Timur Asqaruly Qulybaev (Kazakh: Тимур Аскарұлы Құлыбаев; Russian: Тимур Аскарович Кулибаев, born September 10, 1966) is a Kazakhstani public figure, and son-in-law of Kazakh president Nursultan Nazarbayev. Kulibayev has held several positions in important state-owned enterprises that manage Kazakhstan's natural resources, and has immense influence over the country's hydrocarbon industry.[1][2][3] He is former Chairman of the Management Board of Samruk-Kazyna National Welfare Fund, the member of the Board of Directors of the Gazprom company.[4][5] As of March 2011, he is the third richest man in Kazakhstan and the 938th richest in the world.[6]

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Personal life

T.A. Kulibayev was born on September 10, 1966 in the city of Alma-Ata. He is Kazakh.

He is a graduate of the Republican physics and mathematics specialized school (1983). In 1988 T.Kulibayev graduated from Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov, majoring in "National Economy Planning", an economist by profession. He has a Ph.D. in Economics, and
defended a thesis on: "Improvement of Organizational and Economic Mechanism of Enterprise Management in Market Environment (based on the oil industry)" (1999). He has a number of research publications. He speaks fluent Kazakh, Russian and English. Spouse: Kulibayeva Dinara Nursultanovna (born in 1967), three children – son Altay (1990), daughters Deniza (2004) and Alishya (2010). It has been widely reported that Kulibayev has a child from Goga Ashkenazi, a Kazakh socialite. In April 2013 The Times published an interview with Ashkenazi in which she said that Kulibayev is also the father of her second son. Kulibayev is an avid fan of sports, especially golf, and often competes in golf tournaments. He also is president of Kazakhstani Boxing Federation.

Business career

During the period of 1988 to 1992 his professional activity was concerned to the science – he worked as an economist, a junior research assistant of Scientific-Research Economics Institute of Planning and Normative Standards (SREIP&NS) under State Plan of KazSSR and a director of Scientific-Consulting Center of the Fund of Cultural, Social, Scientific and Technological Development of Kazakhstan.

In 1990 he was the director of the Research and Consultative Center under the Fund for Cultural, Social and Technological Development in Kazakhstan.

From 1992 on he headed the concern Altyn-Alma, was the Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Almaty Trade and Industry Bank.

In 1997 he was appointed as the head of the Directorate for Project Assessment and Negotiating under the Investment Committee of Kazakhstan (exercising rights of the Deputy Chairman).

From May 1997 till March 1999 he was the Vice-President on Economy and Finance of CJSC National Oil and Gas Company Kazkhoil.

In March 1999 he became the President of CJSC National Company for Oil Transportation KazTransOil. From May 2001 till February 2002 he was the General Director of CJSC National Company Oil and Gas Transportation (created on the basis of KazTransOil and KazTransGas).

From February 2002 till October 2005 he was the First Vice-President of JSC NC KazMunayGas, a merger of CJSC NC KazakhOil and CJSC NC Oil and Gas Transportation.

After his resignation from the post in KazMunaiGas, he has initiated foundation and headed the Association of Legal Entities Kazakhstan Association of Oil, Gas and Energy Sector Organizations KAZENERGY that united major national and foreign companies, operating in the energy sector of Kazakhstan. Simultaneously Mr. Kulibayev became the part-time Adviser to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In 2005-06 and 2007-08 he combined a public activity with a direct management of his own private business.

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From April 2006 till August 2007 he was the Deputy Chairman of the Management Board of JSC Kazakhstan Holding Company for State Assets Management Samruk. Simultaneously he was the Chairman of Board of Directors of JSC KEGOC and NC KazMunaiGas. In October 2008 he became the Deputy Chairman of the Management Board of JSC National Welfare Fund Samruk-Kazyna. He is the Chairman of the Boards of Directors of JSC Kazatomprom, JSC NC KazMunayGas, JSC NC Kazakhstan TemirZholy, JSC Kazakhstan Company on Power Grid Management (KEGOC), JSC Samruk-Energo.\[18]

By Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan #409 of April 12, 2011 he was appointed to the post of the Chairman of the Management Board of JSC NWF Samruk-Kazyna. Based on the voting results by Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan #410 of April 12, 2011 he was elected to the membership of the Board of Directors. The election of T.A. Kulibayev to the Board of Directors of the Russian largest energy company shows the particular importance of economic cooperation between Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, as well as a recognition of high professional qualities of the Chief Executive of Samruk-Kazyna Fund.\[19]\[20]

December 26, 2011 Timur Kulibayev resigned from the post of Chairman of the Board of Samruk-Kazyna after the riots in Zhanaozen.\[21]

From June 2008 he is the Chairman of the Kazakhstan National Committee of the World Petroleum Council.\[18]

From January 2009 he is also the President of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation. From 2010 he is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Olympic Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In April 2010 he was elected as the Chairman of the Presidium of the National Economic Chamber of Kazakhstan Union Atameken.

**Awards**

Kulibayev has been awarded State awards of the Republic of Kazakhstan: the Kurmet order (2001), the Barys 3rd grade order (2009), the jubilee medal 10th Anniversary of Kazakhstan Constitution (2005), the jubilee medal 10th Anniversary of Astana (2008).\[18]

**Accusations of money laundering**

Since 2010, the Swiss Federal Prosecution Service investigates the case of a 600-million dollar bank transfer from a bank account at UBS to a bank account at Credit Suisse. One of the recipients was Kulibayev. He is suspected to have committed money laundering in Switzerland - money said to be misappropriated, when he was a director of KazTransOil from 2000 until 2005.\[22\]
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