



Mansour Bahrami

- Known as the Clown Prince of Tennis, Mansour Bahrami was a late bloomer in the game and now delights crowds on the Seniors Tour with his quite remarkable tennis talents.
- Born on 16th April, 1956, in Arak, Iran, he began playing at the age of 12, learning the game while working as a ballboy at the Tehran Country Club, and has never had a coach in his life. He is said to have started with a racket made from a dustbin lid and a wooden handle.
- He first played in Iran's Davis Cup team in 1974 at the age of 16, turning pro at 17 and attaining a 24-15 win/loss match record (16-10 in singles) after his final appearance in 1997 in the Asia/Oceania group 1 zone against Taipei.
- He was beginning to make in-roads when his progress was halted as the Iranian regime banned competitive sports in the late 1970s. After not playing for three years, he left Iran in 1980 when the government closed all tennis courts, and moved to Paris in 1981 where work and travel restrictions still made it tough for him to get established on the ATP Tour.
- It was not until he received French citizenship that Mansour was able to concentrate fully on tennis but by this stage he had turned 30 and his best days in singles were already behind him.
- An entertaining doubles specialist, he won 2 doubles titles on the ATP Tour and was a finalist at the French Open at Roland Garros in 1989 (with Eric Winogradsky), rising to his highest ranking of 31 on 6 July, 1987. He also reached the round of 16 at the US Open in 1990.
- His highest ATP ranking in singles was 192, achieved on 9 May, 1988.
- Since joining the Seniors Tour in 1994, Bahrami has earned the admiration not just of the fans but of his fellow players as well as a supreme entertainer, demonstrating his unique skills and bringing smiles to all.
- His strongest stroke is his backhand and he is renowned for his showmanship on court with his famous trick shots and an ability to catch a ball in his pocket.
- Mansour, who continues to live in Paris, is married to Frederique and the couple have two sons, Sam and Antoine.

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