
BOOKS & JOURNALS

We have been asked by Pluto Press to publish the following apology:

Sheikh Khalid Bin Mahfouz and Nimir Petroleum: An apology by Michael Griffin and Pluto Press

In the autumn of 2003, Michael Griffin wrote and Pluto Press published the second edition of a book entitled "Reaping the Whirlwind", in which it was wrongly alleged that Sheikh Khalid Bin Mahfouz was a supporter and funder of terrorism, Osama Bin Laden and Al Qa'ida and that he had transferred funds to support terrorist activities through the National Commercial Bank of Saudi Arabia. It was further wrongly suggested that the Saudi authorities discovered this funding after a secret audit of National Commercial Bank and then forcibly bought Sheikh Khalid's shares in National Commercial Bank, stripped him of his Saudi passport and confined him to a military hospital to punish him for these activities. It also wrongly alleged that Nimir Petroleum Limited is owned by a funder and supporter of Osama Bin Laden and Al Qa'ida and that it was a party to negotiating with the Taliban regime in connection with an oil pipeline to be built across Afghanistan.

Michael Griffin and Pluto Press accept that there is no truth whatsoever in any of these serious and highly defamatory allegations. Neither Sheikh Khalid nor Nimir Petroleum have any connection with Osama Bin Laden and have never supported terrorism or Al Qa'ida in any way. There was never any secret audit of National Commercial Bank which uncovered any transfers by Sheikh Khalid which supported terrorism. Michael Griffin and Pluto Press accept that Sheikh Khalid and his family abhor terrorism in every way and apologise to Sheikh Khalid Bin Mahfouz and Nimir Petroleum for the grave distress and embarrassment that they caused. They have agreed to pay substantial damages which Sheikh Khalid and Nimir are donating to charity, together with a contribution to their legal costs.

We have also been asked by RoutledgeCurzon to publish the following apology:

Sheikh Khalid Bin Mahfouz: An apology by Rodney Wilson and Routledge Curzon

In January 2004, Rodney Wilson and RoutledgeCurzon published a book entitled "Economic Development in Saudi Arabia", in which it was wrongly alleged that Sheikh Khalid Bin Mahfouz was Osama Bin Laden's brother in law. It was further wrongly suggested that he was involved with the financing of Islamic militants and charities linked to Osama Bin Laden. It erroneously asserted that he was stripped of his Saudi Arabian citizenship. It also wrongly alleged that SAMA urged major changes at the National Commercial Bank as a result of Sheikh Khalid's management of the bank.

Rodney Wilson and RoutledgeCurzon accept that there is no truth whatsoever in any of these serious and highly defamatory allegations, which were made on the basis of erroneous source material. Sheikh Khalid has never had any connection with Osama Bin Laden and has never supported terrorism in any way. Rodney Wilson and RoutledgeCurzon accept that Sheikh Khalid and his family abhor terrorism in all of its forms and manifestations and apologise to Sheikh Khalid for the grave distress and embarrassment that they caused.

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