Iran Election Update

June 15, 2013: Election Results

- <u>ISNA</u> reports that the Ministry of Interior has announced that Hassan Rouhani is the new elected president of Iran, securing more than 18,613,329 votes.
- Fars News published Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's post-election message as he thanks the Iranian people for their participation in the elections and Hassan Rouhani for his election as president. "With epic participation of the people, our enemies have now become jealous," and "the vote nullified plots of all ill-wishers," he wrote. The post-election message contains "six important recommendations to the new president-elect and the Iranian people."
- Former President Hashemi Rafsanjani <u>said</u>, "If the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran want to be fair and just, they need to accept that there is no doubt that Iran had one of the most democratic elections in the world."
- Iran's Interior Minister Mostafa Mohammad-Najjar <u>said</u>, "Out of over 50 million eligible voters, the official participation rate for this year's presidential election is 72.7%." Fars News posts a series of <u>photos</u> of Najjar before, during, and after the official announcement of the election results.
- President Ahmadinejad released his official statement praising the Iranian
 people and the establishment's achievements, and congratulating new
 president-elect Hassan Rouhani by <u>saying</u>, "Congratulations to his excellency
 Mr. Hassan Rouhani who has been entrusted by the people and our dear nation
 with gratitude and affection as he will serve and work to provide justice and
 prosperity to the nation."
- Fars News provides the official statements of <u>congratulations</u> to the new president-elect from all the other candidates in this year's presidential race.
- Mehr News provides a series of <u>photos</u> that reveal election officials tediously hand-counting official presidential ballots.
- The commander of the Basij, Mohammad Reza Naqdi <u>declared</u>, "The Iranian nation's massive tsunami of voter participation has cracked the White House, and reveals that western media is weaker than it actually is as they weren't able to keep Iranians from staying at home and not voting."

- Iranian reporter Borzou Daragahi provides a helpful and simple spreadsheet
 breakdown of the votes tallied for each candidate. Daragahi also writes, "Iran never fails to surprise even seasoned observers like me, who pretty much figured the regime would just engineer a victory for Jalili or Ghalibaf this time. Perhaps spooked by the 2009 uprising and the Arab Spring revolts, it looks like this time the regime is actually counting the ballots in its pre-constrained election and—lo and behold—the vote counting is taking just as long as it would in any developing country (as opposed to 2009's ultra-fast results, even before polls closed) and that the reformist-backed moderate 'green' candidate is walloping the avowedly hardline and conservative candidates. Today confirms all that we saw on the ground in 2009—a hastily forged election result contrived without even counting the ballots."
- Abas Aslani, the general director of Fars News, <u>tweets</u> that former candidate Mohammed Reza Aref will be Rouhani's vice president in his new cabinet.
- This Twitter photo shows Iranians <u>celebrating</u> the Rouhani victory at Daneshjoo Park at the four-way intersection of Vali Asr Blvd, one of the busiest intersections in Tehran. These photos show people celebrating in <u>Tabriz</u> and <u>Mashhad</u>. A Twitter photo of celebrations in <u>Fatimeh</u> Square in Tehran was also posted.

By Hanif Zarrabi-Kashani



Additional Iran Election Updates are available <u>here.</u> Election date was June 14, 2013.