

## **Six Asian boxers are in the quarter-finals at the AIBA World Boxing Championships**

Six Asian boxers advanced to the quarter-finals at the minimumweight (48kg) in the sixth competition day at the AIBA World Boxing Championships in Belgrade, Serbia. Mongolia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Thailand Boxing Federation need only one further step to get a medal in the smallest weight class which is traditionally strong in the Asian continent.

Round of 32 contests were held at the light welterweight (63.5kg), middleweight (75kg), and light heavyweight (80kg) in the sixth day of boxing which was divided into two sessions. Iran, India, Tajikistan, the Fair Chance Team and Chinese Taipei also won several contests during the day besides to the above mentioned nations.

The following 20 Asian nations are attending in the AIBA World Boxing Championships in Belgrade: Fair Chance Team, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, South Korea, Laos, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Thailand Boxing Federation, Tajikistan, Chinese Taipei, and Uzbekistan.

### **Mongolia's Gan-Erdene Gankhuyag won his second contest in the smallest category**

Mongolia's Gan-Erdene Gankhuyag claimed silver medal at the Tashkent 2017 ASBC Asian Boxing Championships and after three years of break, he returned to the national team. The 28-year-old Mongolian attended last at the Jakarta 2018 Asian Games but he was fast and concentrated against Germany's Christopher Goman. The small Mongolian dictated the tempo and his previous experiences paid off in this contest which means Gan-Erdene Gankhuyag can box for the medal in Belgrade. The Mongolian will now meet for the medal with Belarus' Yauheni Karmilchyk who eliminated Kenya's Martin Maina in the next bout.

### **Kazakhstan's Temirtas Zhussupov is quarter-finalist in Belgrade**

Kazakhstan's Amman 2013 ASBC Asian Champion Temirtas Zhussupov returned to the national team and the 33-year-old veteran has all of the experiences to get strong result in Belgrade. The Kazakh boxer is older than most of his opponents but he has the speed to

handle his tasks in the international events. Zhussupov found his best rhythm against Serbia's 19-year-old Omer Ajetovic in the middle of the first round and his excellent tempo stopped his opponent's attacks. The Serbian gave in everything to the bout on home soil but Zhussupov had the tactical knowledge to win this contest. He will be meeting for the guaranteed medal with Uzbekistan's two-time ASBC Asian Champion Nodirjon Mirzakhmedov in the quarter-finals of the minimumweight (48kg).

### **India's Sumit eliminated a Tajik talent on Day6**

India's promising Sumit was quarter-finalist at the Kielce 2021 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships this April and the 19-year-old boxer immediately won their Elite National Championships last month. Following his national success, the young Indian received the right to attend in the AIBA World Boxing Championships and he proved his excellent technical skills. Sumit was quicker than Tajikistan's 20-year-old Abdumalik Boltayev and took the lead on the scorecards. The Tajik, who competed also at the ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships, could not adopt the rhythm of the bout and Sumit eliminated him.

### **Fair Chance Team's strong triumphs in the sixth competition day**

Fair Chance Team's young Suliman Aslami competed in the Dubai 2021 ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships and he was excellent in his opening tough contest at the AIBA World Boxing Championships. The 22-year-old middleweight (75kg) boxer had the strong fighting spirit to beat Kenya's Edwin Owuor Okongo in the preliminary round of 32. His compatriot, another Fair Chance Team's member, Silab Noori is even younger, he is only 19 but he dictated the tempo against Japan's Ren Umemura at the light heavyweight (80kg). The Japanese was more experienced, began his international campaign in 2013 but Noori had strong fighting style to win their contest.

### **Kazakhstan's Nurbek Oralbay won the battle of the future stars**

Kazakhstan's AIBA Youth World Champion Nurbek Oralbay is a 21-year-old talent who can box in his first major elite competition following his impressive junior and youth career.

Nurbek Oralbay spent most of his time in the recent two and half years to compete as many elite international tournaments as possible to know his rivals at the light heavyweight (80kg). The Kazakh had an impressive bout against Brazil's 19-year-old Isaias Ribeiro Filho which was the battle of the future stars. Oralbay dictated the tempo which was adopted by the Brazilian but in this hard strategic game play, the Kazakh was better.

### **Tajikistan's Shabbos Negmatulloev knocked out his African rival**

Tajikistan's Shabbos Negmatulloev won bronze medal already at the 2013 AIBA Junior World Boxing Championships and he had strong experiences from all levels of events. The 24-year-old light heavyweight (80kg) boxer impressed in the first exchanges against Sierra Leone's Samuel Kamara and landed tough punches. The FISU University World Champion Tajik arrived to Belgrade to get a medal following he was quarter-finalist at the Hamburg 2017 edition. The referee counted the African boxer in the opening minute but Kamara was still able to continue the contest until he was knocked out by Negmatulloev.

### **Iran's Gheslaghi and Kyrgyzstan's Bekzhigit Uulu had strong performance at the light heavyweight (80kg)**

Iran's Meysam Gheslaghi caused a serious surprise in the Dubai 2021 ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships when he eliminated Kazakhstan's AIBA World Champion Bekzad Nurdauletov and claimed silver medal. The Iranian spent a short time in the ring against Chinese Taipei's Chung Chia Yao and after the second standing counts, the referee confirmed his RSC success. Kyrgyzstan's Omurbek Bekzhigit Uulu moved up to the light heavyweight (80kg) and caused a sensational result in the sixth day of boxing when he defeated England's Bocs kai Memorial Tournament marine, George Crotty.

*“My coaches told me in the recent months to try to control my tempo and I tried to calmed down today to box and not only fight. I was more patient than any of my previous events and defeated the strong English boxer today,”* said Kyrgyzstan's Omurbek Bekzhigit Uulu following his emotional success.

### **Kyrgyzstan's Mirlan Turkbay Uulu and Japan's Kazuma Aratake are in the Top8**

Kyrgyzstan's Mirlan Turkbay Uulu competed in the Sportaccord World Combat Games already in 2013 and he achieved medals in several events including a bronze at the Bangkok 2019 ASBC Asian Boxing Championships. The experienced Kyrgyz was smart against Armenia's Seyran Yeghikyan and eliminated his Caucasian opponent with his impressive technical skills. Japan's Kazuma Aratake is a 19-year-old talent who met with Russian Boxing Federation's Edmond Khudoyan and following his opponent's third warning, the referee disqualified the Russian.

### **Wuttichai Yurachai is Thailand's first quarter-finalist**

Thailand Boxing Federation's Wuttichai Yurachai is a 29-year-old boxer who moved down to the minimumweight (48kg) in the recent months and returned to his original roots. The Cologne Boxing World Cup winner Thai opened the first round with excellent punches against Chinese Taipei's Lin Hong Da who returned to the national team. The experienced Thai spent the recent one and half year to strengthen his defensive skills and that hard work delivered for him a place in the quarter-finals.

### **Uzbekistan's Mujibullo Tursunov has done an impressive debut**

Uzbekistan's Mujibullo Tursunov is a new addition to their elite national team who earned silver medal at the CISM Military World Boxing Championships. The 22-year-old Uzbek won the Zolotarev Memorial Tournament but competed mostly in national events. The soldier in the Uzbek Army had a strong Asian opponent, Japan's Taiga Imanaga who achieved medals in ASBC junior and youth competitions in the past. Tursunov knew that he is stronger and he had the outstanding fighting skills to win his debuting contest in Belgrade.

### **Shiva Thapa and Lai Chu En won their contests at the light welterweight (63.5kg)**

India's Shiva Thapa is their most experienced boxer in the national team who met with a strong African resistance today, Sierra Leone's John Brown had better performance than anyone expected in Belgrade. The former ASBC Asian Champion Thapa landed the stronger

punches against the African who competed in his first international event. The Indian light welterweight (63.5kg) boxer won their contest by unanimous decision and saved fuel for the later actions. Chinese Taipei's No.1 Lai Chu En delivered his best ever performance in the round of 32 and eliminated Mongolia's Battumur Misheelt.

### **Tajikistan's Bakhodur Usmonov eliminated a super talented Russian in Belgrade**

Tajikistan's Bakhodur Usmonov claimed his first ASBC medal as a junior in 2013 and won a title at the Bangkok 2019 ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships. The 24-year-old boxer had a few difficulties in the first round against Russian Boxing Federation's European Youth Champion Ilia Shakirov but he moved more on feet in the second. Usmonov is a technician boxer at the light welterweight (63.5kg) who had the strong tactical change in time to turn back their contest. The four-years-older Tajik was faster this time and he delivered a sensational success in the sixth competition day.

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