

<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 29°C 16°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Clear 21°C 16°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Clear 31°C 16°C	<b>Mazar</b> Clear 27°C 16°C	<b>Herat</b> Partly Cloudy 28°C 14°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Clear 13°C 1°C	<b>Kabul</b> Clear 23°C 9°C
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# Ghani Orders Probe into Khost Attack, Corruption

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has ordered the creation of two separate teams to investigate a recent suicide attack at a protest rally and administrative corruption in southeastern Khost province. The president issued the directives at a meeting with tribal elders and influential figures, who he had sent to Khost to express solidarity with families of the victims and provide them with urgent relief on his behalf. The elders, who called on the president at the Presidential Palace in Kabul on Wednesday, told the president that they had extended condolences to the bereaved families ... (More on P4)...(8)



## Daikundi Resident's Protest over Irresponsible Armed Men



NELLI - Hundreds of residents in the Ashtarlay district of Daikundi province protested over what they call the presence and harassment of irresponsible armed men. They have as a result called on the National Unity Government (NGU) to deal with the issue. Protesters gathered Wednesday in front of the Great Mosque in Ashtarlay. They say the presence of these men poses a serious threat to local security. However the district's deputy governor Daikundi Habibullah Radmanesh rejects the claims and says that there have been no reports of harassment by such men in the area. (Tolonews)

## Zulfiqar Military Operation Comes to an End

KABUL - The 50-day Zulfiqar military operation in the Sangin district of Helmand province officially ended on Wednesday and left hundreds of insurgents dead, security officials said. Afghanistan National Army (ANA) commander Abdul Khaliq said at a press conference in Sangin district that the Zulfiqar operation resulted in the deaths of at least 418 armed insurgents. According to Khaliq 93 security personnel died and seven ... (More on P4)...(9)

## District Chief Detained for Misusing Authority



KHOST CITY - The appellant court in southeastern Khost province on Wednesday said the Tanai district administrative chief had been arrested and was being investigated for misusing his authority. Attorney at the court, Mohammad Shoaib Sabit, told a press conference that the district chief, ... (More on P4)...(10)

## Campaign to Promote Reading Habit Kicked-Off



KABUL - In order to promote the culture of reading, more than 3,000 newspapers and magazines were distributed to passersby in the capital Kabul on Wednesday. Members of the "Rawande 3rd Afghanistan" movement unleashed the campaign under: "We accomplish our duty, how about you?" came out on Kabul streets distributing newspapers and magazines for free. Ehsanullah Tahiri, the chief of the movement, said from an early age people were not being persuaded to read, rather they got busy watching television channels, soap operas and films. ... (More on P4)...(12)

## Qadir under Fire for Meeting Cabinet Picks

KABUL - Some Wolesi Jirga members on Wednesday accused first deputy speaker Haji Zahir Qadir and a parliamentary group "Karwan-i-Solha" of receiving bribes from ministers-designate to award them the trust vote. Iqbal Safi, a lower house member from Kapisa province, claimed Qadir, a powerful lawmaker from eastern Nangarhar province, had invited some cabinet nominees to a meeting and assured them of voting in their favour. He alleged Qadir had already assured the president that his cabinet picks ... (More on P4)...(11)



## Defense Minister-Designate Ludin Withdraws Nomination

KABUL - Lt. Gen. Mohammad Afzal Ludin, minister-designate for the Ministry of Defense (MoD), has withdrawn his nomination, Presidential Palace said Wednesday. Last Monday, President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani nominated Gen. Ludin as defense minister. However, the statement ... (More on P4)...(13)



## 600 Criminal Cases Registered Last Year

KANDAHAR CITY - As many as 600 criminal cases, most of them robberies, have been recorded in southern Kandahar province last solar year that ended on March 21, an official said on Tuesday. Crime branch chief at the provincial police headquarters, Abdul Rahim Alikhel, told Pajhwok Afghan News the cases included murders, sexu-



al assaults, adultery and other crimes, but most of them were related to robberies. Up to 678 individuals, including nine women and 27 children, had been detained in connection with 473 cases, but those involved in 127 cases remained at large. Theft ... (More on P4)...(14)

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