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Enhanced-headline: Mohamed Al Fayed on the death of Princess Diana: My Story
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Caption: DEATH IN PARIS: Princess Diana; HOLIDAY JOY: Diana on her last cruise with Dodi and his father on the Al Fayed yacht; GRIEF: Diana's sisters Sarah (centre) and Jane with Charles at Paris hospital; I WAS THERE: Mohamed Al Fayed told of Diana's last moments ...'She wanted to give a message'

MOHAMED AL FAYED is an angry man. He is not bitter as many would be in his position, but very angry.

Angry that his son Dodi and Princess Diana are dead.

Angry at the way they died. And angry at the way he has been treated ever since.

His face tells the story. That ever-cheerful, almost cheeky Egyptian grin has gone - replaced by a hollow expression that only terrible grief can provoke.

It is easy to knock Al Fayed - and many have.

To some he is a brilliant success story, to others - mainly in the British establishment - he is a menace to society.

But what he is right now is a man who has lost the son he adored and a princess he treated like a daughter. He hasn't spoken in public until now because he simply couldn't bear to.

Even now he finds it hard, his voice often cracking with real emotion. The kind of emotion you get when you have experienced genuine, gut-wrenching tragedy. The kind most of us never have to experience.

The words come thick and fast. He almost spits them out.

'What I am saying is 200 per cent true. The British Establishment are happy to try and ridicule me and I believe many of them are happy that Diana and Dodi were killed but I'm telling you that I was there in that hospital and what I am saying is true.'

Mr Al Fayed was at his magnificent country home in Oxted, Surrey, when the phone call came that would ruin his life.

Just 45 minutes earlier he had spoken to Dodi as he prepared to leave the Paris Ritz Hotel with Diana for their fateful journey to his apartment.

Traquically, he warned Dodi NOT to try and slip the waiting paparazzi.

He said: 'I last spoke to Dodi 15 minutes before the accident. I said to him, 'Now look, don't do any tricks when you leave the hotel.

'Be normal, be nice to the photographers and be nice to everybody. Go out of the front door and say hello.' I said 'Talk to the paparazzi, they are only doing their job.'

'I said 'You have got nothing to hide, relax and enjoy it. I said 'Dodi, just help them to make a living.' He said that he didn't mind so much but Diana didn't like that.

'Diana liked the attention sometimes but not all the time and that night she wasn't in the mood for it.

'They did the complete opposite to what I said but what can you do? That's destiny.

'I was informed about the accident half an hour after it happened. I was telephoned by my head of security in Paris. He had been told by the bodyguard who was supposed to follow in another car but didn't.

'I felt like somebody had shot both my legs away. I had lost my son, the closest person to me. It is impossible to describe how that feels to someone who has not experienced it.

'I asked about Diana and was told she was hurt. I desperately hoped that Diana was still alive.

'I was told she was in the hospital and was injured. I got my pilot and flew straight to Paris in my helicopter.

'When I walked into the hospital they told me that Diana had just died.'

It was 3.30am on Sunday, August 31, when Mr Al Fayed was flown in his Sikorsky SK-76 helicopter to Paris - a journey of around 80 minutes from his Surrey home to Le Bourget airport 10 miles north of the French capital.