

Anatomy of Iran's system of government

ELECTED INSTITUTIONS

UNELECTED INSTITUTIONS

PRESIDENT: *Mahmoud Ahmadinejad*

Heads executive branch of power, elected for four years, can serve maximum of two terms. Ensures constitution is implemented



CABINET: 21 ministers



PARLIAMENT
290 members of *Majlis* elected for four-year terms. Speaker is *Ali Larijani*, former chief nuclear negotiator



ASSEMBLY OF EXPERTS
Conservative body of 86 clerics elected for eight-year terms. Appoints and can dismiss Supreme Leader. Chaired by *Hashemi Rafsanjani*

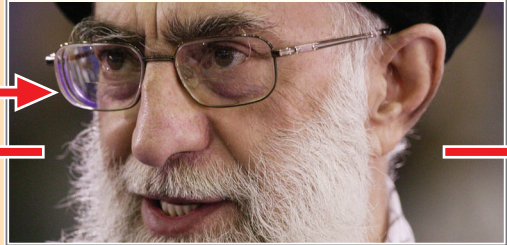


COUNCIL OF GUARDIANS

Influential body of 12 clerics, consisting of six theologians appointed by Supreme Leader and six jurists nominated by judiciary and approved by parliament. Has power to veto parliament if legislation deemed to conflict with Islamic law. Headed by *Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati*

SUPREME LEADER: *Ayatollah Ali Khamenei*

Appointed for life, has final word on all matters of state, including confirmation of president's election. Succeeded *Ayatollah Khomeini* in 1989



ARMED FORCES

Includes Revolutionary Guard, headed by *Mohammad Ali Jafari*, and regular forces under joint general command



HEAD OF JUDICIARY

Ensures Islamic law is enforced and defines legal policy. Currently *Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahradi*



EXPEDIENCY COUNCIL

Legislates in disputes between parliament and Guardian Council. Current Secretary is *Mohsen Rezaei*



ELECTORATE

Can bar candidates from standing in elections to presidency, parliament or Assembly of Experts

Directly elected

Appointed or Approved

Vets candidates