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Iran prosecutor warns Mousavi

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Iran's chief prosecutor indicated Tuesday that Mir Hossein Mousavi and other opposition figures could be hauled before court, as dozens of people on motorcycles surrounded the office of the ex-premier.

"I declare that from today on there will be no tolerance," ILNA news agency quoted Gholam Hossein Mohsen Ejeie as saying.

He warned that action would also be taken against Tehran's prosecutor if he fails to act against those who "disrupt the order in the city everyday" -- in a likely reference to opposition leaders such as Mousavi and Mehdi Karroubi.

Fars news agency said that when reporters asked Ejeie specifically whether Mousavi and Karroubi would be tried, he replied, "We are required to defend public rights."

"We will warn and take other necessary measures even against the Tehran prosecutor if he is not sensitive about those who violate people's rights and disrupt the order in the city every day," he said.

According to ILNA, Ejeie when asked about the demand by 100 Iranian lawmakers that Mousavi be prosecuted for his alleged role in unrest that erupted after the June 12 presidential poll, said his office was looking into it.

"We have received the first complaint but not the second one, we have referred to the Tehran prosecutor the issues which academics had complained about and our concerns about public rights and we hope it is investigated," he said.

Mousavi lost to Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and claims the election was rigged to ensure the hardliner's return to power.

Soon after the poll result, his supporters took to streets and in the ensuing violence dozens were killed and thousands arrested.

Meanwhile, dozens of people on motorcycles surrounded Mousavi's office on Tuesday and prevented him from stepping out for several hours, witnesses and his website reported.

All the entrances of the Academy of Fine Arts, located in central Tehran and which Mousavi heads, were surrounded by motorcyclists, a source working inside the building told AFP.

Mousavi's website Kaleme.com also reported the incident, saying the opponents were shouting slogans against him.

A witness told AFP that around 200 people had surrounded the gates of the building.

Kaleme.com said a crowd of 30 to 40 motorcyclists in plain-clothes had surrounded the building where Mousavi, who has outraged the country's hardliners by challenging the re-election of Ahmadinejad, works.

It said Mousavi had approached the motorcyclists when he wanted to leave the building and said to them, "You have a task. Carry out your mission... hit me, kill me or threaten me."

Later on Tuesday Kaleme updated its report saying Mousavi had left the office after the crowd "retreated". It did not report any untoward incident.

A group of hardline vigilantes attacked Mousavi's wife during anti-government protests in universities on the Student Day commemoration Monday, an opposition website reported on Tuesday.

Mousavi's wife Zahra Rahnavard, who is a professor at Tehran University, was approached by a group of women and insulted on Monday as she was about to attend the Student Day ceremony, Mowjcamp.com reported quoting a witness.

"Security helped Rahnavard to leave the campus, but these people followed her and pepper-sprayed her from a close distance," it said, identifying her attackers as "militia forces" -- an

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allusion to hardline Islamist Basij.

Rahnavard was hurt in the eyes and lungs, it said.

Fresh anti-Ahmadinejad protests were staged in Iran on Monday, many ending in clashes with police and members of the Basij.

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