

(1) Mujahiddin...

entered Kabul and took over from Russia-backed Afghan president Dr. Najibullah. But soon rival jihadi leaders entered a power struggle that sparked bloody clashes between Mujahideen groups. More than 60,000 people were reportedly killed in these internal fights in Kabul alone.

Since the collapse of Dr. Najibullah's government, the victory has been celebrated in Kabul and other provinces of the country.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Dr. Abdullah Abdullah addressed a gathering at Presidential Palace that the victory was a huge change on global level because as a result of the victory, not only Afghanistan was freed from occupation, but other countries were also freed from the slavery of the red troops.

The independence of Afghanistan, protection of Islamic and national values, establishment of Afghan government, security and national prosperity were the goals of Jihad (holy war) in Afghanistan.

"But the current war by enemies of Afghanistan against Afghans is in fact serious crime against Islam and the nation. Killing of innocent people, destruction of history and culture of a country, genocides and destruction of the country, is not permitted in the holy religion of Islam," Abdullah said.

While insisting on national unity, he said "we have to jointly fight against the enemies and clearly declare our stance against them. It is our religious and national duty to support our heroes 'security personnel'."

Second Vice President Mohammad Sarwar Danish said the people of Afghanistan jointly started jihad against the soviet invasion in Afghanistan and finally could reach the victory with honor.

He said Taliban were the enemies of Jihad and Mujahiddin and have killed many jihadi figures including Ahmad Shah Massoud, Burhanuddin Rabbani, Abdul Ali Mazari, Haji Abdul Qadir and dozens of others.

Speaker of Wolesi Jirga, Abdul Raouf Ibrahim said April 27, 1978 was the start of crises, war, destruction and insecurity in the country while April 27, 1992 was the day of freedom, pride of Mujahiddin and defeat of former Soviet Union.

"Currently, Afghanistan is suffering from the domestic and foreign conspiracy and the current situation is not acceptable for the people of Afghanistan. The enemies have started terrorist activities in Afghanistan with the support of others," he said. The best way for ending war and violence in the country is to neutralize the plots of enemies, he said adding the peace talks should be conducted with those who intended to end war and shun violence in Afghanistan.

The chairman of Meshrano Jirga, Fazal Hadi Muslimyar, said the coup of April 27, 1978, known as the Saur Revolution, was carried out by some individuals who now regret on their crime, but the April 27, 1992 was victory of Mujahiddin and was the pride for all inhabitants of the country.

He asked president to refer those who condemn the victory of Mujahiddin to judiciary departments because it is dishonor to the Afghans and Jihad in Afghanistan to condemn the holy war, he said.

Foreign minister and leader of Jameat-i-Islami Afghanistan, Salahuddin Rabbani said it was the day of pride and honor in the history of Afghanistan, while coup of Saud was the day when the bad luck and imposed war started in Afghanistan. The world realized the struggle of Afghans and the real threat of terrorism after the death of jihadi leader, Ahmad Shah Massoud, and the 9/11 incident in US, while the national have been coping the terrorists for many years, he said. (Pajhwok)

(2) Tehran, Kabul,...

units among others. Chabahar is a free port on the coast of the Gulf of Oman. It is situated on the Makran Coast of the Sistan and Baluchistan province and is officially designated as a free trade and industrial zone by the Iranian government.

Due to its free trade zone status, the city has increased in significance in international trade. (FNA)

(3) Afghan Taliban ...

Pakistan and a large number of our countrymen are living there as refugees, therefore, the Political Office of the Islamic Emirate has decided to send a high level delegation to Islamabad," the Taliban Qatar office said. The Taliban use the name of Islamic Emirate they had used during their rule (1996-2001).

"The esteemed leader of Islamic Emirate has instructed the delega-

tion to discuss issues regarding Afghan refugees, some problems about frontier areas and particularly to discuss the release of Mullah Bradar Akhund and some other prisoners with the officials of the government of Pakistan."

Mullah Baradar, the former second-in-command in the Taliban hierarchy, was arrested in Karachi in 2010, and the Taliban say he has not yet been freed. Pakistan had said in 2013 that he had been released along with some 50 senior Taliban leaders in 2013 on the request by then Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

A Taliban statement said the visit to Pakistan "would be in the interest of both countries and would have fruitful results."

Although the Taliban statement did not mention the delegation will discuss the possibility of the group's participation in the peace negotiations, sources say it is one of the topics they are discussing in Pakistan. Some sources say that a meeting between the Taliban and the representatives of the Afghan government was scheduled in Islamabad on April 27. However, the Afghan diplomatic sources said "Kabul is not in the loop about the visit."

Pakistan had hosted the first face-to-face meeting between the Taliban and the Afghan government in July last year near Islamabad. The talks -- dubbed as Murree Peace Process -- broke down after the death of Mullah Omar was confirmed in late July.

The delegation includes Maulvi Shahabuddin Dilawar, a former diplomat in Islamabad and Jan Muhammad Madni, who has served as Afghan ambassador to UAE during the Taliban rule and Maulvi Nek Muhammad, a member of the Taliban's leadership council and long-time member of their negotiation team. (Xinhua)

(4) Nearly 50pc ...

highlighting the scourge. More than 50 percent of people participated in the Internet-based survey, saying media outlets did not focus on covering corruption cases. Less than half of respondents know the sources of reporting the graft issue.

Two in every four people, who participated in the survey, faced problems after refusing to pay bribes, with 25 percent greasing palms of the officials concerned to get their work done.

Majority of the people believed combating corruption was their responsibility and they had acted against it. Fifty percent expressed their willingness to attend anti-corruption protests. Most of the people said they were faced with corruption in judicial organs.

The first survey conducted by Pajhwok Afghan News and European Union (EU), was published on April 12. The second survey by the news agency was conducted online in Pashto, Dari and English. The survey featured 746 people and was visited by 35,350. The participants had the ability to offer their personal views on the subject.

People who filled out the online survey questions were 20 years of age -- 72 percent men, six percent women. The rest did not reveal their gender or age.

People facing corruption Most of people complained of blatant graft in courts and other judicial organs and fewer spoke of the problem in the Afghan National Army (ANA). From three to 12 percent of respondents said they had seen corruption in other government departments as well. (Pajhwok)

(5) NUG Blasted ...

Delegates at the gathering - named NUG's Political Agreement: From Signing To Implementation - claimed that the NUG has failed to implement the accord over the past year and a half.

"The NUG has not been able to implement the political agreement over the past 19 months. We will call it a failed government if it does not practice the details of the agreement - in the months ahead," said Waqif Hakimi, a member of Jamiat-e-Islami Party.

Meanwhile, the CEO's cultural advisor Sayed Aqa Fazil Sancharaki said that a delay in bringing reforms to electoral bodies, the delay in starting work by the commission responsible for organizing a constitutional Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly), the failure to issue electronic National Identity Cards, and a monopoly of political power by the president (Ashraf Ghani) are among the biggest challenges before the NUG.

"One of the main problems that has prevented us from implementing the agreement was the lack of a schedule - and why was there no commitment from government in this regard," he said.

The head of the commission responsible for the implementation of the National Unity Government's (NUG) political agreement, Mohammad Natiqi, meanwhile criticized the NUG leaders for a lack of speed in fulfilling the promises and implementing the contents of the agreement.

"I do not call the NUG as a failed government, but I want to say that we have a lazy government. It is two years and it was expected that they would do many things but little has been done [by them]," he said.

The NUG's political agreement was signed between the two front-runners of the 2014 presidential palace - the incumbent President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah - in order to end the disputed poll following claims of widespread rigging. (Tolonews)

(6) Russia Must ...

adding it was crucial that Russia took part in the talks.

"There is a serious and a real threat of instability spilling over into neighboring countries and regions," he said, adding "Russia has and always had its vital interests in this region."

The Uzbek leader said they believed attempts to resolve the Afghan issue without Russia were unreasoned and precipitous. (Pajhwok)

(7) Activists Slam ...

Solidarity Party. Participants at the gathering urged government and the international community to bring perpetrators of the crimes to court.

"We will continue our combat against the criminals and against their foreign supporters," said Obaid Kabir, Afghanistan Solidarity Party. Meanwhile, rights activist Humaira Saqib, said: "It is 40 years that the Afghan people are suffering the most. The families of those in power are not inside the country; they live abroad."

On 7th of Sawr of the solar year 1357 (April 26, 1978) Afghan communists launched a take over against the then president of Afghanistan, Daud Khan, and toppled his regime. On Sawr 8th 1371 (April 27, 1992) mujahideen fighters toppled Dr. Najibullah's government. (Tolonews)

(8) Pakistan 'Making...

direct talks last summer, suspended over the 2013 death of Taliban leader Mullah Omar.

Members of the Taliban and Afghan government leaders were expected to engage in peace talks in Pakistan in March. However, 5, Taliban leadership announced refusal to attend peace talks until foreign soldiers left Afghanistan and Taliban fighters were released. (Sputnik)

(9) Poppy Harvest...

He said the government had failed to successfully conduct the poppy eradication campaign. According to him, the government did not provide alternative to poppy crop or financial helped farmers in exchange for eradicating poppy fields.

Meanwhile, Governor's spokesman Attuallh Khogyani said consultations with other local authorities were underway and soon a poppy eradication campaign would be launched in the province. He said a delegation that arrived from Kabul had shared its concerns with the provincial government. (Pajhwok)

(10) 4 Radio Stations ...

Ahmad Shah Fitrat, said that the radio station was established in November 2015 with the aim to deliver information to the masses of the province and to help in strengthening good culture of the people.

The people of the province warmly welcomed the broadcasts of the radio station, he said adding 35 people including four women have been working for the radio.

"Our radio is a private and free radio station which airs cultural, news, educational and entertainment broadcasts for 24 hours. We fulfill our needs through income from advertisements and we are pleased that we haven't faced any financial problem so far," he said adding the programmes of the radio station could be heard in the provincial capital of Farah and eight districts of the province.

A producer of two programmes at the radio station, Yasna Sadat who studied Dari literature said "It is my first experience to work with a radio station. I was interested in journalism since my childhood. During my work with the radio station, I realized that I have the ability to be a successful journalist."

She has been working at the radio station for only 3,000 afghanis per month which is not sufficient for her expenses, she said while asking journalists support organisations to financially and technically support

female journalists in Farah province. Meanwhile, owner of Uroj radio station, Mohammad Ibrahim Parhar, was happy over his activities in the sphere of media, saying his radio airs its broadcasts from 7am to 11pm and could be heard in provincial capital and seven districts of the province.

The radio broadcasts news, cultural, social and sport programmes and has also broadcasted live commentaries of cricket and football games, he said adding they meet their daily expenses and pay the salaries of employees through income from advertisements.

As a challenge for them, he said that Taliban fighters have several times threatened him and his employees and asked them not to stop airing broadcasts of the radio station.

"A few days ago, Taliban fighters detained one of my employees for three days, when he went home in Khak-i-Safed district of the province. Taliban warned him and asked him not to work with the radio station," he said. (Pajhwok)

(11) Families ...

should be completed, so that we will know that we have a government and will trust the government," said Mohammad Nazir Rahiq, father of the victim.

Jawed is another victim of the incident. Jawad was a cadet who was receiving training at the unit's compound.

"He would come to me and would tell our office we will be attacked one of these days, so pray for me. I used to say go my son, may Allah protect you," said Jawed's father.

"I feel ashamed before Allah that I as a soldier cannot respond to my uncle's questions, because in the high ranks we don't have a minister of defense or a president to respond to my question," said Atiqullah Noori, Jawed's cousin.

"These people are the ones who can bring a change," said Jawed's uncle. Civil society activists after meeting these families want to send a letter to leaders of government and parliament to seek justice. (Tolonews)

(12) US Should...

other factors... And if you cannot do it alone, then go seek help from Russia, China and India. In particular, Russia, in our case, because it is close to us, because it has a long history with us, and because it has the means to do it, together with the rest of the world," Karzai said.

Afghanistan is experiencing political, social and security instability, as the Taliban Islamic movement and other radical extremist organizations such as Daesh, which is prohibited in many countries, including Russia, continue to stage attacks against civilian and state targets. (sputniknews)

(13) Taliban Captures ...

government's new stance against militants. Many however believe that there has been no change in the fight against insurgents, after the declaration of the stance.

Meanwhile residents of the district warned that the district might fall to the Taliban, if fresh troops are not deployed soon.

"Last night in fighting that took place in Dahan-e-Ghori, the militants captured Shahr-e-Now of Dahan-e-Ghori, Qala-e-Chahar Borja and the school," said Abdul Hafiz, a resident of the district.

"Unfortunately, the routes are closed and there are lots of problems. People are faced with many challenges and most of them have set up tents at the foot of the mountains," said Kamal, another resident of the district.

The Ministry of Interior (MoI) meanwhile said that military operations against militants have increased by 15 percent. (Tolonews)

(14) 2 Drug ...

caliber were found on the spot. Another skirmish reportedly took place in the same area on April 23 at 9:20 pm. As a result of the skirmish, one of the trespassers was wounded while others managed to return to Afghan territory, Ulughkhoyayev said, noting that 20 kilograms of hashish were found on the spot.

We will recall that the first quarter of this year has seen eight engagements between Tajik border guards and armed drug smugglers along the Tajik-Afghan border. Five trespassers were reportedly killed and two other wounded. (Asia-Plus)

(15) Olson Agrees ...

senior levels of the Pakistani leadership the need to target the Haqqani network as part of their wider counterterrorism operations, in keeping with their commitment not to discriminate between terrorist organizations," Olson said.

The Obama Administration, he said, shares the lawmaker's disappointment in progress against these groups and continue to voice its concerns with Pakistani leadership often. "We will not be satisfied until Pakistan makes a decisive shift in its policy toward these externally-focused groups, nor will Pakistan's struggle with terrorism come to an end," he said.

"Pakistan's relationships with its neighbors have peaked and troughed, but are trending toward greater dialogue to resolve differences," he said.

"Effective engagement with Pakistan, grounded in our important national interests, is critical to promoting the consolidation of democratic institutions and economic stability while supporting the government's counterterrorism capabilities," Olson said. (Pajhwok)

(16) Foreign Ministry ...

cross-border shelling by the Pakistani forces in Lalpor and Goshta districts of the Nangarhar province," the Afghan Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Foreign Minister of Administrative Affairs Nasir Ahmad Andisha condemned the attacks and asked Pakistan to stop firing off missiles immediately, read the statement.

Security officials from the 201st Selab Military Corps said that Afghan security forces are waiting for central government to give orders for them to respond to the missile attacks. (Tolonews)

(17) Govt. Urged ...

mechanism [for peace]," said Sayed Meisam Ehsan, another activist.

"All the security forces should be included in a proper insurance policy in order to support their families," rights activist Khalil Raufi.

The remarks by Kabul residents and rights activists come after a deadly bombing killed 64 people and wounded a further 347 in Kabul last week. Following this attack, the National Unity Government (NUG) changed its stance against the Taliban and other terrorist groups in the country. (Tolonews)

(18)30 Taliban...

has been slowed because the militants use civilians' houses while attacking on security personnel, but Afghan forces have been trying not to harm civilians, he said adding hundreds of insurgents inflicted casualties in the past two weeks in the province. (Pajhwok)

(19)Kunaris...

paternal and six maternal uncles, were killed in the massacre.

He said they had repeatedly demanded prosecution of the killers but that never happened. Some of the murderers were still alive but they were never tried, he said.

Another resident of Kerala village, Shah Mahmood Dagarwal said the then government in 1979 brutally killed his several family members and villagers.

"The government forces gathered all civilians in one place and opened fire at them. Some were alive but they were buried along with the dead through a bulldozer. A120-year-old and two mentally retarded persons were also among the dead." Dagarwal said the incident remained unfocused and they had repeatedly asked for the killers to be prosecuted.

Hameedullah, another resident of Kerala, said "my brother-in-law, two uncles and two guests in our home were killed in the massacre." He asked the international community to initiate trial of the killers some of whom were inside Afghanistan and others living abroad. (Pajhwok)

(20)Moby Scoops...

ceremony in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on Monday.

Ahmed Eid said: "Football is the world's number one sport. It is also a force for good. The AFC Dream Asia Award winners exemplify the power of our beautiful game to bring hope to millions of people around the world."

The Moby Group won the corporate sector for its commitment to creating opportunities for the youth and contributing to Afghanistan's social development. In a statement issued by AFC, the organization said: "As part of its partnership with the Roshan Afghan Premier League, the Moby Group organized the first-ever women's football tournament in Kabul in 2015. Publicity created around the event was an important component of the project."

Shafic Gawhari, CEO of The Moby Group in Afghanistan, said: "The publicity and pride shown in the women's game is key in promoting football for women and girls.

Football breaks barriers and brings people together. Promoting football, including women's football, is a form of social investment. The women's game is still in its infancy in Afghanistan. Yet, the passion and drive made this a memorable event in Kabul."

The CSCLF won the non-government category and Prince Sultan Bin Fahad Bin Abdulaziz the individual category. (Tolonews)

(21)Conflict Kills...

in the neighboring Dahan-e-Ghori district.

Dand-e-Shahabudin district has been changed hands for few times since February this year. (Xinhua)

(22)I Civilian ...

as more than 3,540 civilians had been killed and more than 7,450 others injured in 2015, according to a report of United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) released here in February. (Xinhua)

(23)China, Turkey...

to implement the consensus reached during the fourth CICA summit in Shanghai in 2014, enhance trust among Asian countries, and adhere to resolving problems through dialogue and consultation, Wang said. (Xinhua)

(24)Russia Urges ...

refugees. He also urged efforts to prevent the spread of terrorism and extremist ideas, especially through the Internet.

The two-day Moscow International Security Conference gathered some 500 participants from 80 countries for discussions on the fight against terrorism as well as the security situation in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia. (Xinhua)

(25)Greece Seeks...

blame for the new deadlock mainly on the International Monetary Fund for delaying the talks and insisting on a preemptive legislation to allow contingency measures of some 3 billion euros (3.4 billion U.S. dollars) to be automatically enacted if Athens fails to meet a 3.5-percent primary surplus target in 2018. (Xinhua)

(26)Russian FM ...

missile programs. But the sanctions failed to stop Pyongyang, which on Sunday announced a successful underwater test-fire of a strategic submarine ballistic missile. (Xinhua)

(27)13,000 ...

Some patients said they could understand the strikes launched by the junior doctors and supported them, while others who had their treatment postponed said they were negatively affected. (Xinhua)

(28)AU Calls ...

strengthen its government institutions to restore and maintain the rule of law.

The AU envoy expressed optimism that the war against Al-Shabaab will be won by sheer will and resilience of the Somali people, evident in the on-going initiative to stabilize and reconstruct the country. (Xinhua)

(29)Putin Orders...

in building the spaceport are under criminal investigation for embezzlement, workers went on strike over pay arrears, there were cost overruns, and the project missed its scheduled completion date last year. "Without any doubt we will have to draw conclusions," a stern-looking Putin told a meeting of space industry officials at the cosmodrome, in Russia's remote Amur region near the border with China. (Reuters)

(30)27 Yemeni...

had been held by Al-Qaeda militants for over a year.

Recapturing Mukalla was part of a wider counter-offensive against the Sunni extremists launched by pro-government forces last month after a year in which they had focused their firepower on Shiite Huthi rebels who control the capital. (AFP)

(31) UK Economic...

output sank by 0.9 percent, while the manufacturing industry contracted 0.4 percent compared with a 0.1 percent rise in the previous quarter. On a brighter note, Britain's services sector -- which accounts for almost 80 percent of the economy -- expanded by 0.6 percent. (AFP)

(32)Iran Capable...

missiles," he said. "Unlike the military policies of other countries in the region and major powers in the world, our military doctrine is not after an escalation of threats in the region or the world," Baedinejad said. (PressTV)