

## **Ayatollah Khamenei casting ballots in Iran's elections - 26 /Feb/ 2016**

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, Leader of the Islamic Revolution, cast his ballots by attending mobile polling booth No. 110 at the Imam Khomeini Hosseiniyeh in the first minutes after the start of voting for the 10th term of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) and the 5th term of the Assembly of Experts on Friday.

After casting his vote, Ayatollah Khamenei in his remarks said that participation in elections was both an obligation and a right for the nation, adding that taking part in elections “is a big and good act, which is always of significance, and under certain circumstances it becomes more important and in Islamic teachings and instructions, being a pioneer in and acting rapidly in doing good deeds has been [strongly] recommended.”

Underscoring the need for taking rapid action in fulfilling this national obligation and exercise of this right, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution noted: “As I have already said, all the Iranian people, everyone who loves Iran and the Islamic Republic and the national glory, dignity and greatness, must participate in elections.”

Ayatollah Khamenei called on people to take part in elections with goodwill and with the intention of creating enhanced credit for the country, realizing complete independence of the country, and responding to national honor, saying: “The outcome of participation in elections is national honor and independence, and we have enemies who have a covetous eye [on our nation], and [therefore,] elections must be such that they would disappoint and dishearten the enemy.”

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution noted: “People must be careful and vote with insight and open eyes, and [know that] this action is among good deeds which, in addition to short-term and long-term rewards in this world, will be rewarded in the Afterworld as well.”

Ayatollah Khamenei expressed hope that as was the case in previous elections, the Iranian nation would successfully turn out in these elections and pave the way for the progress and dignity of the country.