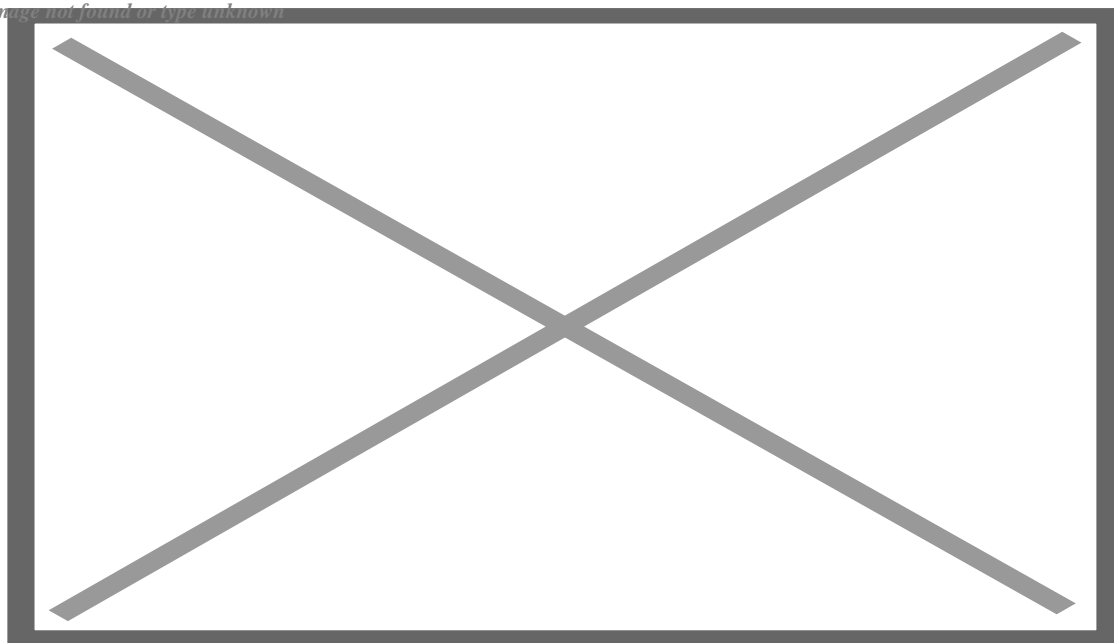


Exuberant Brazilian magic interrupts Korean dream in Qatar

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Havana, December 5 (RHC)-- If anyone had any doubts that Brazil was one of the great favorites to win the World Cup hosted by Qatar, with the magic act offered today by the 'Canarinha' they were dispelled.

The South Americans defeated South Korea (4-1), and just as important as the victory that assured their ticket to the quarterfinals of the fair, was to see the beautiful game at its best.

The overwhelming dominance in the first 45 minutes, with fantasy plays and almost total ball possession, was rewarded with goals from Vinícius Jr (7th minute), Neymar (13th minute penalty), Richarlison (29th minute) and Lucas Paquetá (36th minute). The early four-nil scoreline foreshadowed a scandalous defeat like the one the Brazilians suffered at home the last time they hosted the Cup in 2014.

However, in the second half, the team coached by Adenor Leonardo Bacchi (Tite) lowered the intensity, supported by the comfortable score, and made some changes in their starting eleven. It is worth noting that despite the first-half drubbing, Korea did not lose heart and managed to get the discount through a powerful shot by Paik Seung-ho (76th minute). The aforementioned goal only served to make up the score, as the scoreboard would not move any further.

The Brazilians will now face Croatia in the next round, who defeated Japan in the first round in a penalty shootout (3-1) after tying 1-1 in regulation time and in the extra periods.

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