In the modern history of football, few champions have traveled a path as fractured, or as nomadic and triumphant, as Al Hilal Omdurman.

While their stadium in Omdurman may be silent, on a warm afternoon at the Kigali Pelé Stadium, the Sudanese giants defeated Gasogi United 2-1 to secure the 2025/2026 Rwanda Premier League title.

The victory marked the mathematical end to a relentless 31-match campaign, wrapping up the championship with roughly 73 points, 14 points ahead of army side APR FC.

Karamadini Mamudu opened the scoring 15 minutes into the half hour before Walieldin Dayiyeen made it two on the 69 minute. Ngono Guy Herve netted the consolation for Gasogi United in the 68th minute.

For Al Hilal, there were no home fans to storm the pitch. There was no deep-rooted local rivalry to savor. Instead, few fans and a squad playing thousands of miles from their war-torn home celebrated a victory born of geopolitical exile and sheer sporting defiance.


Al Hlal beat APR fc 4-0 in the league game

Al Hilal’s presence in Kigali is the result of tragedy. The ongoing civil conflict in Sudan, which began in April 2023, completely halted domestic football in Khartoum. Rather than letting the club wither, Al Hilal’s management sought unprecedented sanctuary abroad.

Following a special dispensation by the Rwanda Football Federation (FERWAFA), the Sudanese side was absorbed into the local top flight for the 2025/26 season. They entered as guest participants, a status meant to keep their squad match-ready for continental competitions. They did far more than survive; they dominated.

With a style of football that combined physical superiority with sharp, tactical maturity, Al Hilal systematically dismantled Rwanda’s traditional powerhouses. A comprehensive 4-0 thrashing of local titans APR FC earlier in the season signaled that the visitors were not in Kigali merely to make up the numbers.

With this latest trophy, Al Hilal achieves a feat unprecedented in global football. They are now the first club in history to win top-flight league titles in three different countries: Sudan, Mauritania, where they played and won the Super D1 title last season and now Rwanda.

It is a nomadic dominance that defies the traditional boundaries of club football. They have turned regional exile into a masterclass in adaptability.

For all the romance of their achievement, the triumph carries a bureaucratic asterisk. Under the terms of their guest status, Al Hilal’s victory does not grant them Rwanda’s automatic qualification spot for the CAF Champions League. To play on the continent next year, they must still navigate the complex, disrupted qualifying structures governed by the Sudanese football association.