Iranians win two golds at 2023 UWW U20 Worlds

Written by Tehran Times
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TEHRAN – Iranian freestyle wrestlers Mohammadreza Shakeri and Abolfazl Babaloo won two gold medals at the U20 World Championships on Tuesday.

Shakeri claimed a gold in the final bout of 65kg after defeating Jesse Mendez from the U. S. 5-2. He had already improved on his ninth-place finish from last year by reaching the final.

Babaloo also won a gold in the 97kg, overcoming Ivan Prymachenko from Ukraine 5-0 in the final.

A month ago, Babaloo lost two bouts in Amman to finish fifth at the U20 Asian Championships. However, he avenged his loss to Kamil Kurugliyevk (KAZ) 6-1 before beating Camden Mc Danel (U. S. 5-1 in the semifinals.

Iran's Ali Rezaei also won a silver medal after being defeated by American wrestler Meyer Shapiro 11-6 in the final match of 70kg.

The 2023 U20 World Championships started in Amman, Jordan on Aug. 14 and will run until Aug. 20.

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The event was originally scheduled to be held in Warsaw, Poland from August 14-20. Due to Poland's refusal to issue visas to Russian and Belarusian wrestlers, United World Wrestling moved the tournament from Poland to Jordan.

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