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Egyptian court to review petition for Hosni Mubarak's release



A petition for the release of deposed President Hosni Mubarak, filed by his lawyer, will be reviewed by an Egyptian court on Wednesday, judicial sources said in a statement.

The court will convene at the Cairo prison where Mubarak is being held, the sources told Reuters.

On Monday, Egyptian judicial authorities reportedly ordered that Mubarak be released in one of the remaining corruption cases against him.

The ex-president and his sons are facing charges for illegally using funds allocated for expenditure on presidential palaces for their private villas and corruption. Mubarak is being retried on charges of ordering the killing of protesters in the 2011 uprising, judicial sources say, where he and six aides are accused in complicity with the deaths of more than 800 people.

If the court upholds the petition filed by his lawyer, Mubarak will be released as there remain no further legal grounds for his detention.

Mubarak, 85, was sentenced to life in prison last year for failing to stop the killing of protesters during the uprising against him in 2011. But the appeals court accepted his appeal in January and ordered a retrial. He is now being retried on those charges, but has served the maximum amount of pre-trial detention permitted in the case.

(With Reuters)