

Jailed journos: Greste freed, now for Fahmy and Mohamed

NEWSWATCH: CAIRO, EGYPT: With Peter Greste freed from jail in Cairo, efforts are now directed at getting his colleagues freed as well...



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 The Independent: Peter Greste released: Australian Al Jazeera journalist deported by Egypt - but what of his colleagues?

Australian Peter Greste was released yesterday and deported from Egypt, first to Cyprus to recuperate with his brother. It is hoped that fellow prisoner - Canadian citizen Mohamed Fahmy - may also be released soon. However, according to *The Independent*, "the fate of their Egyptian Al Jazeera colleague Baher Mohamed is uncertain."

Greste's brother Andrew is quoted as saying that Fahmy and Baher Mohamed, an Egyptian, "also deserve to be free [and] Peter won't rest until they are released."

Greste, who, along with his colleagues, works for Al Jazeera, spent 400 days in jail following his arrest alongside two others while on a temporary assignment.

• The Globe and Mail: The Al Jazeera Three: Facts about the imprisoned colleagues... Canadian diplomats are holding a series of meetings with Egyptian government officials in Cairo to press the case of imprisoned journalist Mohamed Fahmy after his Australian colleague was released.

Ultimately, however, Al Jazeera's aim is to also obtain the freedom of Baher Mohamed, the third of the three who were imprisoned on terrorism-related charges.

In a statement issued last night, Al Jazeera has said that the campaign to free its journalists in Egypt will not end until

all three have been released.

Peter Greste is already out of the country after 400 days in detention, but Baher Mohamed and Mohamed Fahmy remain behind bars. The network says that all three have to be exonerated and the convictions against its other journalists tried *in absentia* also have to be lifted.

Mostefa Souag, acting Director General of Al Jazeera Media Network, said, "We're pleased for Peter and his family that they are to be reunited. It has been an incredible and unjustifiable ordeal for them, and they have coped with incredible dignity. Peter's integrity is not just intact, but has been further enhanced by the fortitude and sacrifice he has shown for his profession of informing the public. We will not rest until Baher and Mohamed also regain their freedom. The Egyptian authorities have it in their power to finish this properly today, and that is exactly what they must do."

• The Sydney Morning Herald: Released journalist Peter Greste will want beer and prawns: family... Meanwhile, Greste's family in Sydney, Australia, is eagerly awaiting his return...

Peter Greste's father Juris summed up his family's mood when on Monday they arrived for the final media conference they might ever need to give. "I'm ecstatic. I just can't say how happy I am about it," Peter's mother Lois Greste said.

"It's also difficult to realise that this day has actually come. Even though I sort of dreamed about it quietly, not daring to think about it too much, it's arrived now."

Peter Greste was deported from Egypt at around 4pm yesterday, and is now recovering in Cyprus with his brother Michael before continuing his journey back to Australia.

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