

Beat: Sports

UNBELIEVABLE!!! Vietnam participates in FIFA U-20 World Cup for the first time

The AFC U-19 Championship Bahrain 2016

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USPA NEWS - Sunday October 24, 2016, U-19 Vietnam football team made the history by defeating the home team Bahrain 1-0 in the AFC Futsal Championship quarter-final. It is the first time U-19 Vietnam has the ticket to participate in FIFA U-20 World Cup Korea Rep. 2017.

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A crowd of 10,610 watched as the hosts took on the last remaining Southeast Asian team on a warm evening at Bahrain National Stadium and lost after a splendid goal from Tran Thanh in the 72nd minute.

"Today's result is a reward for the long preparation, not just for the match. Our victory came from good tactics, spirit and concentration," [?] said coach Hoang Anh Tuan at a press conference after the match.

"We are really proud of Vietnam football. I want to say again that we are from the Southeast Asian region. We want to change the map of continental football. I am really glad and happy." [?]

Tuan said the team had to put in every effort as "Bahrain and other teams in the tournament are stronger than us". Before the match started, I told my players they don't need to be afraid of Bahrain." [?]

After 75 minutes, the team didn't have enough strength to play and made errors. "It was in our plan and we prepared for that," [?] he said.

Impressed with Vietnam's achievement, the FIFA posted a congratulation message on FIFA.com and Twitter.com.

The home team, which had high hopes of playing the semis, apologised for disappointing fans. "I would like to apologise to the Bahraini fans who came for this match," [?] coach Abdulaziz Abdo was quoted as saying on the website the-afc.com.

"Sometimes you have a dream and you think about it a lot but in the end it doesn't happen. We conceded a goal from a free kick in today's match and couldn't get back into the game and for that I would like to say I'm sorry." [?]

The AFC U19 Championship is organized every two years. Now in its 39th edition, the tournament began on October 13 and will continue till October 30. A total of 16 teams are participating in the championship. Qatar are the reigning champions.

As in its previous editions, the 2016 tournament acts as qualifiers for the FIFA U-20 World Cup, with the top four teams qualifying for the 2017 FIFA U-20 World Cup, to be held in Korea Rep.

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