
KAZAKHSTAN DETAINS EX-DEFENCE MINISTER FOR INACTION DURING UNREST

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Kazakhstan has detained a former defence minister after prosecutors launched a probe against him for failing to fulfil his duties during last months violent unrest that killed 225 people, according to a statement by the prosecutor generals office.

Murat Bektanov, who was sacked by President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev last month, faces four to eight years in prison if convicted.

On February 19, the General Prosecutors Office launched a pre-trial investigation against the former Minister of Defense Bektanov Murat Karibayevich on the fact of inaction in his service under Article 452 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan. On February 20, Bektanov was detained and placed in a temporary detention centre on suspicion of committing this crime, the prosecutor generals office said on Monday, using the Russian order of the full name including the fathers name at the end.

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