

## APPENDIX

CNN BREAKING NEWS

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### **Egypt Uprising: Hosni Mubarak Steps Down; Interview With Wael Ghonim: 'The Egyptian People Are the Leaders and Heroes of This Revolution.'**

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN ANCHOR: We have Wael Ghonim on the phone. I just want to get him because we've lost him twice on the phone. Wael, your thoughts on this extraordinary moment.

WAEEL GHONIM, EGYPTIAN ACTIVIST (via telephone): I'm proud to be Egyptian. I just want to say, you know, from the bottom of my heart congratulations to all Egyptians. And, you know, I want to say welcome back, Egypt. To me, I've read about Egypt in the history books. And, you know, they convinced us for 30 days -- for 30 years that Egypt died and there's no more Egypt. We are just, you know, a generation that need to eat and sleep. You know, tens of thousands on the 25th decided to start a search, a journey for Egypt. And then they convinced hundreds of thousands then they convinced millions of people. We were all looking for Egypt and thank god that we found her today. I just want to say, welcome back, Egypt. I just want to say to Hosni Mubarak and to Omar Suleiman and to all those people who thought that being in power means you can oppress people, you know, hard-luck guys, you know, at the end of the day, we have a choice and we've made our choice, by the way, very early enough and you should have respected that. You are responsible of the killings of 300 innocent Egyptians. You guys paid the price, are still going to pay the price. It's enough, it's enough for you guys that in history books

they're going to talk to you -- they'll say one word to describe you, the dictators. Thank you.

COOPER: Wael, what does the protest movement do now? What do you want to see from this military government?

(CROSSTALK)

GHONIM: (INAUDIBLE) -- today is like the day for celebration. Today is the day for celebration. It's very hard for me now to even think. We have been -- we haven't been sleeping for a few days. We've been under a lot of war -- among the media war. I'm was also -- I'm also mind in the morning -- and a lot of people saying, Wael, you have been all the time logical and not emotional, what's going on with you. So I need to refer -- restore my calm attitude. I'm not an angry person, and I became an angry person. I need to rest and sleep. So does my friends. There are a lot of grateful officials (ph) Egypt that we trust. These guys -- there are a lot of people who care about Egypt. And today I think the problem is solved. The real problem is solved because the people in power were the problem because they didn't want to leave, they were scared of, you know, losing power and then pay the consequences. Now as they lost power, there will be no problem.

COOPER: How concerned are you that the apparatus of the state repression, the secret police, the interior ministry are all still there?

GHONIM: Come on, they are not there. We are much stronger. We are much -- we are much stronger than all these guys. We're much stronger than all these guys. So I met with the minister of the interior so many times. I speak to him one-to-one. I told him what I don't like, I tell him -- so this is what works. I, you know, one year ago I said the internet is going to change the political scene in Egypt. You know, today I will tell -- you know,

on the 25th, I said that what was Egypt before 25th of January is never going to be like Egypt after 25th of January. Today, I'm telling you Egypt is going to be a democratic state. Egypt will start a new start and you will be impressed how fast we will be developing. Thanks.

COOPER: And your thoughts at this moment also must turn to all those who have lost their lives just in the last two weeks, so much blood has been spilled.

GHONIM: Absolutely. Those people are the real heroes. Those people are the real heroes. You know, like there are lots of people that we know that have died. And also, I wouldn't forget those who are arrested. There are about a thousand people that no knows where are they right now. We are looking for them. We want them back. And, you know, the real heroes are the ones in the streets. The real heroes today are every single Egyptian. There is no one leading this. Anyone who is telling you he is one of the leaders is not saying the truth. The leaders, you know, on Tahrir Square was every single person there. The leader in Alexandria is every single person there. This was a revolution. As I told you guys on my interview this is a revolution 2.0. Just like Wikipedia how everyone is contributing to the content and there is now master plan. Our revolution, everyone is contributing to the revolution and there was no master plan as well.

COOPER: Did you believe this day would come when you set up that first website, when you were in detention and blindfolded and held?

GHONIM: Certainly, I fully believed. I knew it. I knew this from the day that I left Tunisia. I knew it that Hosni is going to leave Egypt.

COOPER: You knew from the day the dictator left in Tunisia that Mubarak would leave ultimately?

GHONIM: Yes. Because at the end of the day, you know, at the moment you break the psychological barrier of fear, the moment you break the fear, the moment you convince people that if they die it's better for them to die for a good cause than to live without dignity, which is something that we all worked on in our message at the very beginning, then you should be sure that you are going to win. Because these guys are so corrupted, these dictators don't care about the people. They care about their lives. And for them life is much, you know, life is much worth it. And it's shame for us, you know, I was (inaudible) went I said I was ready to die. I love my life. We all want to live. We don't want to die. We all want to live and we all want to build our country. We all want to make our society free and open-minded. We all want this country to go where it should be. We should be among those great countries in the world. We can do it and we will do it.

WOLF BLITZER, CNN ANCHOR: Wael, this is Wolf Blitzer in Washington. A couple questions. First of all, do you trust the High Council of the Egyptian military to supervise implementation towards democracy?

GHONIM: I am not a political expert and I am -- such a question right now I wouldn't answer because I don't have the background to answer. But what I care about now is that everyone -- I trust 80 million Egyptians. I really trust 80 million Egyptians and I really trust that these people in the street now have broken the psychological barrier, after being ready to die for such a good cause of liberating their country, will always make sure that whomever in power is going to work on the people's agenda. And I also believe that the army, that the Egyptian army, is so unique. And the fact that these guys really want the safety of Egypt. And they have already issued a report that says that they are respecting

our demands, that they want to protect our demands, and we want our demands to happen. So, definitely, the Egyptian army is trustworthy right now for me, and I'm not really worried, because as I said, I trust 80 million Egyptians.

BLITZER: The other question, Wael, I had is first Tunisia, now Egypt. What's next?

GHONIM: Ask Facebook.

BLITZER: Ask what?

GHONIM: Facebook.

COOPER: Facebook.

BLITZER: Facebook. You're giving Facebook a lot of credit for this?

GHONIM: Yes, for sure. I want to meet Mark Zuckerberg one day and thank him, actually.

BLITZER: Tell us why you think Facebook and Mark Zuckerberg helped get people in Egypt and Tunisia and presumably other countries in the not-too-distant free.

GHONIM: Well, I can't talk about Tunisia. I'm talking on behalf of Egypt, because --

BLITZER: All right. So tell us about Egypt.

GHONIM: Yes, Tunisia was a bit of a different case. This revolution started online. This revolution started on Facebook. This revolution started in June, 2010, when hundreds of thousands of Egyptians started corroborating content. You know, like, we would post a video on Facebook, it would be shared by 50,000 people on their walls within a few hours. We -- you know, I always said that if you want to liberate us, society in Egypt, give them the Internet. If you want to have a free society, just give them the Internet. The reason why the Internet is -- like, help you fight the media war, which is basically a war that the Egyptian government, the Egyptian regime playing very well in 1970, 1980,

1990. And when the Internet came, it really couldn't. I'm going to talk a lot about this. I plan to write a book called "The Revolution 2.0." That will say everything about, you know, from the start, from when there was nothing until the end, and highlight the role of, you know, social media and the rest of the stuff.

HALA GORANI, CNN INTERNATIONAL ANCHOR/CORRESPONDENT: Wael, this is Hala Gorani at the CNN Center. I was just curious -- you know, you've become an emblem for so many in this revolution, a figurehead. Your name, your appearances in Tahrir Square, I talked about. Do you want to now become involved in politics in your country? Do you want to take on a leadership role in this pro-democracy movement, Wael?

GHONIM: I want to go back to my company and work. I don't -- I think it will be a big mistake right now for me to be involved. Also, if you read history, you know, the people who help making the revolution should not be part of the revolution afterward. I think my mission has been accomplished. I just need to work for a few days to make sure that the country is in safe hands, and then I need to disappear from the scene. I was not the leader, by the way. It just happened I got all the attention that I don't deserve. And I'm not downplaying the role. This is the truth. The real people you guys should be hosting on your show is not me. It's actually the people in Tahrir Square who slept 18 days and saw their friends and families dying beside them. Those are the real heroes. And I want you -- I urge you to actually meet a lot of these guys, and don't put a lot of spotlight on people like me. At the end of the day, my role was accomplished. I really wanted this to be an anonymous movement until I was arrested and, you know, they found out. And then a lot of -- you know, a lot of speculation, and some news agencies announced that I was the

admin of the page. I really didn't want to be known for this moment. I don't want all the attention to come to me. My mission is over. I want to go back to see my kids. I want to go back to start working, you know, do some work. I want to be a Normal person. And this is about the Egyptians heroes. Those guys -- I'm not worried about this country having to see all these people in the street right now.

BLITZER: Wael Ghonim, it's been a pleasure listening to you and hearing from you. Congratulations to you. More importantly, congratulations to all the people of Egypt right now. This is truly a revolutionary day in the history of Egypt, a proud country with thousands of years of history. We're watching new history unfold. And we want to thank you for all your good work. Thanks very much, and we hope to stay in close touch with you.

GHONIM: I want to say a final word. Thanks to you and you folks on Tahrir Square. You guys have played a great role in saving the lives of hundreds, if not thousands, of people. This regime did not care about the people, and they would have killed a lot of people if there was no international media. CNN did a great job. You guys deserve a great recognition from all the Egyptian people. We're not going to forget your role. And I wanted to clarify when I said I didn't want to talk to international media. It was only because I don't want the regime to start doing media -- I have nothing against the American people, of course. My wife is American. And I also have nothing against international media. It's just the fact that the regime had been, you know, misleading all the Egyptians and telling them the wrong messages. You guys are heroes, as well. You are part of the revolution. You should be proud of yourself.

BLITZER: Well, we just want to say the whole world was watching what was happening on the streets of Cairo, in part because of us, but in part because of other television satellite networks, in part because of you and what millions of Egyptians were doing on Facebook, on Twitter, and all sorts of other social network sites. Thank you so much. Anderson or Hala, do you have a final thought you want to share with Wael before we let him go?

COOPER: Wael, we just got a thing crossing the Reuters wires saying that Egypt's Supreme Military Council will sack the cabinet, suspend both houses of parliament, and govern with the head of the Supreme Court. Your reaction to that?

GHONIM: Amazing. Amazing. This is great. That just tells me what I thought of the military. These guys don't want to be in power. These guys want Egypt to come back. I think that we are on the right track. I think that even if -- I'm not scared. I'm not afraid of -- I mean, I don't fear the history. As I told you, even if I don't trust anyone, I just 80 million Egyptians. This is the time where history is being rewritten right now. As I said on Twitter before, that day --you know, the last line of corruption and, you know, oppression has been written. We took a pen from them, we flipped the page. And now we're drawing our future. We are dreamers, and we made it happen. And it's time now to celebrate for a couple of days, and then go back and start thinking about, how can we develop the strategy and what's the best for us?

GORANI: Wael, I just have one question. I think it's going to be one of those moments when we all remember, you know, where we were when a historic event took place. Where were you and what was your immediate reaction when you heard Omar Suleiman say the president has stepped down?



GHONIM: Yes. I was actually in my mom's house with a lot of -- you know, we were meeting in my mom's house a lot to decide -- like, a lot of activists. And we were having -- it was sort of like the center of my plan, of my planning session. So I was there. And all of a sudden, like, I heard my mom screaming. I went out and, you know, it was amazing. She started hugging me and kissing me and hysterically crying. And it was -- you know, the rest of the family came. It was really good.

GORANI: All right. Well, there you have it, Wolf and Anderson.

BLITZER: All right. Let me just thank Wael again. Wael, you'll be happy to know the Twitter universe is exploding right now with your words that you want to meet Mark Zuckerberg. Don't be surprised if you get a call from him sometime soon. We won't be surprised either.

GHONIM: Yes. I mean, ask him to call me. Ask him to call me.

(LAUGHTER)

BLITZER: He'll be calling you. Don't worry. I wouldn't be surprised. You'll let us know how that conversation goes.

## **Wael Ghonim and Egypt's New Age Revolution**

CBS NEWS

Feb 16, 2011, 11:52 AM EST

This Sunday night, for the first time in more than two weeks, traffic is flowing through Cairo's Tahrir Square. In Egypt, businesses are open, university classes are back in session and a new military government rules with popular support and a promise of coming democracy.

Egypt is an ancient civilization with a youthful population - nearly two-thirds of them are 30 years old or under. Many of them are educated but unemployed and angry.

Their 18-day revolution began not with terrorism and tanks, but with Twitter and texts and satellite TV broadcasts.

This week an aging autocrat who ruled as a modern pharaoh fell victim to those weapons of the young - out-organized and outmaneuvered by social media, by kids with keyboards.

In Cairo, CBS News correspondent Harry Smith had a chance to talk with the man who emerged as the symbol of the leaderless rebellion, Google executive Wael Ghonim.

Ghonim was jailed for his Internet organizing; when he gave a live interview on satellite TV following his release, he galvanized the movement. Though he was at the center of the "new age revolution," he has no ambition for leadership, nor any way of knowing what comes next.

Wael Ghonim: The regime was extremely stupid. They are the ones who basically ended themselves. They kept oppressing and oppressing and oppressing and oppressing. Right after I came out of jail, I wrote a status message that we are gonna (win), because we don't understand politics, because we don't understand their nasty games. We're gonna win because our tears come from our hearts. We're gonna win because we have a dream. We're gonna win because we're convinced that if anyone stands up in front of our dream, we're ready to die defending it.

Harry Smith: Two and a half weeks ago, when this started, did you anticipate this outcome?

Ghonim: When I went on the streets on Tuesday, on the 25th, I was like, 'Whoa, it's gonna happen.' Because the only barrier to people uprising and revolution is the psychological barrier of fear. All these regimes rely on fear. They want everyone to be scared. If you manage to break the psychological barrier, you're gonna definitely be able to do the revolution.

That wall of fear fell in the last few weeks, as hundreds of thousands of Egyptians defied their government and demanded change. Helping to lead the charge was 30-year-old Ghonim, Google's regional marketing manager for the Middle East. In his spare time, he created a Facebook page, posting information about the brutality of Egyptian police. He was especially angered by the killing of a 28-year-old Internet activist, who was beaten to death after trying to expose police corruption.

Smith: How important is his story in what happened here in the last three weeks?

Ghonim: By the way, his name is Khalid Sayid, name translated in English into 'eternal happiness.' His photo, after being killed by those police officers made all of us cry. Made

all of us, you know, because he's coming from middle class. I personally connected to him. I thought, 'This could be my brother.' You know? And I know the police in Egypt. You know, they used to act like they controlled the world. You know, they'd beat you up. You are someone basically who have no rights. So when he died I personally got deeply hurt. I decided to start fighting this regime.

Produced by Tom Anderson, Andy Court, Harry A. Radcliffe II, Jeff Newton, Amjad Tadros The Facebook page was called "We are all Khalid Sayid." Soon hundreds, then thousands of others began sharing photos and video of abuse and mistreatment. Within months, the number of followers on Facebook grew to half a million, and when he and other organizers posted the dates and locations of protests, people started showing up and posting Internet videos. Many of the organizers never met in person. Their primary interaction was online.

SMITH: If there's no social network, does this revolution happen?

GHONIM: If there was no social networks, it would have never been sparked. Because the whole thing before the revolution was the most critical thing. Without Facebook, without Twitter, without Google, without YouTube, this would have never happened

SMITH: If you want to have a free country, if you want democracy, then the Internet is great, and all this information can be shared. But isn't just the opposite then true? If I want to continue to suppress people, the last thing I'm gonna give them is access to the Internet.

GHONIM: Block the whole Internet, you're gonna really frustrate people. One of the strategic mistakes of this regime was blocking Facebook. One of the reasons why they are no longer in power now is that they blocked Facebook. Why? Because they have told

four million people that they are scared like hell from the revolution by blocking Facebook. They forced everyone who's just, you know, waiting to read the news on Facebook, they forced them to go to the street to be part of this. So really, like, if I want to thank one, thank anyone for all of this, I would thank our stupid regime.

Three days after the protests began in Tahrir Square, Ghonim disappeared. His friends and family feared he'd been kidnapped or even killed. Egyptian authorities had arrested him for 12 days. He was blindfolded, handcuffed and constantly interrogated.

SMITH: Did they hit you?

GHONIM: Yeah, but it was not systematic. Like, it was individual based, and it was not from the officers. It was actually from the soldiers. And I forgive them, I have to say. I forgive them, because one thing is that they were convinced that I was harming the country. These are simple people, not educated. I cannot carry a conversation with them. So, you know, for him, I'm sort of like a traitor. I'm de-stabilizing the country. So when he hits me, he doesn't hit me because, you know, he's a bad guy. He's hitting me because he thinks he's a good guy. I'll tell you a funny story: At the end of the last day, you know, I removed my...blindfold. And I said, 'Hi,' and kissed every one of them. All of the soldiers. And, you know, it was good. I was sending them a message.

SMITH: Why do you think they let you go?

GHONIM: Pressure. Ask Obama. Probably. There were a lot of factors to it. One is Google. Google did a lot of work to get me out. They did a lot, massive PR campaign.

After Ghonim was released, he appeared on a popular Egyptian television program, talking about those who had been killed in the protests. The next day, the crowds in

Tahrir Square grew even larger. Their demands would not be denied. And Friday, 18 days after the protest started, Mubarak resigned.

SMITH: President Obama came out several times during the revolution, had things to say. Did it help? Did it hurt?

GHONIM: You know, it was good that he supports the revolution. That's a good stand. But we don't really need him. And I don't think that....I wrote a tweet. I wrote, 'Dear Western governments. You have been supporting the regime that was oppressing us for 30 years. Please don't get involved now. We don't need you.'

Ghonim told us he has no interest in politics and he wants to go back to work at Google. After our interview, he talked about the future with family and friends. But he realizes his future has fundamentally changed.

SMITH: Have you had death threats?

GHONIM: Yeah. I get those all the time. I'm getting a lot of hate messages, a lot of people are talking bad about me, and, you know, still accusing me of being a spy and a traitor. And all that funny stuff. But I think, in the next few days, when all the black files of the regime are gonna be out for everyone to read and see, AND we know about the money that was stolen from this country. Things are gonna get better.

SMITH: Do you think Mubarak will be brought to trial?

GHONIM: At the moment, I don't care. Revenge is not the thing I want. For me, what I care about right now, I want all the money of the Egyptian people to come back. There are billions and billions of dollars that were stolen out of this country. You cannot imagine the amount of corruption that was here. You know, with all these people in power, with all this conflict of interest. And, you know, it's time for them to pay the

price. And it's, as I said, revenge is not my goal, personally. You know, others would have that as their goal. And I don't blame them for that. But for me, what is more important, we want the money back. Because this money belongs to the Egyptians, and they deserve it. The people who were eating from the trash, that was their money.

SMITH: People who watch this say, 'Okay, well, this miracle happened in Egypt. But it won't be like that a month or a year or five years from now. Life isn't like that.' Do you believe the ideals that were so well-displayed over the last two and a half weeks are the pavement or the foundation for the country?

GHONIM: Yeah, that's actually our responsibility. We're now meeting a lot. Because...this momentum, whatever that just happened right now, needs to be capitalized on now.

SMITH: Did the Mubarak regime underestimate, or do you even think it understood, the power of the social network?

GHONIM: They don't understand the social networking part. But they underestimate the power of the people. And, you know, at the end of the day, I want to say my final word is, 'Thanks, thanks, thanks to the stupid regime. You have done us the best thing ever. You have woke up 80 million Egyptians.'

SMITH: So if you're an autocrat, or if you're a dictator, and you watch what happened in Egypt over the last several weeks, what lesson do you think...?

GHONIM: He should freak out. He seriously should freak out.

## **Founder Of Egypt's April 6 Movement Weighs In**

February 14, 2011, 3:00 PM ET

The protests that brought about the downfall of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were by no means spontaneous. They were weeks, months, even years in the making, says Ahmed Maher, a 30-year-old civil engineer who helped organize the April 6th Youth Movement as well as the demonstrations that toppled the Mubarak regime.

MELISSA BLOCK, Host:

The protests that brought down Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were by no means spontaneous. They were weeks, months, even years in the making. That's according to one of the young men who helped organized the demonstrations. Ahmed Maher is a founder of the influential April 6th Youth Movement.

Now that Egypt's military is in control, his group has been communicating with the country's ruling Supreme Military Council to try to make sure protesters' demands are met. I asked Maher through an interpreter, what specifically he's been promised by the military leaders and when?

AHMED MAHER: (Through Translator) Well, they said that they need time, that the government institutions need to start again, and that will take some time. We told them that we're concerned about people who are in jail, but they said that they need, you know, a few days or so. And then, we also told them that we want the constitution addressed.

There will be demonstrations again on Friday, and in the meantime, there will be communication. The people will see if they don't want to get - if we don't get what we're



promised, then we can go back and demonstrate. And we've called for a demonstration - or there is a call for a demonstration for millions to come out again.

So regarding the constitution, they said that they will begin organizing, that they will put together a committee. They said they will look into the situation of political prisoners who were detained before and after the January 25th revolution.

BLOCK: You mentioned prisoners. You're talking about the thousands of political prisoners who you want freed?

MAHER: (Through Translator) We're referring to those who were arrested after January 25th and the ones who were arrested before that date. All those who were arrested after the 25th should be released immediately. As for those who were arrested before, there's a due process that we understand there has to take place, and it has to be looked at on a case-by-case basis. But eventually, we'd like to see all of the political prisoners released.

BLOCK: What about the lifting of emergency law? What have they told you about a timetable for that?

MAHER: (Through Translator) We understand that they want to cancel it as well, but they've asked for more from the police to go back to the streets to restore order. There are some people who escaped from the prisons, and they need to be found and returned to the jails.

The security needs to return to the streets of Egypt. The military promised that once there is no need for the streets to be insecure, then we can cancel or they can cancel the emergency law. So this will, hopefully, happen as soon as possible. And we will continue to meet with them. And then, hopefully, I will decide how to act.

BLOCK: How much faith do you have, Mr. Maher, in the goodwill and the intention of the military leaders to do these things that you're spelling out, lift emergency law, free the political prisoners, rewrite the constitution?

MAHER: (Through Translator) Number one, we consider the army to be different from the Mubarak regime, and number two, we respect the army a lot here in Egypt. And number three, if we don't get what we want in the quickest time possible, the street is here, and we will use it.

BLOCK: There are protesters right now who are staying in Tahrir Square saying that they'll stay there until reforms are put into place. What are you telling your followers in the April 6th Movement? Should they keep protesting?

MAHER: (Through Translator) Those who are demonstrating have their own issues. We made the decision not to demonstrate while we wait for a response to our demands. We can always go back to the street. They have been given the opportunity of four days. We met with them. It was good. But if they don't meet our demands, we'll take to the streets again.

BLOCK: Have you given them a deadline of this Friday?

MAHER: (Through Translator) There will be another meeting in the next couple of days. We expect some announcements from them regarding our demands. We're waiting to see if they'll act and what their plans are. So we will see.

BLOCK: Since the protests on the streets in Egypt, in the last week, have you been in touch with other youth movements that are looking at what happened in Egypt and saying: I'd like to do that in my country. What do I need to do?

MAHER: (Through Translator) Yes, yes, there are a lot. After what happened in Tunisia, there are a lot of activity. We talked a lot about what we were doing. We congratulated those in Tunisia, and they in turn also did the same with us.

We talk with everyone in Algeria and Morocco to give them our experience and our knowledge.

BLOCK: Do you expect that what we've seen happen now in Tunisia and in Egypt will be repeated, that we will see other autocrats fall, that there will be other regime change?

MAHER: (Through Translator) Of course. What happened in Egypt and Tunisia will happen elsewhere: Algeria, Morocco, Jordan and Yemen, all those countries with autocrats, hopefully they will have democracy. We are watching them all move forward with this important work.

BLOCK: Ahmed Maher, thank you very much for talking with us.

MAHER: Thank you.

BLOCK: Ahmed Maher is a 30-year-old civil engineer in Cairo. He's a leader of the April 6th Youth Movement, one of the organizers of the demonstrations that toppled the regime of President Hosni Mubarak. A special thanks to our interpreters, NPR's Jamie Tarabay and Adel Iskandar, a lecturer in Arab media at Georgetown University.