

## 《梅西因税收欺诈被判监禁》

导读:梅西和他的父亲因税收欺诈被判21个月监禁，目前正在上诉



Barcelona football star Lionel Messi and his father will appeal against a Spanish court decision to sentence them each to 21 months in jail for tax fraud, the player's lawyers say.

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Argentine Messi, aged 29, was also fined 2m euros (1.7m pounds; 2.2m dollars) by the court in Barcelona.

????????29????????????????????????200????170????220????

In addition to the prison term, Messi's father, Jorge, was fined 1.5m euros for defrauding Spain of 4.1m euros in 2007-09.

????????????Jorge??2007-2009????????????410????????150????

However, neither man is expected to serve time in jail.

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Under the Spanish legal system, prison terms of under two years can be served under probation.

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The pair also face millions of euros in fines for using tax havens in Belize and Uruguay to conceal earnings from image rights.

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'Corrective payment'

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"The sentence is not correct and we are confident the appeal will show the defence was right," Messi's lawyers said in a statement several hours after the guilty verdict was delivered.

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The lawyers said that "there is a good chance that the appeal will succeed", adding that Messi had always acted in good faith.

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The sentence can be appealed against via the Spanish supreme court.

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The footballer and his father were found guilty of three counts of tax fraud.

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As well as the jail terms, Messi and Jorge were also fined. They made a voluntary 5m euros "corrective payment", equal to the alleged unpaid tax plus interest, in August 2013.

????????????????2013?8????????"?????"5????????????????????)?

Messi earns an estimated 36m euros per year at Barcelona, and his income of about 315m euros in the past decade has placed him 10th of Forbes magazine's list of the highest-earning athletes in the world.

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Lionel Messi's illustrious career:

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Winner of Fifa Ballon d'Or as world's best footballer on five occasions

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Voted Uefa best player in Europe three times

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Uefa Champions League winner with FC Barcelona on four occasions

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Spanish championship winner with FC Barcelona eight times

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Olympic gold medallist with Argentina in 2008

2008????????????

Argentina's all-time leading scorer with 55 goals

?55????????????

...and major disappointments:

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June 16 2016: quits Argentine team after missing penalty in shootout in Copa America final loss to Chile

2016?6?16????????????

