

Asian Youth Para Games closes

Closing ceremony held with participating athletes in attendance, along with Bahrain Paralympic Committee chairman Shaikh Mohammed bin Daij Al Khalifa and Asian Paralympic Committee President Majid Rashed



zx Athletes enjoying at the closing ceremony



Bhutan takes 2 bronze medal in their first ever appearance at the Asian Youth Para Games in Bahrain.



Athletes celebrate at the closing ceremony

● **Bahrain finish as top GCC country on final medal table based on gold medals, with eight in total, including three gold**

● **Iran top overall medal table with 122 medals, including 44 gold, followed by Thailand and Japan**

TDT | Manama

The curtain came down on the Bahrain 2021 Asian Youth Para Games Monday night with a closing ceremony.

Twenty-nine countries, featuring around 750 athletes, com-

peted in the six-day event, which was held at various locations including the Isa Sports City, Khalifa Sports City and Alba Club.

The Games witnessed great support from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

It was patronised by His Majesty the King's humanitarian works and youth affairs representative and Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS) chairman His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, with the follow-up of SCYS first deputy chairman, General Sports Authority president and Bahrain Olympic Committee chief His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Among those in attendance

“We've had over 700 young athletes from 30 countries here, over 550 medals have been handed out and there's been thousands of smiles every day

MAJID RASHED

at the closing ceremony was Bahrain Paralympic Committee chairman Shaikh Mohammed bin Daij Al Khalifa and Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) President Majid Rashed, who declared the event a success.

Speaking ahead of the closing ceremony, Rashed said: “Arranging these Games in the midst of the pandemic has been difficult, but the Bahrain Paralympic Committee have risen to the

challenge. We thank them for all their hard work in making these Games such a success.

“We've had over 700 young athletes from 30 countries here, over 550 medals have been handed out and there's been thousands of smiles every day.

“Maldives and Bhutan have competed in their first ever youth games and Nepal, Cambodia, Yemen, Bhutan and Tajikistan have won their first ever medals. We've seen some amazing performances that give us hope that the future of para sport in Asia is bright.”

On the final day of competition, Iran's Men's Wheelchair Basketball team beat Iraq 117-18 with Thailand claiming bronze after defeating Saudi Arabia 84-18.

Iran's men were also victorious in Goalball after defeating Thailand in a tight match 4-3,

Korea claimed the bronze medal after a convincing win over Iraq 10-0.

Thailand's women got revenge though as they beat Iran 7-6 to secure the Gold medal.

When the final medals were tallied, 25 countries had won medals and Iran topped the medal table with 122 total med-

als, including 44 gold. Thailand followed with 75 medals, 33 of which were gold, and Japan were third on 55 medals, 30 of which were gold.

Bahrain came away with eight medals in all, including three gold, to finish 14th on the final medal table, which was first among all GCC countries.

Medal table

(positions based on gold medals)

	G	S	B	Total
Iran	44	53	25	122
Thailand	33	25	17	75
Japan	30	11	14	55
Korea	14	11	22	47
India	12	16	13	41
Indonesia	12	11	13	36
Uzbekistan	11	1	4	16
Hong Kong	9	11	12	32
Iraq	8	6	13	27
Chinese Taipei	5	3	3	11
Bahrain (14th)	3	3	2	8

Chad Hanekom 2.0 hopes to continue climb back to the top at BRAVE CF 56

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Ever since losing his shot at the then inaugural BRAVE CF Middleweight title, Chad Hanekom is a changed fighter. After being beaten by Daniel Gaucho at BRAVE CF 31 in his home country of South Africa, “Superman” has gone back to the drawing board and came back a new fighter, and hopes to showcase another milestone in his evolution at BRAVE CF 56.

Hanekom takes on Miro Jurkovic in the co-main event of BRAVE Combat Federation's first-ever show in Serbia, which takes place in Belgrade, on December 18th, in association with MMA Liga.

Chad was primarily known as a top grappler, capable of controlling fighters on the ground and punishing them with slick submissions and ferocious ground and pound.

He took world-class Ikram Aliskerov to a split decision in his promotional debut, and followed it up with dominant wins over Dominic McConnell and Leon Aliu.

And after losing to Daniel, he regrouped and is now on the verge of another title shot. And he finds himself near the top once again mainly because of his world-class performance against Dominic Schober, one of BRAVE CF's toughest Middleweight fighters.



Chad Hanekom in action during a bout



Hanekom is hoping for another dominant victory in his opponent's home to climb towards his number one goal: the BRAVE CF Middleweight world title

Outclassing Schober everywhere, Hanekom showcased a vastly improved stand-up game, with faster hands and ferocious kicks. One of the kicks signaled

the beginning of the end for Schober back at BRAVE CF 49, who went down after absorbing a low kick which damaged his knee and forced him to curl up as Chad overwhelmed him for the win.

Now that he has shown the world his 2.0 version, Hanekom is hoping for another dominant victory in his opponent's home to climb towards his number one goal: the BRAVE CF Middleweight world title.

BRAVE CF 56 is headlined by a Lightweight bout between BRAVE CF 2020 Fighter of the Year Rolando Dy and hometown hero Slobodan Maksimovic. The December 18th show will be broadcast live and free at bravecfv.com and locally through our broadcast partners.

Al Salam Bank Sponsors Asian Youth Para Games 2021

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Al Salam Bank announced its sponsorship of the Bahrain 2021 Asian Youth Para Games, the biggest sporting event held for people of determination.

Commenting on the occasion, Rafik Nayed Group Chief Executive Officer at Al Salam Bank, said “We are pleased to be partnering with the Bahrain Paralympic Committee to sponsor this event, Al Salam Bank has always been committed to supporting national initiatives that aim to elevate the Kingdom's standing in various platforms, particularly with sporting events for people with determination.”



Rafik Nayed, Group Chief Executive Officer at Al Salam Bank during an event announcing their sponsorship for Asian Youth Para Games 2021

Arteta 'very disappointed' with Arsenal performance in Everton loss

AFP | London

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta was “very disappointed” with his side's performance on Monday after a 2-1 defeat by Everton saw them slip to seventh in the Premier League.

Arsenal had taken the lead through Martin Odegaard's first-half strike but late goals by Richarlison and Demarai Gray saw them suffer a second consecutive league loss.

“I'm very disappointed. I think in the first half we were



Mikel Arteta

inconsistent with the ball ... we didn't have enough penetration or threat on the opponents' goal,” Arteta said.

“One of the few times we did it we scored a goal from Martin and then in the second half we had to grab the game ...

but again, in moments we were sloppy.

“We gave too many balls away too easily and encouraged them against the movement that they had in the press.”

The Spaniard also criticised Arsenal's erratic finishing, and called on his side to be more ruthless in front of goal.

“The few times that we did break the press we were open on goal, but we have to do it much more consistently,” Arteta added.