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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

The Right Man to Head the Presidency

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The spectacular victory of the Iranian people in the 13th presidential polls of the Islamic Republic has brought to power a familiar face with an unblemished record of service to the nation, much to the horror of the enemies of humanity, especially the US.

This is clear by the loud moaning of the media horns in North America and West Europe where leaders of the regimes with deep animosity towards Islam and the Iranian people, know for sure that Ayatollah Seyyed Ibrahim Raees-os-Sadaat – popular as Raisi – is serious about ending American terrorism, whether political or economic, in this part of the world.

The Iranian electorate thus made the right decision to give a massive mandate as the country's new president to the man who for the past two years as Head of the Judiciary has successfully resolved many outstanding issues, preceded by his decades long experiences in various judicial institutions, with focus on the rule of law, social justice, and development of national industries.

The nation is now looking forward to President Raisi, who after 45 days will officially take charge of the country's executive affairs, to start endeavours on improving the economic conditions of the people with emphasis upon "Economy of Resistance", as stressed by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution.

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei was thus absolutely right in his Saturday's message in hailing the Iranian people as the "great winners" of the June 18 elections, which he called "an epic turnout" – at a time when the Covid-19 pandemic is widespread and many families unwilling to take the risk of venturing out of their houses.

Under such circumstances, the fact that almost 50 percent of the eligible voters braved Coronavirus and this year's scorching summer heat to cast their votes at the ballot boxes throughout the country was indeed a courageous step and proof of the faith of the masses in the dynamic Islamic Republic system.

Another important point to note is that Raisi's clear cut victory, judging from the 18 million votes or almost 70 percent of the ballot papers so far counted, in addition to the support he enjoys from millions more whose natural fears of Coronavirus prevented them from coming out of their houses to vote, is without the least doubt the triumph of a transcendental figure popular among people of all walks of life, rather than of a factional figure.

The composition of the cabinet is of vital importance, since the persons chosen to head the various ministries on due approval of their revolutionary and related credentials by a majority vote in the parliament, should have the same commitment as the President, to the ideals of the Islamic Revolution and the iron resolve to end US meddling in our part of the world.

To sum up, Raisi's victory is the triumph of the real aspirations of the Iranian people in ensuring the country's independence, peace, stability and its march towards the peaks of progress, along with the iron-resolve to continue efforts to develop nuclear energy, improve deterrent missile technology, and having an active presence in the countries of the region and beyond in order to save them from terrorism and American hegemony.

Senior Researchers:

Iran Has the Strongest Democracy in West Asia



People stand in queues to vote in the presidential election at a polling station in Kerman where Iran's legendary commander General Qassem Soleimani is buried on June 18, 2021.

TEHRAN -- The Islamic Republic of Iran has the strongest democracy in the West Asia region and Iranians determine the destiny of their country solely by participating in various elections, a political analyst says.

Sam Mahdi Torabi, the director of the Resalat Strategic Studies Institute of Qom, made the comments during Press TV's The Debate program, which was aired on Friday night.

Iran is "the only country in the region where people matter at every level of governance, beginning from the supreme leadership all the way down to the local level. It is people who decide who runs the country and what policies are made

for the future," Torabi said.

"The whole Islamic republic is based on the participation of the people. ... On all levels, the destiny of the country is determined by the vote of the people," he said.

Torabi also said that enemies of Iran do not care who comes to power in the Islamic Republic as the president of the country. "The important thing to them is that whoever comes to power [in Iran] is put under pressure."

Foad Izadi, a political analyst and university professor, also from Iran, said at Press TV's The Debate program that Iran's enemies wanted to delegitimize Iran's elections and the reason behind such policy

is that "they want to pressure Iranian people."

"By questioning the legitimacy of Iran's elections, they can follow that policy," he noted.

People around the world "realize that majority of Iranians trust the system of government in Iran that they go and stand in polls, sometimes for hours, to cast their ballots. This shows that the government has the legitimacy," Izadi added.

Iran held its 13th presidential election on Friday. In parallel, the participants also voted in City and Village Councils mid-term Assembly of Experts and parliamentary elections.

Peace in Afghanistan Discussed With Top Diplomats

TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif says the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to play an effective role in restoring stability to Afghanistan.

He made the remarks in a meeting with his Afghan counterpart Muhammad Hanif Atmar on the sidelines of the Antalya Diplomacy Forum in Turkey on Friday.

Zarif stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation among all political groups in Afghanistan to restore stable security in the country.

He expressed Iran's readiness to hold a session of the two countries' joint economic commission as soon as possible.

Atmar, for his part, thanked Iran for dispatching medical and health assistance to Afghanistan and called for the continuation of such an interaction, particularly during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Afghan foreign minister pointed to the latest security situation in his country and said Kabul is ready to cooperate with Tehran to improve border security and hold a session of the joint commission at the earliest.

Violence has surged across Afghanistan since the United States missed a withdrawal deadline it had agreed with the Taliban in Doha, Qatar, last year.

All foreign troops were supposed to have been withdrawn by May 1, but U.S. President Joe Biden pushed that date back to September 11. The decision caused intra-Afghan peace

talks — between the Taliban and Kabul — to be suspended.

The Taliban warned that the passing of the May 1 deadline for a complete withdrawal "opened the way for" the militants to take every counteraction they deemed appropriate against foreign forces in the country.

Fighting is now raging in 26 of the 34 provinces of Afghanistan.

A wave of assassinations has also hit the nation, many of them targeting government employees, health workers, media and civil society members.

Earlier in the day, the Iranian foreign minister held separate meetings with High Representative of the European Union Josep Borrell as well as his Venezuelan and Croatian foreign ministers Jorge Arreaza and Gordan Grlić Radman, respectively.

Zarif also called for close cooperation between Tehran and Dushanbe in ensuring regional stability and preventing insecurity in neighboring Afghanistan.

In a meeting with his Tajik counterpart on the sidelines of the Antalya Diplomacy Forum on Saturday, Zarif highlighted Iran's resolve to broaden friendly ties with Tajikistan.

He also emphasized the necessity for cooperation between Iran and Tajikistan in the battle with the moves aimed at destabilizing the region.

It is necessary for Iran and Tajikistan to cooperate closely to prevent insecurity in Afghanistan, Zarif said.

He further expressed gratitude

to Tajik President Emomali Rahmon for paving the way for the release of two Iranian nationals jailed in Tajikistan.

For his part, the senior Tajik diplomat hailed Iran's valuable stances on regional developments, especially in Afghanistan.

Sirojiddin Muhiddin also stressed the need for collaboration between Tajikistan and Iran in the bilateral and regional spheres.

Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shah Mehmood Qureshi also met with his Iranian counterpart to discuss regional situation and bilateral ties.

"We shared positivity over trajectory of shared cooperation, including on MOU on border sustenance markets and opening of additional border crossing points," Qureshi said in a statement.

He said there have been positive developments in Iran-Pakistan relations in various fields in recent years.

The foreign minister said MoU to open markets and additional border crossings on border will boost public relations.

"These measures will improve the living standards of the people of border areas by providing employment opportunities," he said.

Qureshi briefed his Iranian counterpart on Pakistan's position on the Afghan peace process and bilateral relations with Afghanistan.

Qureshi had paid an official visit to Iran in April this year.

The Holy Qur'an



The idolaters have no right to visit the mosques of Allah while bearing witness to unbelief against themselves, these it is whose doings are null, and in the fire shall they abide.

The Holy Qur'an (9.17)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:06
Evening (Maghreb)	20:44
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:02
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	05:48

Lowest COVID Deaths Recorded Since April

TEHRAN – Iran on Saturday recorded 108 new deaths from the new coronavirus in the past 24 hours, the lowest death toll since April 1, the Ministry of Health and Medical Education said.

Health Ministry spokeswoman Sima Sadat Lari said the deaths took the overall toll to at 82,854.

At least 6,448 new cases were also detected during the period, taking the country's caseload to 3,086,900, she said.

Of the new cases detected since Friday, 931 patients were admitted to hospital. At least 2,736,000 patients have recovered so far or been discharged from hospital, while 3,307 remain in intensive care units.

The spokeswoman also said more than 22.32 million coronavirus tests have been carried out in Iran so far and over 4.37 million people have received the first dose of coronavirus vaccine.

Minister of health Saeed Namaki said on Tuesday that Iran will become one of the world's biggest producers of the coronavirus vaccine by the end of summer.

On Monday, Iran gave authorization for emergency use of COVIran Barekat, the homegrown vaccine for the coronavirus named after the pharmaceutical group that has developed it.

Namaki said the emergency use of another vaccine developed jointly by Cuba and the Pasteur Institute of Iran will be authorized next week.

The COVIran vaccine underwent three stages of clinical trials, the last of which involved 20,000 people in the cities of Tehran, Bushehr, Shiraz, Karaj, Mashhad and Isfahan.

Iran has already granted emergency use authorization to Russian-made Sputnik V vaccine, Covaxin made by India's Bharat Biotech, Oxford/AstraZeneca developed by Russia's R-Pharm Group, and the AstraZeneca-SKBio made in South Korea.