

Iran Election Update

June 19, 2013: Election Results

- Former president Hashemi Rafsanjani [said](#), “The most important task for the future government is to continue to strengthen and create hope amongst the people.” He continued, “The new president is expected to use this period of opportunity to efficiently make use of a skilled and sincere study of the situation, which is a precondition for change, to resolve day-to-day economic problems, and to strengthen and sustain religious, national, and revolutionary values, as well as the hopes that have been created in the people’s hearts.”
- In a long-worded [statement](#) published on his personal website, former president Mohammed Khatami said, “Let’s be careful not to rush judgment, so we don’t have misplaced expectations for the government.”
- The Interior Ministry [released](#) a full breakdown of city, county, and provincial votes from last week’s presidential election. The interactive webpage allows readers to search for specific information.
- Prominent political analyst and University of Tehran political science professor Sadegh Zibakalam [claims](#), “There is no way Mr. Rouhani would have withdrawn in favor of (reformist candidate) Mr. Aref in the election. Rouhani’s chances with interacting and working within the system are much greater than Aref’s.” He continued, “Rouhani has dealt with the Guardian Council, conservatives and principalists, Friday Imams, Kayhan (a conservative newspaper), and other forces...Rouhani is better suited than Aref in interacting with these forces.”
- The powerful Guardian Council that vets presidential candidates [officially](#) announced the authenticity of the presidential election and confirmed the final results.
- The head of the Parliamentary Budget Committee, Ayatollah Gholamreza Mesbahi-Moghadam, [said](#), “There were several factors that came together in the election victory of Hassan Rouhani such as inflation, volatility, poor management, and currency devaluations, but Mr. Rafsanjani’s support of him was highly effective.”
- Reformist parliamentarian Hussein Amiri Khamkany [said](#), “I believe that the new (Rouhani) government will be formed with moderate conservatives and reformists.”
- Former presidential candidate Gholam Reza Haddad Adel [congratulated](#) the new president-elect Hassan Rouhani and said that the conservative faction is ready to work with the future government. The Deputy Speaker of Parliament and former presidential candidate Mohammad Hassan Aboutorabi Fard also met with the new president as they discussed current issues plaguing Iran and [said](#), “The Parliament is prepared to provide the highest level of cooperation with the new president in his formation of a new cabinet.”

- Former presidential candidate Mohammed Reza Aref said, “We shouldn’t have a security atmosphere surrounding NGOs as they are helpful in solving social crises.” He [continued](#), “The future government cannot continue the approach of the current government. The security environment must be removed from all sectors of society and especially with NGOs.”
- Hossein Naqavi Hosseini, the spokesman for the parliament’s Committee on National Security and Foreign Policy, [said](#), “The election of Mr. Rouhani has provided him an opportunity to take advantage of the other presidential candidates’ proposed governmental programs such as Mr. Rezaei’s economic plan, Mr. Jalili’s foreign policy plan, and Mr. Qalibaf’s urban planning and operations.”
- In an [interview](#) with Khabar Online, the First Deputy Speaker of Parliament Mohammed Reza Bahonar said, “I don’t have anything specific suggestions for Mr. Rouhani. From what I know about Mr. Rouhani, he is a man of belief and a moderate. He has provided ideal conditions for determining his cabinet, and I hope Mr. Rouhani uses precision in choosing his partners in government.”

By Hanif Zarrabi-Kashani



Additional Iran Election Updates are available [here](#).
Election date was June 14, 2013.