

Večernji list, 8 Nov 2022 at 21:00h

[Ekskluzivni detalji o arapskom ulagaču u Fortenovu: Šeik mu dao otkaz, a država zamrzнула imovinu - Večernji.hr \(vecernji.hr\)](#)

Večernji has exclusive knowledge of details on Arabian investor in Fortenova

Alketbi got fired from Sheikh's Office, his assets frozen by state

Večernji's source says Saif bin Alketbi has no real estate property and no contracts should be closed with him

(Text under photo:)

CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRINCE OF DUBAI There is no mention of Saif bin Markhan Alketbi in the UAE media nor in any other Arabian media. The only thing we managed to find is that Saif bin Markham Alketbi became Chief of Staff to the Prince of Dubai at the age of 33.

By Hassan Haidar Diab

Who is the mysterious 46-year-old Saif bin Markhan Alketbi, investor from the UAE, who acquired 43 % of shares in Croatia's largest food company Fortenova from Russia's Sberbank? With reference to people who know him, Večernji exclusively learns from sources close to the royal family Al Nahyan that Saif bin Markhan Alketbi is a person of a shady background.

Ordinary citizen

- Stay as far away from him as possible and advise everyone not to close any agreements with him because, to my knowledge, all of his assets are frozen. He has committed a major fraud and the state froze all of his assets. Whether he still has any money and where it comes from if he does, I do not know at this point. He is no sheikh at all but an ordinary citizen of the UAE. He did work at the Sheikh's – the sovereign of Dubai's office, but he committed some major malfeasances and got fired – told us our source, who wishes to stay anonymous, pointing out that to his knowledge Saif bin Markhan Alketbi had no real estate property whatsoever.

*- He says that he does, but he does not have any. Famous people of the English football and even the President of the English Football League himself had called me to ask about him because he wanted to invest in English football clubs. He claimed to be on good terms with the King and the ministers and that he was a great and wealthy man. I told them the same thing that I am telling you, that to my knowledge the man had no possessions. Those people have not called me any more and I didn't ask about him. But since you have called me today, I will learn all the details about him because his actions, if this is fraud that we are talking about, do not reflect well on the UAE and its citizens. We are held in high esteem in the world and everyone knows that we do not cheat when we invest. And we do everything by the law and transparently. If he does have money now, the question is where does it come from and who is behind him!? I am saying – **if** he has money, because the last thing I know about him is that all his assets were frozen – our collocutor said, noting that he would investigate all information with the ministers and high officials of the UAE that they may find out the truth and disclose it to the public.*

There is no mention of Saif bin Markhan Alketbi in the UAE media, nor in any other Arabian media. The only thing we were able to find is that Saif bin Markham Alketbi became Chief of Staff at the Prince of Dubai's Office at the age of 33. His website is full of self-praise. Saif bin Markhan Alketbi says of himself to be an experienced investor in private equity funds and to have significant investments in several sectors, to hold a degree in accounting from the University of the United Arab Emirates and an honorary degree in economics and management in government organisations awarded to him by the University of Humanities and Economics in Lugano, Switzerland.

Saif bin Markhan Alketbi also claims to be the President of Flatrace, a consultancy firm with global experience that helps organisations cope with complex regulatory, financial and governance decisions in order to raise their value and that he has more than 20 years of experience in advising public and private organisations in different sectors. Of his company Flatrace he claims to have the skills and knowledge to help clients establish or expand their presence.

"Our team provided advisory services on many high-profile financial restructurings and gained reputation in developing and implementing feasible solutions. Flatrace was founded with a view to helping our clients create maximum value and achieve sustainable results not only with the most suitable strategy, but also by implementing change to achieve results", he boasts about himself and his company on the website.

Malfeasance with contracts

According to our sources, the Crown Prince of Dubai had great confidence in Saif bin Markhan Alketbi when he appointed him Chief of Staff in 2011 and authorized him to sign all project agreements. The only text we were able to find that mentions Saif bin Markhan Alketbi as Chief of Staff in the Crown Prince of Dubai's Office is from the year 2015.

In particular, according to the Emirates News Agency-Wam, Saif bin Markhan Alketbi signed several agreements, among them one dated 17th August 2015, intended to prepare a 'leadership' programme for the employees of His Majesty the Crown Prince of Dubai's Office. The Agreement was signed by Saif bin Markhan Alketbi, Chief of Staff at the Crown Prince of Dubai's Office and Dr Ali bin Sebaa Al Marri, Executive Director of the Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government. The 'leadership programme' was intended to develop management skills of the employees of His Majesty the Crown Prince of Dubai's Office.

Our source claims that there were major malfeasances with regards to most of the agreements signed.