

# Reformist drops out of Iran presidential race

The decision by *Mohammad Reza Aref* to withdraw from the upcoming presidential election is seen as an attempt to bolster the reformist vote in favour of moderate cleric *Hassan Rohani*

## CANDIDATES STILL RUNNING



◀ **Saeed Jalili:** Nuclear negotiator since 2007. Hardline conservative close to Supreme Leader *Ayatollah Ali Khamenei*



**Hassan Rohani:** Former nuclear negotiator known for conciliatory approach. Backed by former president *Mohammad Khatami*, head of reformist movement ▶



◀ **Ali Akbar Velayati:** Former foreign minister and senior adviser to Khamenei. Traditional conservative but maintains ties to former president *Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani*



**Mohsen Rezaei:** Former Revolutionary Guards chief. Wanted by Argentina for 1994 bombing of Jewish centre in Buenos Aires ▶



◀ **Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf:** Charismatic Tehran Mayor, former national police chief and pragmatic conservative



**Mohammad Qarazi:** Oil minister in 1980s and post minister under Rafsanjani in 1990s. Running on anti-inflation platform ▶