

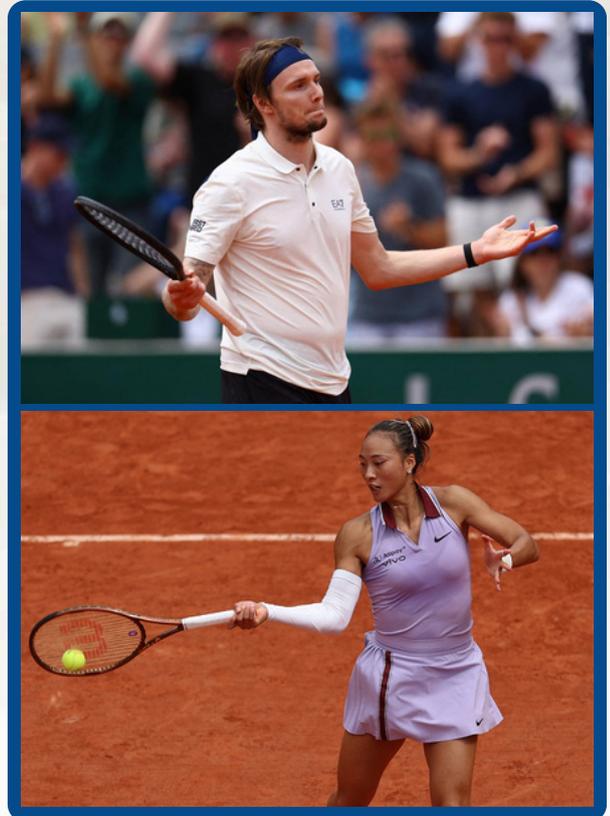
Asia at Roland Garros 2025: Fights, Big Wins and Promise

Paris in late May always feels a little special. The red clay, the buzz around Court Philippe Chatrier, and stories being written with every swing of the racquet. And in the middle of it all, a determined group of Asian players is quietly making its presence felt at this year's French Open.

Kazakhstan's Alexander Bublik gave Asia its biggest cheer so far in Paris. Down two sets against world No. 9 Alex de Minaur, and it felt like the match was slipping away. But Bublik didn't give up. Slowly, he started turning things around. Point by point, set by set, he fought back. In the end, he won it 2-6, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 — it was the kind of fight that comes from deep within. More than tennis — it was about staying in the fight when everything seemed lost.

After beating Pavlyuchenkova in the opening round, China's Zheng Qinwen followed it up with a strong win over Emiliana Arango, 6-2, 6-3. She's now into the third round and growing more confident with each match.

Elena Rybakina, one of the most reliable names in women's tennis right now, had a solid second-round win too — 6-3, 6-3 against I. Jovic. She is definitely someone to keep an eye on.



Yulia Putintseva made it past Taipei's Joanna Garland in an all-Asian second-round clash, winning 7-6(5), 6-3. Garland had fought her way through the qualifiers, and even though her run ends here, it was a step forward — for her, and for her country.

Japan's Nao Hibino, who made it through the qualifiers, lost to Hailey Baptiste in the second round, 3-6, 2-6. Even though she didn't win, she showed she belongs here and fought hard to get this far.



Of course, not everyone from the Asian contingent made it past the early rounds. Naomi Osaka, Zhang Zhizhen, Yue Yuan — they all bowed out in the first round. But there were no walkovers. Osaka, especially, played a three-set battle against Paula Badosa that reminded fans just how much she still has to offer. The scoreboard may not show it, but the effort, the emotion — that was all there.

Now, as we head into Round 3, there are still Asian players in the draw — still swinging, still dreaming. Bublik. Zheng. Rybakina. Putintseva. Each carrying their own hopes, and perhaps, something more than just personal goals.

The mix of wins and losses is part of a bigger story: Asia's steady climb in tennis, marked by perseverance, talent, and a growing international presence. Every match played here builds the foundation for the future, and the story is far from over for Asia in Paris.