

# Kobzon Hospitalized

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**The  Moscow Times**

Crooner Iosif Kobzon, a State Duma deputy and a good friend of former Mayor Yury Luzhkov, was hospitalized for several hours in Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, after falling ill onstage Monday, RIA-Novosti said, citing a local doctor.

Kobzon, 73, was giving a lecture on the spiritual transformation of humanity at a local forum, Gzt.ru reported.

Friends of Kobzon, who has suffered serious health problems since 2001, said they feared that he had suffered a heart attack, but doctors said the illness was caused by food poisoning coupled with low blood pressure, the report said. ☒

*(MT)*

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