

Dovletjan Yagshimuradov. In an interview with journalist Derya Soysal, a specialist in Central Asia, he said that representing Turkmenistan, its people, and homeland is a great pride.

Dovletjan Yagshimuradov was born on May 22, 1989, in Turkmenabat. He is currently a Turkmen mixed martial artist competing in the light heavyweight division of the Professional Fighters League and is the champion in this category. He also competed in Bellator MMA (2020-2023) and Absolute Championship Akhmat (ACA), where he was the light heavyweight champion.

Yagshimuradov started practicing karate at the age of six and after several years of training, he became the champion among children under 11 and won a gold medal at a national tournament. He then took up kickboxing and after military service, he received higher education in Kharkiv.

In November 2024, he defeated American Impa Kasanganay in the final of the Professional Fighters League in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and became the champion.

In the interview, he said that one of his proudest achievements is representing his homeland Turkmenistan in international tournaments and on the international stage.

## **Derya Soysal**