

## Majlis security committee meets Neteq Nouri

**Tehran Times Political Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — Some members of the Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Committee met on Saturday with former Majlis speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri to discuss the post-election events, the committee member Mohammad Karami-Rad told the Mehr News Agency.

The report came after news surfaced on Friday that the committee presiding board has held separate meetings with Expediency Council Chairman Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and defeated presidential candidates Mohsen Rezaii, Mir-Hossein Mousavi, and Mahdi Karroubi.

MP Karami-Rad said these meetings have "produced acceptable results for resolving problems."

Mousavi and Karroubi have alleged vote fraud in the June 12 election.

Karami-Rad also said Judiciary chief Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi is going to enter dialogue with Mousavi on the election dispute.

Karami-Rad, the representative of the Kermanshah people in the parliament, also thanked Majlis speaker Ali Larjani for his effort to calm the tension that followed the election results.

In an interview on June 21, Larjani said the Islamic Republic system welcomes citizens' questions about the presidential election results.

Larjani partly blamed some Guardian Council members for the current crisis, who he said sided with a particular candidate.

## Roadmap necessary for Tehran-San'a all-out relations: Mottaki

**Tehran Times Political Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki stated on Friday that a roadmap is necessary for expanding economic relations between Iran and Yemen.

"Longer strides should be taken (to expand) the bilateral cooperation. This new approach needs drawing up a roadmap of the all-out economic cooperation between the two countries," he said during a meeting with Yemeni President Ali Abdallah Salih in San'a.

Mottaki added, "The high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are determined to expand relations with the brother country Yemen."

The foreign minister also pointed out, "We support the unity and solidarity of Yemen and regard this unity to the benefit of the bilateral relations."

Abdallah Salih, for his part, expressed satisfaction over the current level of ties between Tehran and San'a, adding, "All doors are open for expanding and deepening the bilateral ties."

The Yemeni president also congratulated President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for being reelected as president.

Commenting on the recent tensions in Iran over the election results, Abdallah Salih stated, "This is normal that even in Europe the loser party protests to the election result. However, all will finally accept that the winner of the election is the one who has gained the vote of the majority of the people."

He also emphasized that some media are practicing bias in this regard.

Abdallah Salih formally invited Ahmadinejad for a visit to Yemen.

# Rafsanjani says has 'endless' attachment to Leader: MP



**Tehran Times political Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — Expediency Council Chairman Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said his attachment to Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei is "endless", an MP said on Saturday.

MP Hossein Ebrahimi told the Mehr News Agency that in a recent meeting with the EC chairman, Rafsanjani said he

enjoys close relationship with the Supreme Leader and fully complies with Velayate Faghih (divinely inspired clerical rule).

In a sermon delivered at Friday prayers on June 19, Ayatollah Khamenei lauded Rafsanjani's efforts before and after the Islamic Revolution and in a reference to the presidential debates in which the incumbent president accused the families of Rafsanjani and former parliament

speaker Ali-Akbar Nateq-Nouri of financial corruption.

The Leader said, "Concerning relatives of these individuals or others, whoever has any case to raise, he should just pursue those cases through legal channels. Without proving anything, nothing should be mentioned."

After the incumbent president made such accusations Rafsanjani, the chairman of the Assembly of Experts, wrote an open letter to the Supreme Leader complaining about the accusations.

Ebrahimi said the EC chairman even said he is going to write another letter to the Supreme Leader in response to his recent remarks at Tehran Friday prayers.

The MP also said Nateq-Nouri, Rafsanjani, and losing presidential candidate Mir-Hossein Mousavi, in their meetings with Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Committee members, have all said that the current row over the presidential election results should be resolved soon.

The Majlis security committee will officially announce its conclusions at the end of this week, he added.

The presiding board of the Majlis security committee has held separate meetings with Rafsanjani, Nateq-Nouri, and defeated presidential candidates Mousavi, Mohsen Rezaii, and Mahdi Karroubi in efforts to resolve disputes over the June 12 votes.

## Iran summons Swedish ambassador over attack on embassy

**Tehran Times Political Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — Iran on Saturday summoned the Swedish ambassador, Magnus Wernstedt, to the Foreign Ministry to protest an attack on Tehran's embassy in Stockholm on Friday that led to the injury of one of the embassy staff.

Between 150 and 200 people had been holding a demonstration outside the embassy in protest at post-election incidents in Iran.

"The protest was largely peaceful except ... when an unconfirmed number of people got through the fence and attacked one of the embassy staff," said police officer Ulf Hoglund, according to the AFP news agency.

The employee was punched and kicked and received medical attention at the embassy.

Later on Saturday, Wernstedt, the Swedish ambassador to Tehran, told

the Iranian Foreign Ministry officials that he had informed the Swedish foreign minister and deputy foreign minister that Tehran was angry over the attack. The envoy said the top Swedish diplomats lamented the attack on the embassy.

Also in a telephone conversation, the Swedish deputy foreign minister assured the Iranian ambassador to Sweden that no such incident would happen again.

## 42% of prisoners are drug convicts

**Tehran Times Social Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — Drug-related convicts account for 42% of prisoners in Iran, Prosecutor General Qorban-Ali Dorri Najafabadi told worshippers before the Friday prayers at the Tehran University campus.

"42% of the country's prisoners are drug convicts," Dorri Najafabadi lamented, adding that the rate "is even higher in some provinces of the country."

The official said drug convicts comprise 65% of prisoners in the provinces of Sistan Baluchestan and South Khorassan, two provinces bordering Afghanistan.

Putting stress on the importance of crime prevention, Dorri Najafabadi urged all government and non-government



organizations to make concerted efforts to prevent crimes.

He also referred to the enemies' propaganda campaign over executions in Iran, saying most of the prisoners executed in Iran are drug smugglers.

Pointing to Iran's long borders with Afghanistan, where 93% of the world's opium is grown, he insisted on the need to beef up border controls against drug traffickers.

Opium cultivation in Afghanistan has increased over the past eight years, he lamented, calling on the international bodies to take effective measures to put strict limits on illicit drug cultivation in Afghanistan.

## 'Tehran riots control centers located in West'

**TEHRAN (IRNA)** — First Vice-President Parviz Davoodi said on Saturday that centers for instigating recent riots in Tehran were located in certain western states.

Addressing a seminar on drugs control campaign, Davoodi referred to a 85 percent (40 million) voter turnout in the June 12 10th Presidential Elections and said the auspicious day (June 12) was reminiscent of February 11, 1979 (marking victory of the Islamic Revolution) in terms of importance, public participation and glory.

Davoodi said public presence rate in presidential elections in the West is about 60 percent, while it was higher in Iran despite all threats, sanctions and problems created for the Iranian nation by the hegemonic powers over the past 30 years after triumph of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.



He said that in the elections, people showed their maximum trust and interest in the Islamic Republic establishment, showing to the world that they love their system.

Calling elections in Iran as manifestation of religious democracy, adding that democracy in Iran has been based on morals, spirituality and freedom, while in the West there is partial, limited and superficial democracy.

He added that the global arrogance is scared and terrified by the fact that their scholars and thinkers have grown fond of Iran's religious democracy.

"Through media propaganda campaign, they try to misportray elections in Iran is a fraud. The deceitful tactics of the global arrogance in connection with elections in Iran brought nothing but defeat for them," he said.

## Iran launches tourism official website

**TEHRAN** — Iranian tourism official website was officially launched here on Saturday in the presence of Vice President Esfandiar Rahim-Mashaie.

The website www.tourismiran.ir is in English and is to be offered in other

languages including Chinese, German, Japanese, French, Arabic, and Spanish in the near future.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the website, Mashaie described propagation as the best way to come onto

the tourism global market and called for tremendous efforts to introduce Iranian high culture and great civilization to the world.

Mashaie, also director of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Organization, referred to the Islamic Republic's considerable achievements and said that Iran has achieved great success in all areas, "and the success was bigger in the cultural fields."

The Iranian tourism official website, which was established in 2007, now feature the detailed information on Iranian foods and handicrafts, short films and photos, as well as hotels across the country.

## President blasts Western states' remarks on election

**TEHRAN (IRNA)** — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Saturday that the June 12 presidential election in Iran which has promoted and strengthened the government was the end of liberal democracy and liberal thoughts.

Addressing a national gathering of judicial officials, the president said, "the Iranian nation favors dialogue and wisdom as well as constructive and cultural interaction."

Referring to the recent interference in Iran's internal affairs and insulting comments of certain Western states on Iran's dealing with rioters after the 10th presidential election in the country, President Ahmadinejad said, "From now on, we will bring you to justice at any international meeting."

"How is it possible that those whose hands were stained with the blood of innocent people, are now talking about human rights and believe that they could damage Iran's Islamic system and establishment with their hollow and satanic statements and with their propaganda against Iran's clean and humane system?"

President Ahmadinejad made the remarks commenting on the recent statements of U.S. President Barack Obama about Iran's riots following the country's presidential election.

President Obama had said on Friday that the way that Tehran has dealt with those involved in recent riots in the country was "outrageous."

Stressing that Iran's electoral system was one of the most popular, safest and cleanest in the world, the president termed the remarks made by his U.S. counterpart as "far from international rules and norms and also impolite."

The president advised Western states to stop addressing the Iranian nation with impolite literature and "correct their behavior."

## Russia: No obstacle to Tehran-Moscow cooperation

**MOSCOW (IRNA)** — Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko said Saturday Russia is keen to promote ties with Iran and there is no hindrance to this end.

In an exclusive interview with IRNA correspondent, Nesterenko said Russia is not doubtful about fostering cooperation with its friendly country of Iran and it is willing to do so.

The presence of Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in the recent meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Council in Russia as well as the meeting with his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev prove that claim, he added.

The Russian foreign ministry spokesman said his country has adopted a transparent stand on Iran's presidential elections.

About Iran's peaceful nuclear program, Nesterenko said Russia does not change its stand, within the 5+1 Group's regulations, on the program which has no military aim.

The official said Russia underscores the review of Iran's nuclear activities on the basis of mutual respect without political hue and cry.

He later hoped Tehran and Moscow will further expand bilateral cooperation in the course of mutual interests.

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has extended felicitations on Iran's presidential election and supported its declared winner Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Lavrov has recently told reporters, Russia's congratulations on Iran's presidential election have not been "symbolic".

He has also said Iran would solve the related issues through the country's rules and laws.

## Iran criticizes U.S. over visa denial

Iran's Ambassador to the UN Mohammad Khazaei criticizes the U.S. over denying Iran's first vice president and members of his delegation visas to attend a UN conference.

"I am indeed delivering this speech on behalf of Dr. (Parviz) Davoudi, first vice-president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who along with members of the Iranian delegation was not able to participate in the conference," Khazaei told the UN meeting on the World Economic Crisis on Friday.

Khazaei added, "Their entry visas were not issued by the host country."

This is while a U.S. State Department official is reportedly looking into the matter.

The United States, which is the host country of the UN headquarters in New York, is obliged to issue visas for members of the UN delegations, in line with a 1947 pact with the United Nations.

It remains unclear why the visas were not issued for the delegation, or whether it had anything to do with the United States' position on the outcome of Iran's recent presidential elections.

Although Washington has generally issued visas for Iranian delegates, it has on occasion refused them entry. At times, Iranian professionals and sporting teams have even received such treatment.

Last year, the United States denied visas to members of Iran's blind weightlifting team who were hoping to attend an international tournament in Miami.

(Source: Press TV)

## CONDOLENCES

We would like to offer our heartfelt condolences on the sad death of Mr. Mohsen Akhlaqi to his respected family. May God rest his soul in eternal peace.

Tehran Times Advertising Dept.