players the game has ever seen.

Qamar is a player who gave squash a new dimension with his wit and innovation.

Squash has been Qamar's family profession for five generations. Qamar's great grand father, Aurang Khan, was a prominent player in the undivided India while one of his sons, Mansoor Zaman, is presently the highest-ranked player from Pakistan on the international circuit.

Like Azam Khan, Qamar initially started as a tennis player but later switched to squash after learning that he had a knack for that game.

Coached by his father, Qamar's first success came in the National Junior Championship in Lahore in 1969. It was during that tournament that the leading officials of the Punjab Squash Association (PSA) noticed Qamar and later got him a job at Pakistan Railways.

In 1972, Qamar defeated Hiddy Jahan in the final to win the National Senior Championship. The same year, he went to England to play in the British Amateur Championship and reached the final as a qualifier. Qamar joined the world circuit in 1973 and though still an amateur he gained a berth among the top four players in the world. He reached the semi-finals of the 1973 British where he lost to compatriot Mohammad Yasin. He once again lost in the last-four stage of the tournament in the following year. And then came 1975 when Qamar was installed among the legends of Pakistan squash.

Australian great Geoff Hunt was the favourite to win the British Open title in 1975. Other title aspirants were Hiddy Jahan, Gogi Alauddin and Jonah Barrington. Qamar, seeded eighth in the tournament, was just considered as some one who might reach the semi-finals.

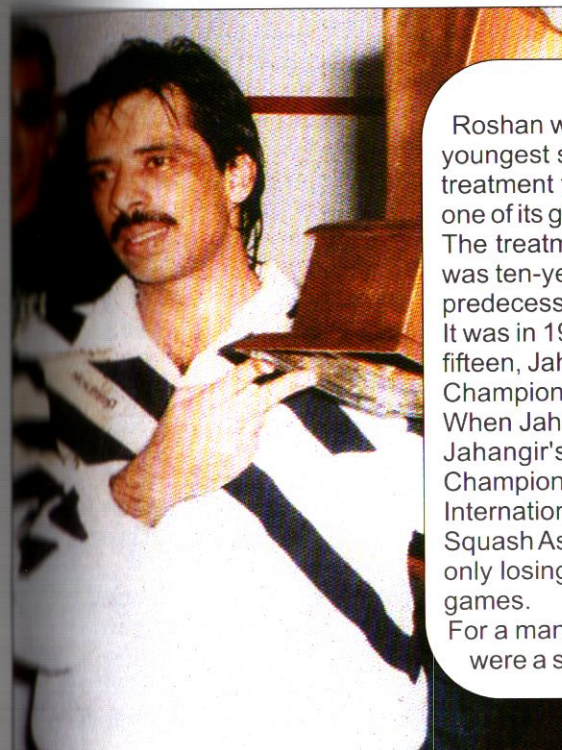
But Qamar defeated all the three pre-tournament favourites - Hunt, Hiddy and Gogi - on his way to win the coveted crown.

Qamar later appeared in four more British Open finals after his triumph in 1975 but was beaten either by Hunt or his young countryman Jahangir Khan.

He retired in 1989 and later turned his attention towards the development of the game at the national and international level. Presently Qamar is serving as the vice President of the Pakistan Squash Federation (PSF) as well as the Asian Squash Federation (ASF).



Jahangir Khan



The most successful squash player of all time, Jahangir was born in the winter of 1963 when his father, Roshan Khan, had already established himself as one of the leading players of the world.

Roshan was also employed with the Navy, which is the reason why his youngest son, born with a double hernia, got the best possible medical treatment for the problem that could have deprived the squash world of one of its greatest players.

The treatment was long and frustrating and it was not before Jahangir was ten-years-old that he was allowed to touch the racket. Like all of his predecessors, squash was a passion for Jahangir.

It was in 1979 that Jahangir first earned international fame. Though only fifteen, Jahangir created a world record when he won the World Amateur Championship in Melbourne.

When Jahangir was just 16, he decided to join the ranks of a professional. Jahangir's first assignment as a professional was the ISPA Championship in Southampton. The tournament was sponsored by the International Squash Players Association now known as the Players Squash Association (PSA). Jahangir reached the final of the tournament only losing to the highly-rated and far-experienced Hiddy Jahan in four games.

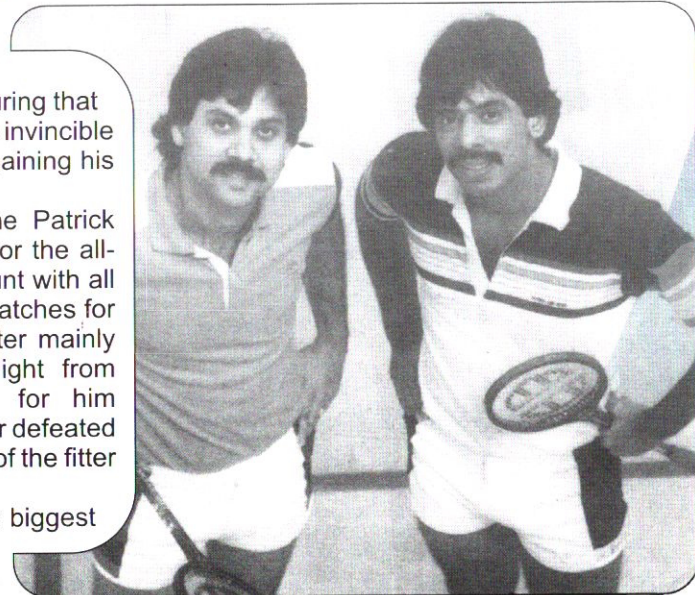
For a man who was to rule the world of squash for years to come, there were a series of defeats early on in his professional career. But they all came against players who were too experienced for the rookie. However, they were destined to be crushed by the young contender in not a very distant future.

As a young boy Jahangir did little else than what he was

asked to do by his coach Rahmat Khan. The transformation of the boy prodigy into an efficient professional did not take much time. His victories in New Zealand and Karachi were followed by a series of titles in Europe. It was during that season when he first met and defeated the once invincible Hunt. It was an epic encounter with Jahangir gaining his first victory over the great Australian.

The two clashed again in Chichester for the Patrick International tournament - a dress rehearsal for the all-important British Open. Jahangir went after Hunt with all guns blazing. It was one of the most difficult matches for Hunt. While in Munich he lost to the youngster mainly because he was jet-lagged after a long flight from Australia, there were no such problems for him in Chichester. Before that match, nobody had ever defeated Hunt in a match that was decided in the favour of the fitter player.

Jahangir was now ready to take a shot at the biggest prize on the circuit - the British Open. He reached the final and was now standing face to face with Hunt with the Australian looking for a record eighth British Open crown. It was to be yet another epic battle for supremacy between two men from two different generations. Hunt won the final in





seven titles.

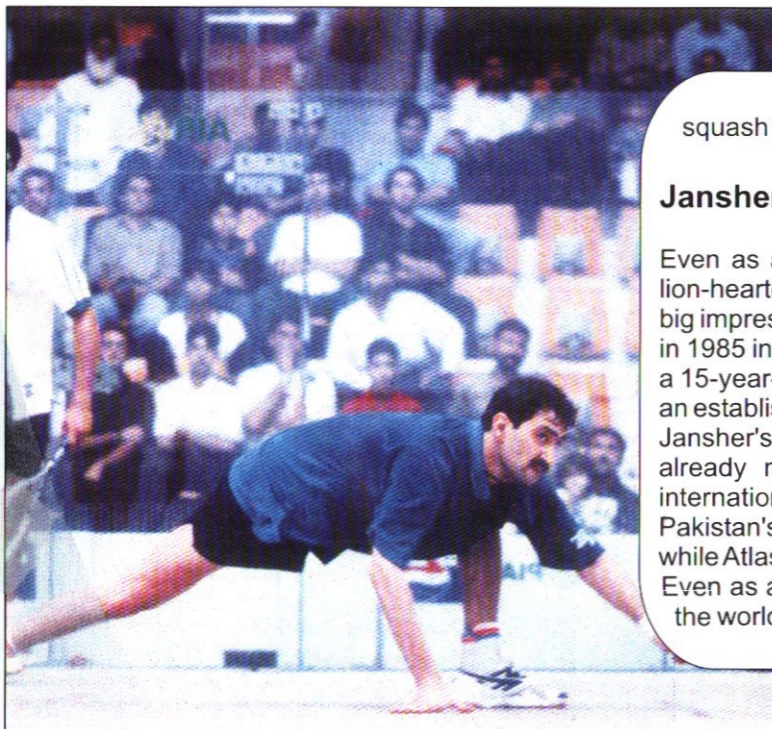
Jahangir had to wait for over half a year to get a chance of crossing swords with his rival again. He got that opportunity in Toronto at the 1981 World Open. Time had come for the young boy to deliver. When Jahangir lost the opening game to Hunt in the final, it seemed that the story of the British Open was to about to be repeated in Toronto. But Jahangir had other ideas. He had work harder than ever on his fitness in the hot and humid summer of Karachi and was a faster and stronger man than he was seven months back. He thrashed Hunt 9-1, 9-2, 9-2 in the next three games to become the new champion of the world.

Jahangir's World Open victory over Geoff Hunt in 1981 was the start of the greatest unbeaten streak not only in squash but in sport. For five years and over 500 matches Jahangir remained unbeaten, a feat never been achieved by any man in any sport and there seems little likelihood that it will ever be repeated again.

With Hunt beaten into oblivion and players like Qamar Zaman no more posing any serious challenge to his throne, Jahangir picked title after titles all over the world. He rode roughshod over his rivals for half a decade and was literally invincible. His superiority was so absolute that until one day in 1986, Jahangir had barely lost a game, leave alone a match.

The scoreline 9-7, 9-1, 9-0 was a Jahangir trademark during those years. However, one November day in 1981 in the French city of Toulouse, the golden run finally came to an end. The man who stopped Jahangir was no other than his top rival for many years - New Zealand's Ross Norman.

However, Jahangir bounced back from that defeat and remained as the best player in the world for the next many years. During his illustrious career, Jahangir win the British Open for a record ten times and the also claimed the World Open crown six times.



Jahangir retired in 1993 but was once again back in the picture in 2002 when he became the first Pakistani to be elected as the President of the World squash Federation (WSF).

Jansher Khan

Even as a lanky youngster, Jansher Khan - the lion-hearted - was no ordinary player. He made a big impression in his first international appearance in 1985 in a junior tournament in Kuala Lumpur as a 15-year-old. He lost to Umar Hayyat Khan - then an established player - in the semi-finals.

Jansher's elder brothers Mohibullah and Atlas had already made a name for themselves in the international arena. Mohibullah was one of Pakistan's best players on the circuit in the 70s while Atlas too had his share of glory on the circuit.

Even as a youngster, Jansher sights were set on the world title. His role model, then was Jahangir - a man who later turned out to be his biggest rival.

Jansher started playing squash in a serious manner at a very stage. He says he was around eight or nine when

squash became an obsession.

Unlike Jahangir who had his father, brother and later his cousin -turned-coach to take care of him, Jansher got little guidance in the nascent phase of his career as a squash player. Jansher was occasionally helped by his brothers - Mohibullah and Atlas - but largely he remained a self taught player.



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Jansher started off with a few national level junior tournaments in Abbottabad and Peshawar but was soon to fly to Kuala Lumpur for the Malaysian Junior Championship in 1985 where he lost in the semis.

He went back to Peshawar and just started training like a man possessed. He had no Rahmat Khan to devise his training schedule. But Jansher did not allow this handicap to come in his way. He chalked out his own training methods. He would play for hours with several opponents at a time. He would indulge in lengthy sessions alone. He would run for miles without giving himself much of a break. Jansher was blessed with a physique that's perfect for squash. He was tall, thin and had a big reach. Jansher's big break came in the 1986 World Junior Championships. This time Jansher was a lot more sure of himself. He was merciless on his way to the final where he



met home town favourite Rodney Eyles. Jansher proved too good for the highly-rated Aussie in a one-sided final.

Eyles was to become one of Jansher's biggest rivals on the circuit during the best part of his career as the world champion.

Jansher was now the world junior champion. But his target was to dethrone compatriot Jahangir Khan and become the best player in the world.

Jansher's burning desire to replace Jahangir as the world number one ignited a historic rivalry between the two Khans in the years to come.

It was at the 1987 British Open that the two faced each other in the first of the many high-profile finals between the legends. It was Jansher's maiden appearance in the tournament and for the first time since the great Azam Khan's golden run in 1954 that an unseeded player reached the final of the British Open.

Jahangir won the final in straight games but Jansher by reaching the final at a young age of 18 made his presence felt at the international level.

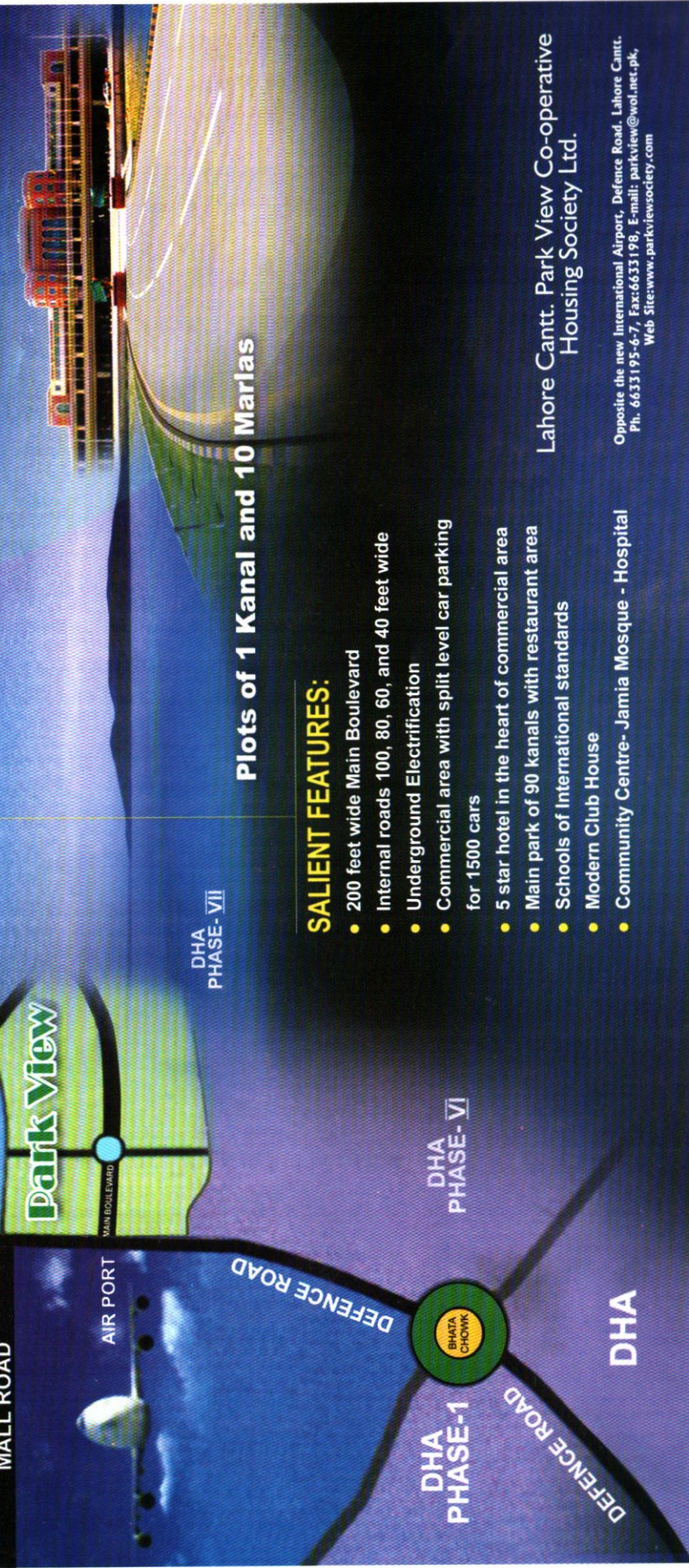
The same year, Jansher reached his first target by winning the World Open in Birmingham and soon established himself as the number one player in the world. He went on to win seven more World Open titles to set a world record.

Jansher also won six British Open crowns and could have claimed a few more but a nagging knee injury forced him to make an exit from international squash in the late nineties. During a highly successful career, Jansher remained as the world's number one player for a record ten years in which he won an astonishing 99 international titles.

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