

Egyptian Ex-President Hosni Mubarak Freed after Six Years in Detention



Cairo, March 24 (RHC-Xinhua) -- Egypt's ousted president Hosni Mubarak walked free on Friday after six years in detention. The 88 year-old ruler was overthrown as president of Egypt in 2011 following mass protests.

Mubarak was arrested in April 2011, two months after stepping down, and stood trial on charges ranging from corruption to involvement in the killing of protesters who brought his 30-year rule to an end. He has spent almost six years in prison and military hospitals.

Mubarak's three-year sentence for embezzling of state funds related for the maintaining of presidential palaces was considered served, with time spent in detention in connection with the murder charges being subtracted from it.

The former Egyptian president was originally sentenced to life in prison in 2012 for ordering the murder of 239 demonstrators during the 18-day revolt. But in 2014, an appeals court ordered his retrial along with that of his senior officials, and the charges against Mubarak were dropped.

The public prosecution appealed the retrial, but the Egyptian Court of Appeals ordered his acquittal on March 2.

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