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Thu Aug 13, 2009 | 16:06

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Egypt 'cannot confirm congratulating Ahmadinejad'

Wed, 12 Aug 2009 17:44:09 GMT

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Despite strained relations between Tehran and Cairo, the website of Iran's president said Tuesday that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had congratulated his Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on his re-election.

Egypt has denied reports claiming that the country's president has congratulated President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on his disputed re-election.

The website of the presidency of the Islamic Republic of Iran said on Tuesday that the Egyptian president, Hosni Mubarak, congratulated his Iranian counterpart over his re-election.

In a written message, Mubarak praised the victory of Ahmadinejad in the 10th presidential election, the Iranian president's website said.

Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hossam Zaki, however, told *Radiofarda* on Wednesday that he could not confirm the authenticity of the report. He did not elaborate on the issue.

Regional heavyweights Egypt and Iran broke off diplomatic relations almost 30 years ago after former Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel.

Egypt also granted political asylum to the deposed Shah of Iran in 1979.

The Egyptian official's refusal to confirm the authenticity of the congratulatory message comes as Iran's opposition continues to reject the election results, maintaining that the vote was "rigged."

Western states -- including the United States, Germany, France and the UK -- have also joined forces in announcing that they will not congratulate the Iranian president.

President Ahmadinejad, who won the June 12 election with a massive margin, was quick to send back a strong message to the West, saying that he is "not awaiting" their messages of recognition or congratulation.

"We heard that some leaders in the West had decided to recognize but not congratulate the new government ... Well, no one in Iran is waiting for your messages," he said. "Iranians will neither value your scowling and bullying nor will they pay attention to your smiles and greetings."

CS/MD

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Thu, 13 Aug 2009 15:33:51 GMT
Mubarak did welcome him

@Adam

Thu, 13 Aug 2009 15:31:54 GMT
As an Arab, you should be ashamed that all the countries are run by dictators. Try democracy, you might enjoy it.

JOKE

Thu, 13 Aug 2009 11:06:36 GMT
LA LA LA LA! TODY PRESS TV HAS DELETED MY COMMENTS 10 TIMES! SO,
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