

# Iran Election Update

May 24, 2013

- Fars News [released](#) a comprehensive schedule of television campaigning air-time for all eight presidential candidates. The schedule of each candidate includes lists of the date, time, and television channels for the campaigning advertisements. Campaign ads for radio and direct radio campaigning by the candidates are also listed.
- Popular news site Asre Iran [conducted](#) an online survey asking respondents “which candidate would they choose?” (The survey is on the left side of the homepage and the results are revealed once the user clicks on a candidate). As of noon May 24, 89,286 people responded. The poll revealed Hassan Rouhani as the current frontrunner, with 34.86% of the votes, followed by Mohammad Reza Aref with 20.82%, Qalibaf with 19.46% of the votes and Jalili with 9.25%. The rest of the candidates received 6% or less. Candidate Haddad-Adel was in last place with .74% of the votes.
- During Friday prayers, the Supreme Leader’s representative at the University of Tehran, Hojatolislam Hassan Abaturabi, [said](#) “it is important for the nation that the people be informed, participate in the election, and select the fittest individual.”
- Fars News [posted](#) photos of presidential candidate Mohammed Bagher Qalibaf’s first official campaign stop in the symbolic city of Khorramshahr in the southern province of Khuzestan. He spoke in front to his supporters inside the Khorramshahr Mosque, which was a [symbol](#) of defense during the Iran-Iraq War.
- Presidential candidate Saeed Jalili held a campaign rally today in Tehran’s Shirudi stadium. Jalili’s [Twitter](#) account live-tweeted the campaign event, and during the rally, Iran’s deputy nuclear negotiator Dr. Ali Bagheri was announced as Jalili’s campaign manager, which according to Jalili’s Twitter feed caused the crowd to chant, “The real Basiji! Jalili and Bagheri!” Jalili’s personal website [released](#) photos of the rally, which reveal female and male supporters. Mehr News also [published](#) a different set of photos. Jalili’s brother Vahid Jalili and Iranian poet Alireza Ghazveh were also on hand at the event as Saeed posted a picture of them on his [Instagram](#) account. The crowd also chanted, “Our victory card is our ‘living martyrs’ (this is the Persian phrase for war veterans).”
- Presidential candidate Hassan Rouhani used his Twitter account today to post photos of his experience in the Iran-Iraq War. Rouhani posted a [photo](#) from 1985 with his political ally former president and then commander in chief of the armed forces, Hashemi Rafsanjani. Rouhani also posted a picture of himself and Rafsanjani on the [snowy](#) “western front” dated in 1987.
- Mehr News posted photos of presidential candidate and member of the 2+1 Coalition Ali Akbar-Velayati during a Friday morning campaign [rally](#) at the Haidar Nia Sports complex in Tehran. Athletes were on hand with pictures of Velayati [attached](#) to their uniforms, as well as [female](#) campaign supporters.
- Presidential candidate Mohsen Rezaei, made a campaign stop in the city of Robat Karim to speak with supporters and [said](#), “we need to focus on cultural issues and prevent social problems such as the increasing rates of divorce and drug addiction.” English news PressTV [reports](#) that Rezaei said that if elected president, “We will continue (nuclear) negotiations in the next administration, but in a constructive way. In fact, talks should be based on national interests and values of the Islamic Revolution.”

**The next update will be posted on Tuesday, May 28.**

By Hanif Zarrabi-Kashani



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

Election date is June 14, 2013.