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If you one of the millions that see the V3 icon on the corner of their computer screen then you're familiar with the **anti-virus company, Ahn Lab**, and its founder Ahn Cheol-soo. Ahn founded the **computer-security company** back in 1995 and has then gained celebrity-like status in Korea. Ahn is highly respected for being a medical doctor, professor, self-taught computer entrepreneur, and corporate leader. He is currently the dean of Science and Technology at Seoul National University.

However, for the last few weeks his popularity has soared even higher in what many are calling the "**Ahn Phenomenon**". With rumors that Ahn would be running for Seoul mayor in the upcoming by-election, many newspapers **conducted surveys to gauge public opinion**. And the results has shown that Ahn's name **holds much more sway** than just in the tech industry. Many opinion polls put Ahn at consistently over 40 percent popularity, which was at times higher than the GNP's mayoral candidate. Ahn has come out and announced that he would not be running for mayor and instead **gave his support to** his long-time friend and civil activist, Park Won-soon. Critics have said that Ahn's reputation alone couldn't have won him the election due to **his lack of experience in politics** and that the sudden rise in popularity was merely **a fad**.

While backing down from the mayoral race, Ahn stated that the incredible support and high expectations he has received was just a **reflection of the people's desire for leadership changes in society**. Despite withdrawing, it's obvious that Ahn has the potential to break into politics and perhaps eventually the presidential election.

Key Words

1. 안철수 현상 ahn phenomenon, ahn syndrome (부정적인 뉘앙스)
2. 박원순 변호사에게 양보하다 gave his support to Park Won-soon
3. 정치적 경험이 부족하다 lack of experience in politics
4. (인기가) 거품일 뿐이다 popularity is merely a fad
5. 변화를 원하는 대중의 요구를 반영했다 reflection of the people's desire for leadership changes in society
6. 기성정치에 대해 반감이 있다 be unsatisfied with the political status quo
7. 올 것이 왔다 I knew it would be coming; it's been expected; its time has come
8. 정치에서는 능력이 검증되지 않았다 his credential is lacking in politics; his track record is lacking in politics
9. 박근혜 대세론이 흔들리다 park was a sure-fire win, but Ahn came in and shook things up;
10. 청렴하고 정직한 사람 a man of integrity; a man of his word; he doesn't have a single mean bone in his body

More Key Words

1. 컴퓨터 보안 기업 computer-security company
2. 민심을 알아보기 위한 여론 조사를 실시했다 conducted surveys to gauge public opinion
3. 영향력이 더 크다 holds much more sway
4. (정치 때문에) 사람이 망가진다 politics will ruin you