

Iran Election Update

June 14, 2013: Election Day (Part 1)

- Fars News posts photos of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei casting the [first](#) ballot of the day and [saying](#), “The fate of the country and the prosperity of the nation are dependent on the participation and the people’s selection, and the nation’s votes are trusted in the hands of the election officials.”
- Mehr News reports former candidate Mohammed Reza Aref [predicting](#) that over 70% of the people will vote in the presidential election and that “the election will be stretched to a second round run-off vote.” Mehr News posts a [series](#) of photos of former candidate Mohammed Reza Aref who voted early in the morning alongside his wife at the crowded Hosseiniyeh Ershad Mosque, which has symbolic value for Iranian reformists. Aref was asked what candidates should do once the election is over. Aref [responded](#), “They should thank those who worked for alongside them and congratulate the victor.”
- ISNA posts photos of former president Mohammed [Khatami](#) enthusiastically voting today. Photos of Mohammed Bagher [Qalibaf](#), Saeed [Jalili](#), Mohsen [Rezaei](#), Ali Akbar [Velayati](#), and former president Hashemi [Rafsanjani](#) were all posted as well.
- Speaker of Parliament Ali Larijani voted at the Imam Askari Mosque in the city of [Qom](#) today and afterwards said, “Today Iran is faced with cruel and international pressure, and the power of the participation of the people has given the system double the amount of energy, which will provide fundamental changes to our international situation.” ISNA posted [photos](#) of Larijani voting today.
- The governor of Tehran [announced](#) that there will be 12,000 officials supervising the polling stations around the country for the presidential and local city elections.
- Fars News posts a [series](#) of photos of election officials with their security escorts delivering ballot boxes to their respective polling stations. Mehr News posts [photos](#) of ballot box distribution as well.
- ISNA posts photos of the Hassan Khomeini, the [grandson](#) of the founder of the Islamic Republic voting today, photos of [current](#) candidate Mohammed Gharazi, as well as [photos](#) of former candidate Gholam Reza Hadad Adel voting.
- Fars News posts a set of photos of Grand Ayatollah Makarem Shirazi [voting](#) today in the city of Qom, as well as photos of the [Chairman](#) of the Assembly of Experts, Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Mahdavi Kani, voting in a neighborhood near the University of Imam Sadegh in Tehran.
- ISNA posts six sets of photos of Iranians voting in Tehran. Set [one](#), Set [two](#), Set [three](#), Set [four](#), Set [five](#), Set [six](#).

By Hanif Zarrabi-Kashani



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