

Jalalabad Chance of Rain 21°C 14°C	Ghazni Chance of Rain 17°C 3°C	Kandahar Partly Cloudy 27°C 11°C	Mazar Chance of Rain 13°C 7°C	Herat Partly Cloudy 20°C 9°C	Bamayan Chance of Rain 7°C -3°C	Kabul Chance of Rain 17°C 7°C
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Weather Forecast Brought to You by MTN Afghanistan

15 Historic Artifacts Registered



CHARIKAR - The Information and Culture department in central Parwan province on Tuesday announced registration of 14 historic artifacts in different parts of the province.

Earlier, 25 historical artifacts had been registered in the province. Sayed Saboor Mehdi, director culture and tourism, said Masjid-e-Ahangrana, Sufh-e-Khwajaha, Haus-e-Lokha, Guzar-e-Charso, Bazar-e-Kohne, Bazar-e-Charmgari and other places have been registered.

He said these places have been marked over a month after proper evaluation. He presented the following information regarding these relics:

Bazar-e-Misgari:

With 2,000 years history, this place is located in northeastern part of Charikar town. This place was established in Alexander's time. It is famous for producing copper appliances.

Bazar-e-Ahangran:

This bazaar has 2,000 years of history and was built next to Bazar-e-Misgari. Lethal weapons such as swords and knives are being made here.

Masjid-e-Ahangran:

This mosque is located to the north of Charikar town and has been renamed to Hazrat-e-Dawood Mosque. This worship place has 1,200 year history.

Suf-e-Khwajaha:

This yard is 12 square metre and was built next to Bazar-e-Ahangran around 800 years back. Haji Sikandar, a local elder, said this place was built by a person known as Sayed Jafar Mujaad.

He added Mujaad built four streams in Charikar and was gathering residents in this area for advice. (Pajhwok)

Relations with Pakistan on the Mend: President

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Monday said Pakistan that had been involved in a state of undeclared hostility in Afghanistan in the past, but a new window of cooperation between the neighbours had been opened recently.

During their meeting at the Presidential Palace in Kabul, Ghani also briefed Germany's Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Michael Koch on his recent week-long to the United States of America (USA). ...*(More on P4)...(8)*



Industrial Festival Opens to Promote Domestic Production

KABUL - The National Industrial Festival opened in the Loya Jirga tent in Kabul this week, presenting an opportunity for Afghan businesses from around the country to showcase their products in hopes of expanding their presence in domestic markets.

Participants in the trade show praised the Afghanistan Investment Supporting Agency's (AISA) efforts to promote increased reliance on domestic goods rather than imports, as



has been the case traditionally. In the presence of President Ashraf Ghani, who visited the fair, they called on the government to continue industrial development and domestic product promotion. "We should prove our capability of ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Pakistan Won't Bring Taliban to Negotiation Table: Muslimyar

KABUL - Still distrusting Pakistan's commitments to Afghan peace process, the Senate Chairman Fazl Hadi Muslimyar on Tuesday said that Pakistan would not bring the Taliban leaders to the negotiation table.

"Bringing the Taliban to the negotiation table is just an imagination; it's impossible; it's insanity," Muslimyar said.



Criticizing the government for hurrying in trusting Pakistan's commitments, Muslimyar expressed that Afghanistan's hope regarding Pakistan's honesty was pointless.

His remarks came as the peace talks with the Taliban were expected to be initiated in the early March, but now that the month has finished, there has been so sign of progress so far in this respect. ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Journalist Beaten by Police



QALAT - Police in southern Zabul province have severely beaten an Afghan journalist. Ahmad Wali Sarhadi a freelance journalist who is also the head of Zabul Independent Media Center (ZIMC) says he was beaten by 12 policemen after he published a report about the misbehavior of police.

He further said that Shahbaz, a local shopkeeper in Qalat city, was harassed and harshly beaten by police last week and after publishing the report police severely beaten him too.

Wali Sarhadi who is also contributing with Khaama Press from Zabul province says that the reason he was beaten by police is the report of the misbehavior he published.

Ghulam Sakhi Rogh Lewanay, provincial police chief says that one police has been detained in this regard who is currently in jail. Rogh Lewanay said there was no conspiracy from police to beat ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Daikundi Residents Protest against Mubaligh Brothers



KABUL - Some residents of central Daikundi province on Tuesday protested in front of the parliament building in Kabul against what they called illegal activities of strongmen in the district.

Tor Mohammad Haidari, one of the protestors, alleged Hameed Mubaligh and Baqir Mubaligh and their other brothers had created trouble in Ashtarli district on daily basis.

He claimed: "The government could not curb the activities of these armed people." The Mubaligh brothers extorted money from some farmers and kidnapped daughters of those who could not pay.

Haidari said the government could not stop the people because they were well-connected. However, he did not name the government officials supporting them.

Khalifa Musa, another resident, accused the men of killing his 19-year-old son without any reason last year. He claimed a lot of families had to leave their homes due to insecurity and threats from the brothers.

More than 150 families had been forced to move to Kabul, he revealed. "We have no choice but to leave everything behind if the government doesn't pay any attention ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

KSA Donates 54 Tonnes of Dates to Afghans

KABUL - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) donated 54 tonnes of dates to Afghanistan through the World Food Programme (WFP), an official said on Tuesday.

Mohammad Alhaq Albani, director of the Saudi finance ministry, and Claude Jibidar, WFP representative for Afghanistan, signed an agreement in this regard in Kabul.

Albani told reporters the dates would be distributed to school students in Badakhshan, Nimroz and Nuristan provinces.

Last year, he said the WFP also distributed aid to 3.6 percent of Afghans and the process would continue in the future. (Pajhwok)

Weesa Orders Swoop on Amulet Sales, Sorcery

KANDAHAR CITY - The governor of southern Kandahar province on Tuesday asked police to crack down on amulet sales, sorcery and other superstitious practices with grave social consequences.

Chairing a meeting on the security situation in the province at his office here, Dr. Toryalai Weesa called for curbing dodgy activities of amulet sellers, faith-healers and magicians.

He also noted with concern the increasing presence of dancing boys in marriage parties, calling the practice

inconsistent with Afghanistan's cultural and religious values.

The governor went on to underscore security of educational institute, saying students should not be allowed under any circumstances to enter schools and universities with arms.

Weesa praised police for improvement in the overall security environment in the city. However, he hastened to explain there was still room for more measures.

He linked progress on the security front to better police ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Kunduz Governor Threatens to Quit Over Illegal Groups

KUNDUZ CITY - The Kunduz governor said illegal armed groups posed a serious challenge to the law and order situation in northern Kunduz province and threatened to resign if his calls fell on deaf ears.

Mohammad Omar Safi said he had submitted a set of suggestions to the authorities in Kabul and if not accepted, he would tender his resignation. Safi said some illegal armed groups, supported by of-

ficials in Kabul, were the main impediment in the way of development in the province.

Without naming any group, Safi said he had asked the government to help his administration curb activities of such groups.

He said the groups extorted money from residents and officials in districts. Local officials could not counter them and sometimes they had to even cooperate with them. ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Doubts Cast on University Entry Test Result

KABUL - Recent entry test results show 79 percent students among 1,000 participants obtaining above 339 marks belong to northern Balkh province.

Among 1,000 brilliant students, 792 belong to Balkh, 133 hail from capital Kabul, 27 from Herat, nine from Takhar, seven from Sar-i-Pul, nine from Faryab, six from Ghazni, three from Jawzjan, six from Farah, two from Nangarhar, two from Daikundi and one each



from Uruzgan, Baghlan, Parwan and Maidan Wardak provinces. As many as 226,988 high school grad-

uates appeared in last fall's Kankor exam, with 18,808 students from Balkh ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Senate Oks Law on Wedding Dress, Guest Numbers

KABUL - The Meshrano Jirga on Tuesday approved a draft law banning un-Islamic dress at wedding parties and limiting the number of guests to 500.

Drafted by the judicial commission of the Wolesi Jirga (lower house), the legislative measure had been referred to the Senate for approval on January 7, 2014.

Mohiuddin Munsif, the commission head, hoped the law would help revive Afghan culture, discourage prohibitively high dowry, prevent moral corruption and cement couple relationships.

Based on the draft law, a maximum of 500 wedding guests could be invited and



such functions will have to conclude by 3pm. Night wedding parties will have to end till 11pm.

A wedding hall owner violating the law would be fined 30,000 afghanis for the first time. A second violation would entail the wedding hall's licence cancellation, Munsif warned. But a lawmaker from northern

Baghlan province, Faisal Sadiqi, believed limiting the number of guests could damage investments in the country.

In response, Munsif said: "I agree that well-off people can afford to invite more guests but others people cannot. This law is applicable to all people. I don't think it would affect investment." Under the draft law, ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

ANA Brigade Blamed for Civilian Casualties

GHAZNI CITY - A number of residents on Tuesday accused the 3rd Afghan National Army (ANA) corps of causing civilian casualties during an ongoing offensive, a charge vehemently rejected by the Ministry of Defence.

Led by the ANA, the offensive -- codenamed Nasrat -- is underway in Andar and Deh Yak districts to purge the localities of anti-state elements. Tens of rebels and 70 civilians have reportedly suffered casualties.

Locals and tribal elders said the third brigade of 203rd Thunder Corps had hand in civilian casualties. Dozens of tribal elders

from the two districts visited the governor's house for the third time to register their complaints.

Haji Abdul Ahad, an elder from Andar district, said the anti-insurgent campaigns in the two districts had inflicted more casualties on civilians.

Locals did not need any more the brigade, he said, adding they were not against the operation but they were complaining about the unfair approach of Commander Ghulam Haider Nekpi.

Roohullah, another resident of Deh Yak district, alleged ANA soldiers intentionally ...*(More on P4)...(16)*