

Iran Election Update

June 5, 2013

- ILNA conducts an online [poll](#) and asks its readers who they will be voting for. As of Wednesday morning, over 3,000 people voted. Hassan Rouhani led all candidates with 45%, followed by Mohammed Reza Aref with 31%. The rest of the candidates shared less than 10% of the votes.
- Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei made a [speech](#) yesterday, on the occasion of the anniversary of Ayatollah Khomeini's death, in which he [urged](#) presidential candidates not to appease the West with concessions. He said, "Some, following this incorrect analysis - that we should make concessions to the enemies to reduce their anger - have put their interests before the interests of the Iranian nation. This is wrong."
- The Iran Media Program posts their Persian newspaper [cartoon](#) roundup with English translations.
- The second televised presidential debate last night centered on the theme of culture and society, and the ISNA has provided a [summary](#) of last night's debate and each candidates' views as well as the criticisms they have of their fellow candidates. English News PressTV [summarizes](#) each of the presidential candidates' social and cultural plans that they outlined during the second televised presidential debate.
- Iranian-American journalist Negar Mortazavi reports on her Twitter account with a [photo](#) that reformist Facebook users are changing their Facebook profile pictures to green poster that says, "I Will Vote" in Farsi.
- Fars News [posts](#) a series of photos of candidate Gholam Ali Haddad-Adel making a campaign speech to his supporters in the Jabery Mosque in Tehran, and ISNA posts pictures of Ali Akbar Velayati [speaking](#) to supporters at the Hosseiniyeh Martyrs of Karbala in Shahr-e-Ray.
- Candidate Mohammed Reza Aref [said](#), "I will follow through with everything that I am promising."
- Conservative cleric Ayatollah Mohyeddin Haeri Shirazi [warned](#), "Without competition (in the election) the livelihood of the system will be disrupted... what we saw in the 2009 elections is that the system was flawed. A flawed system is not sustainable."
- YJC News posts [photos](#) of election campaign promotions in the northeastern city of Mashhad as well as photos of candidate Mohsen Rezaei [speaking](#) with artists and athletes.
- Former president Mohammed Khatami [said](#), "I will participate in the (presidential) election and it's my belief that everyone will participate as well."
- ILNA interviewed Masoumeh Ebtekar, who was Iran's first female vice president under former president Mohammed Khatami. She was asked about her disqualification in the Tehran city council elections. She [said](#), "I am a child of the revolution, and I object strongly to the charges against me and will protest against them. Unfortunately, this city and local election was not welcoming for reformist members." Mohsen Rafsanjani, the son of former president Rafsanjani was also [disqualified](#) from running in the Tehran city council elections, according to the head of the city council elections who also said 1,700 candidates nationwide were approved.
- The final list for the approved 30 candidates for the Tehran city council election has been announced. They include doctors, former politicians, athletes, artists, cultural activists, religious figures, journalists, and teachers. Jahan News provides a [list](#) of the final candidates as well as a short biography of each finalist. The list includes two women: Masoumeh Abad and Samieh Bourjerdi.
- Mehr News posts photos of candidate Mohammed Bagher Qalibaf making a speech to a large [crowd](#) of men and [women](#) in the Lorestan province, and posing with [children](#) as well.

By Hanif Zarrabi-Kashani



Additional Iran Election Updates are available [here](#).

Election date is June 14, 2013.