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'Election fraud claims aimed at defying law'

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Iran's Judiciary Chief says defying the law in the aftermath of the presidential elections has cost the country dearly.

Ayatollah Sadeq Larijani said that unfortunately, breaking the law is no longer a taboo and people witnessed that violating the law caused undesirable incidents and cost the country dearly, Fars news agency reported.

He added that some people tried to evade the law through "the baseless allegations" that the election was rigged.

"Of course some offences were committed when [police tried to quell] the post-election unrest and some offences that took place in detention centers tarnished the image of the state," he added.

Ayatollah Sadeq Larijani stressed that the case of the mistreatment was being investigated "carefully and seriously."

The two defeated presidential candidates claimed that the July presidential elections were rigged with some of their supporters staging rallies that caused the unrest.

However, the Guardian Council, the body overseeing the election, dismissed the allegation and declared Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as the president with 24 million votes.

Officials put the turnout at 40 million, the highest in the history of the Islamic Republic.

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