



## CLASSY KING'S RANSOM PROVES TOO GOOD

By Ikram Khan | 09 Jul 2023 | BANGALORE

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The multiple classic winner King's Ransom confirmed that she and Juliette are the two best horses on the Indian racing circuit. The star performer who had performed below par in her last essay was on top of her game in the prestigious Maharaja's Cup and the moment Trevor Patel circled round the two leaders Rasputin and Monteverdi and



Trainer P Shroff leading King's Ransom (P Trevor Up), winner of The Maharaja's Gold Cup (Gr.2)

On the front at the top of the straight, it was clear that the Maharaja's Cup was in Maharani's treasured bag. The classy King's Ransom from Pesi Shroff's yard simply outclassed her eight rivals and in the run in home the galloping goldmine was only racing against time, while the rest were fighting a different battle in their effort to pick up the minor awards on offer.

Top gun Trevor Patel confidently chose to track the two leaders who set a decent pace in the 2200 metres fabled event, while the Kolkata mainhope Success and the topweighted local star, A Star Is Born who has gone off the boil chose to play the waiting game. While her rivals employed the wait

and watch tactics, a supremely confident and gung-ho Trevor and the overwhelming favourite King's Ransom were in a hurry. Trevor, it appeared wanted to finish it quickly and sip a cup of tea before the rest arrived, while the Maharani was in a hurry to lower the sword and establish the Queen's rule. The winner was spotted two furlongs from home and the punters raced merrily to cash their cards even before the bookmakers could tally their balance sheets for the event. It was a superb effort from the champion filly and all credit to the champion trainer Pesi Shroff who sent her out spot on for the big event, understanding that her below par last effort was nothing, but just a bad day at the office. Third

Avenue, who beat King's Ransom in their last head-to-head clash followed King's Ransom home, while another top gun from Kolkata, Success from Vijay Singh's yard finished third. This result catapulted the Kolkata contingent into the quality circle and Vijay Singh and Aarti and a couple more from the East, make no mistake are good as any in this game.

On the big day, the nawabs from Hyderabad gained their pound of flesh, the even-money favourite Truth from Sreekant's yard and the second in demand at the betting ring, Commanding Knight from the stables of Prasad Raju entering the winners' circle to the delight of the Charminar camp. The former competing in Galilee Plate run over nine furlongs was backed to the exclusion of his five rivals including Julio. And the Sreekant ward without fuss

cruised home in emphatic fashion. Julio expectedly followed the leader home ahead of Sian, while Fearless Joey completed the frame.

Seventh Samurai making his debut in the lower division of the Bourban King Plate run over a sprint garnered the maximum support, but the Arjun Manglorkar ward found the second in demand at the betting ring, Commanding Knight too hot to handle. The winner in the hands of Sai Kumar hit the front at

the top of the straight and quickly put the race to bed in the final furlong. Seventh Samurai followed the leader home and is certain to go one-up after this education.

The upper division of the event was claimed by the ten to one long shot Rainbow Dreamer from champion trainer Prasanna Kumar's yard. The winner in the hands of G Vivek, it appeared loved the going, making every post a winning one without really working up a sweat. Call Me from Dr Anil Kumar's yard followed the winner home. The runner-up was strongly fancied, backed down from (4/1) to (5/2), but the moment the Anil Kumar trainee graced the wrong end of the field in this sprint trip, it was clear that he had missed the bus. Call Me did well to still finish second ahead of the favourite Young Diana, who opened at half-money and later was offered at even-money. Now that Rainbow Dreamer has broken ice and entered the winners' circle he will pick up another race in the weeks ahead.

The principal added attraction, the AMC Gowda Memorial Trophy produced a shock result, the 20 to one rankoutsider Tripitaka from trainer Irfan Ghatala's yard in no mood to stop after hitting the front. Vivek astride the winner understanding that his mount is in a mood to beat the rest packed punch to keep Tripitaka going and the filly continued her sprint to glory edging out the favourite Swift and the lesser fancied Michigan Melody.

In a thriller, Bruce Almighty from Faraz Arshad's yard edged out Emma close home to the delight of the followers of form. After his two game efforts Bruce Almighty was rightly fancied by most old hats in the game and the knowledgeable, who were of the view that this was the best chance for the Faraz ward to earn his cornbill taking into account that the form of his seven rivals was patchy. Akshay Kumar produced a fine effort on the winner to gain the day and help the followers of form maintain their winning streak.

The Kishan Thomas schooled Phoenix Surprise gained the top billing in the opening event, the Commanche Plate and the well supported public choice in the hands of promising apprentice Inayat proved too good, powering home by a five-length margin. The winner is at his best and is set to provide an encore. Konichiwa from Warren Singh's yard gained the runner-up berth, edging out the

Dominic-trained Anne Boleyn, who again attempted a pillar to post dash, but found the winner and the runner-up too hot to handle.