A first-time voter, his face dabbed with his party’s color, celebrates victory as the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), headed by Narendra Modi, took India’s biggest election victory in the last 30 years.
This photo was taken in the Bamyan province of Afghanistan during the first round of the 2014 presidential election. One of the Independent Election Commission workers is showing the votes to a candidate’s observers and the other is tallying votes.
Native people of Andoas analyze the electoral register for Guatemalan elections. If upon review this list contains a citizen that is not registered, a double entry, someone who has died, or someone who is not in the district, observers can submit comments to correct the mistake.
Youth participants decorate kites to promote their voting rights during IFES and the Election Commission of Sri Lanka's “Kites for Rights” event.
This picture was taken during the 2015 municipal elections in Morondava, a town in Western Madagascar. This gentleman has no hands and was among the first who came to vote in this polling station.
These Fulani women are patiently queuing to get registered to vote. In Kwara state, Nigeria, where the photo was taken, people of Fulani ethnicity are a minority among the much larger Yoruba and Hausa groups.
Officials check ballots and seals in Pakistan.
Typically, illiterate Kenyan communities have been excluded from participating in democratic processes. However, mock ballot exercises, as pictured here, teach community members how to identify key features of a ballot and overcome the fear of using unfamiliar writing utensils.
A citizen ponders the abundance of election propaganda plastered on a wall in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
Male voters patiently form queues to cast a much-awaited vote in the first of five election rounds in Funtua, Katsina State, northeastern Nigeria in March 2011. Lines began to form at 6 a.m.
The May 2015 general elections marked the third elections for the House of Representatives for the Autonomous Bougainville Government, and the fourth elections for president since the Bougainville Peace Agreement was signed in August 2001.
During local elections in South Tangerang, Indonesia, a poll worker displays a ballot paper that had been properly punched by witnesses as required during vote counting.
Seven Sudanese observers watch over a collection of ballots.
In 2014, young Tunisians like Mohammed were visibly elated at the opportunity to elect Tunisia’s next president and expressed hope for the future of democracy in their country.
Women voters proudly display their identity cards while in queue to cast their vote in local elections in Kathmandu, Nepal.
In this photo, a woman casts her ballot at a polling station in the village of Kyzyl Birlik, outside the Kyrgyz capital of Bishkek.
Women show their support for presidential candidate Alassane Ouattara in Tiebbisou, Côte d'Ivoire, in 2010.
This elderly woman is voting via a mobile ballot box during Georgia’s 2013 presidential election.
Libyans voted in their first election in 40 years on July 7, 2012. In this photo, this Libyan woman proudly displays her ink-stained finger after casting her ballot.
To learn more about how IFES promotes democracy around the world, please visit www.IFES.org.