

(1) Talks Postponed....

leader Mullah Omar and the subsequent rifts in the ranks of the ultraorthodox militia.

Splits have emerged at the top of the Taliban following the appointment of Mullah Akhtar Mansour as chief of the Afghan Taliban, replacing the movement's founder Mullah Omar, whose death was confirmed last week. Some of the top leaders of the group, including Omar's son and brother, have refused to pledge their allegiance to Mansour, saying the process to select him was rushed, even biased. (Pajhwok)

(2) UNAMA Asks....

shrug off the disproportionate harm to the civilian population they cause," said Nicholas Hayson, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan. "The Afghan people are resilient, but the suffering caused by these tactics in terms of civilian deaths, injuries, and the loss of family members, is extreme, irreversible and unjustifiable in any terms."

The Mission also extends its condolences to the families of those killed and injured, and reiterates UNAMA's unwavering support to the people of Afghanistan, the statement reads.

The Taliban in a statement on Saturday claimed responsibility for two of the three massive Friday attacks.

Friday was a black day for the capital inhabitants after three massive attacks and suicide bombings occurred in the city, leaving nearly 50 people dead and over 400 others wounded.

The first deadly incident was the truck bombing early Friday in Shah Shaheed locality in Kabul which killed 15 people and wounded about 400 others.

A suicide attack at the entrance of a Police Academy in PD5 of Kabul was the second attack in a day which claimed lives of 26 police trainees and injured 27 others.

Attack on a NATO base was the third incident that shocked the Kabul residents after two insurgents attacked a facility of coalition forces which left eight security guards and a Resolute Support (RS) service member dead. (Tolonews)

(3) 50 Dead

Police Academy in Afshar area around 7:30pm last evening.

The second group attack targeted a military base of coalition forces in Qasaba area of Kabul at around 10:00 pm last night.

In the first attack, the MoI said: "More than 40 students, referees and civilians were killed or wounded when a car suicide bomber detonated his explosives-laden vehicle in front of the Police Academy in Afshar locality."

"Terrorists blew up an explosives-laden car in front of a coalition forces base followed by three terrorists exchanging gun fire to force their way inside the facility in Qasaba area. But all of them were shot dead by security forces," the statement added.

However, a statement from Resolute Support (RS) said that one foreign soldier and eight Afghan contractors were killed in Qasaba attack.

Taliban militants did not comment on the attack on foreign forces base but claimed killing and wounding 50 policemen in attack on the Police Academy.

Series of the attacks come as heavy truck explosion on Friday night left 15 civilians dead and nearly 300 others wounded in Shah Shaheed area in capital Kabul. (Pajhwok)

(4) Int'l Community

Afghanistan. "The international community should support peace talks and should build pressure over the parties concerned to earnestly take the process forward." Shakerullah, a participant in the conference, said peace remained the only and final option and added "Pakistan is the prime hurdle in taking the peace talks forward. We hope Taliban group will come to negotiating table," he added. Dr. Khushal Qureshi, a civil society activist, said: "Afghans have faded up of fighting."

The conference concluded with demands from the political parties to intensify efforts for peace in the country. They demanded the United Nations to cut off support to the countries which did not support the peace. (Pajhwok)

(5) US Hopes

in recent years the Afghan people have endured much, but they are resilient and are resilient even in the face of a brutal insurgency. We continue to believe and continue to urge the Taliban to heed President Ashraf Ghani's call for reconciliation and make genuine peace with the Afghan government." He couldn't confirm if the Taliban were behind the attack.

"But what is clear is that there does appear to be an opening and we are hopeful that the Taliban will take advantage of that opening to try to pursue a genuine peace with the Afghan government," he said in an apparent reference to the death of Mullah Omar. (Pajhwok)

(6) 'Intelligence

people, including security officials, had been killed and over 400 wounded in series of explosions during the last couple of days.

"Now, we are sure that keys to war and peace are in the hands of regional intelligence agencies. Neither late Mullah Umar led Taliban's insurgency in Afghanistan nor his successor Mullah Mansour lead the ongoing conflict," he added.

He called on unity government leaders to shun their trivial differences and concentrate on unity and security of the country. (Pajhwok)

(7) Hundreds Displaced ...

Friday night, lasted several hours, head of provincial council, Mohammad Yusuf Ayoubi said.

"Hundreds of families have fled their homes due to attacks," Ayoubi said, complaining of what he said lack of coordination between the security forces. "The insurgents have seized 10 villages." The local security authorities, however, have not yet commented on the issue.

This came after the provincial governor, Mohammad Omar Safi, announced a massive anti-insurgent operation would be launched soon in Kunduz. (Tolonews)

(8) Taliban Destroy

memorial on fire and destroyed the engraved information board with gun shots.

The militants also unlocked the door to the memorial and forced their way but did not damage the grave of Khusraw, Ahmadi said.

Yamgan district was under Taliban sway for a month but it was recaptured by Afghan forces after launching a decisive operation.

One of the guards at the shrine Sayed Burhan said that they were unable to resist Taliban who callously damaged parts of the site. However, Taliban did not comment on the issue as of yet. The AKDN some three years back had reconstructed the Nasir Khusraw's shrine and the adjacent Madrasa.

Shir Ali Qasimi, director of provincial Information and Culture, said that Khusraw memorial was located in an insecure area and there were no special guards to protect the facility.

He said directions had been issued to security departments to protect all historical sites in the province. (Pajhwok)

(9) Most Detainees

prisoners who had been taken on the battlefield. There were strict rules to prevent their mistreatment, particularly following the death of Baha Moussa in custody in Iraq in 2003.

Colour Sgt Coult says that once sent on the local authorities, "the majority went free". In a statement on Friday's Newnight, the Ministry of Defence argues "in recent years hundreds of detainees have been prosecuted and sentenced by the Afghans following transfer to them by British and other forces". The two statements are not inconsistent - since "hundreds" is a small proportion of approximately 4,000 Afghans detained during British operations in Afghanistan. Some senior officers have expressed concern that the whole basis for British military operations overseas has been undermined.

The MoD though does flatly reject statements made by the Belfast-born veteran to Newnight - and a Sunday paper - that the killer of a British bomb disposal officer Captain Lisa Head was released without charge. "There is no truth to this allegation," it says in a statement. "The detainee was transferred to the Afghan authorities, convicted and given a jail sentence."

In his Newnight interview the colour sergeant described walking detainees to the gates of Camp Bastion, returning their belongings to them and giving them 500 Afghani (about £5/\$7 at the time) to get home, noting the whole experience of serving at the facility left, "a dirty taste in my mouth". US Marines arrange their equipment as British and US troops withdraw from the Camp Bastion-Leatherneck complex in Helmand in 2014

Many of those who commanded operations in Helmand confirm that the question of what to do with captives they believed were enemy combatants was a serious issue throughout operations there. Those responsible found the many requirements - of not holding people for too long, ensuring they were not mistreated, and handing them over to Afghan authorities - often came into conflict.

Early in 2012, for example, British forces suspended the transfer of detainees for more than one year because of fears that the Afghan security service was torturing them. At that point there was often no choice but letting them free or handing them on to the Americans.

Last month the Court of Appeal ruled that the British Army had detained Serdar Mohammed - a suspect picked up in 2010 - for too long, keeping him (on rolling 28 day orders) for four months before handing him on to the Afghans. This judgement cited one from the Iraq conflict which stipulated that British forces should not hold captives for longer than 96 hours. (BBC)

(10) Civilians Pay....

their houses, they might not last much longer. They're situation is prison-like, and they cannot farm their lands, which is an essential source of income.

"There will be no fighting if there are no Taliban militants. People escaped and were displaced when the fighting started," Dara-e-Qarae resident Mohammad Qurban said. "Women have gone to one side and men to the other side. Every night, we are afraid and concerned that maybe our house will be hit by a mortar or rocket; no one can work on their lands."

Some local families have left their houses and are living near the mountains in Maimana city - the capital of Faryab. But these families have no access to critical services.

A member of a displaced family and resident of Almar district, Sher Mohammad, told TOLONews that he had witnessed fighting every day. "We have been fed up with war. We can't tolerate anymore. We left everything and came here to save our lives," he said.

Sher Mohammad's son, Farhad, said his uncle and cousins were killed in the violence. "Please stop the war. We are tired of it," he said.

On August 3, First Vice-President General Abdul Rashid Dostum visited Maimana city, and called on residents to support the security forces, who he said would soon clear the province of anti-government militants. He later visited the insecure Qaisar district under heavy protection from land and air.

Faryab province has witnessed several heavy battles over the past few weeks and insurgent activity has reached a peak in the area. (Tolonews)

(11) China

the wounded. The Chinese side firmly objects to all forms of terrorism, staunchly supports the Afghan government in safeguarding national security and stability, and stands ready to help Afghanistan realize peace, stability and development at an early date together with the international community. (PR)

(12) Mosazai Urges

unique opportunity that recent developments have created for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan and the region," the ambassador said.

A month earlier, Afghan government delegation entered face-to-face talks with Taliban representatives in Murree, a tourist resort close to Islamabad.

But after the death announcement of Mullah Umar, the Taliban supreme leader, peace talks were suspended. Umar's death was a

temporary blow to the peace talks, however, negotiation would be resumed soon, the Pakistani govt said earlier.

Meanwhile, Mia Farooq Farooq, a journalist with Dewah Radio, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Afghan ambassador held five hours meeting with Mulana Sami-ul-Haq in Akora Khattak, a district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

He also confirmed the main point of discussion during the meeting the revival of postponed talks between Afghan Taliban and government.

"A delegation headed by the Afghan ambassador arrived at Dar-ul-Ulum Haqania and held meeting with Maulana Sami-ul-Haq, Farooq quoted Rashid-ul-Haq, the son of Sami-ul-Haq as saying."

The ambassador conveyed the message of President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani regarding revival of talks. The president urged Sami-ul-Haq to bring Taliban to the negotiations table. (Pajhwok)

(13) Environmental....

several government officials had participated in the campaign. He requested residents to participate in the campaign.

Mohammad Hanif Gardiwal, deputy governor, warned stern action would be taken against shopkeepers who were involved occupying footpaths. (Pajhwok)

(14) Religious Leaders

spokesman denied that Mansur was elected unanimously by the Shura (consultative council), as it was said by the new leader's followers.

Niazi noted that many were not invited, including Mullah Abdul Razzaq and Mohammad Rasul. However, Abdul Hayee Motmaen, an advisor on political affairs and the spokesman for late Mullah Omar, rejected the criticism of Mansur, who is in favor of peace with the Afghan government.

Those few who are against the new Amir al-Muminin (commander of the believers) have not participated in the resistance in the past 14 years. They were more interested in business, The Express Tribune reported.

Sources quoted by the daily say that Mansur's faction "is very interested in reconciliation with Mullah Omar's family, due to its respect and influence on the Taliban." (Agencies)

(15) Effective Security,....

cooperate with security organs, Hayat plans getting even closer to residents through meetings with people from all districts. This will help him to ascertain people's views and recommendations in the context of security.

Apart from security officials, representatives from 40 state institutions will attend the meetings aimed at instant resolution of public problems. He thinks security organs in Wardak have coordination, but there are certain difficulties in maintaining public order.

He has no issue with the composition and strength of security institutions in the province, but has his reservations about their actual presence on the ground. He puts the number of security personnel in Wardak at 5,000, compared with up to 1,500 rebels operating there.

"Despite the numerical superiority of our security forces, we are still on the defensive," the governor notes, doubting accuracy of the numbers. "We have appointed a delegation to determine whether or not these many security personnel are deployed here."

He also refers to a shortage of heavy weapons being face by the security organs and the absence of an Afghan National Army (ANA) brigade in the central province. The four ANA battalions in Wardak are operating under the Gardez-based brigade.

In case of need, these battalions discuss their problems with their counterparts in Gardez before getting to the ANA Corps and the Ministry of Defence, the governor explains, saying it is a long-drawn-out process that hampers a timely response to emergency situations.

He demands the approval of an ANA brigade for the province, placed under Kabul instead of Gardez. With the implementation of his plans, he is confident of enforcing public security.

In the same breath, he insists, the militants are no longer capable of face-to-face combat with the

security forces. A reserve force will swing into action under the National Directorate of Security (NDS) in the province shortly, Hayat promises, hoping the situation will improve considerably.

In the area of reconstruction, the provincial administration is focused on completing unfinished projects like several roads and Chak dam and executing on priority the schemes identified by officials and residents of each district. "Another important issue that is under serious consideration concerns schools in the province, which was once deprived of academic programmes. Now some schools are teaching students how to fire bullets, something which is unacceptable.

"My first and foremost priority is to purge such schools of insurgent influence and thereby pave the ground for a wholesome teaching-learning process in Maidan Wardak," Hayat concludes, asking the masses to keep an eye on governmental affairs and help improve education as well as security. (Pajhwok)

(16) Taliban Claim

a NATO base was the third incident that shocked the Kabul residents after two insurgents attacked a facility of coalition forces which left eight security guards and a Resolute Support (RS) service member dead. (Tolonews)

(17) Death Toll in....

However, the statement did not provide the identity of the service member.

The Afghan local security officials have not yet commented on the attack.

The attack came soon after at least 27 police trainees were killed and 26 others wounded as a result of a suicide blast at the Kabul Police Academy in Kabul, a security official said.

The source told TOLONews on condition of anonymity that a suicide bomber wearing a police uniform detonated his explosives at the entrance of the compound in PD5, near Bagh-e-Bala, in Kabul on Friday night.

The suicide bomber got to the main entrance of the academy and was standing with a group of police trainees when he detonated his explosives, the source added. This in turn followed the powerful truck bomb blast that rocked Kabul's Shah Shaheed district in the early hours of Friday morning - killing 15 people and injuring over 400.

Extensive damage was caused to buildings in the vicinity - many of them collapsing all together.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for either of the attacks. (Tolonews)

(19) Mass-Wedding....

dowry but did not have more money to get married."

He expressed gratitude to Haji Abdul Qudus for the ceremony. (Pajhwok)

(19.2) Taliban Commander..

Sayed Mohammad S/O Taj Mohammad, Khan Mohammad S/O Agha Mohammad.

NDS statement adds that all of the members of this group belong to Kandahar province and were detained red handed with 25 kilograms of explosive materials, 3 bombs and other terrorist materials.

Press released from NDS office usually do not contain exact date of the achievements but they come after recent activities. (KP)

(20) 3 Gas Factory....

Director of the Afghan-Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Petroleum and Gas said that security post was located three kilometers away from the factory.

He said that the authorities' concerned were tasked to deploy security personnel to protect the facility but the problem had yet to be resolved.

More than a thousand people work on the Shiberghan Gas Factory. Security guards of the factory often come under attacks that caused casualties. (Pajhwok)

(21) 24 Rebels....

Elsewhere, ten militants were killed and seven wounded in an overnight clash in the Ab Band district of Ghazni province, Shafiq Nang, the governor's spokesman said.

Three Pakistani militants were among the dead, he said, adding that security officials escaped unhurt in the gun battle.

However, Taliban's Spokesman

Zabihullah Mujahid claimed killing three ANA officials in the ensuing clashes.

In Southern Kandahar, unidentified gunmen have killed two people in separate incidents, an official said. Samim Khapalwak, the governor's spokesman, said unknown gunmen opened fire on a civilian. (Pajhwok)

(22) Water Projects....

Sayed Rasoul Akbari, director of the rural rehabilitation department, told Pajhwok Afghan News the project had been executed in Kandian, Mulmanji localities of Qala-i-Naw, the provincial capital.

He said the scheme was completed at a cost of 13 million Afghani and was ready for use. Haji Abdul Karim, the resident of the locality, expressed satisfaction over the development and said that earlier people had to drink unhygienic water. (Pajhwok)

(23) EU Increases....

in total for Syrian refugees to fund humanitarian relief efforts. According to the United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees, Lebanon is hosting over 1.2 million Syrian refugees. (Xinhua)

(24) Iran Nuclear....

has recently proposed an initiative for a political solution in Syria, starting with establishing an immediate cessation of fire, forming a national unity government, rewriting the constitution, and conducting legislative elections under international supervision.

Pro-government media cited sources as saying that the Syrian government is okay with the initiative as long as each step is put for public referendum.

Iranian sources said the initiative came after Tehran's consultations with regional players, such as Turkey, Qatar, -- both main backers to the rebels -- and members in the UN Security Council as well as Egypt.

The Iranian proposal came after Russia, another main ally to the Syrian government, proposed the formation of a regional anti-terror coalition that could include Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

The Russian proposal was announced by President Vladimir Putin and was read by analysts as an important indication that the political landscape is changing in the region. (Xinhua)

(25) Tajikistan....

agreed to institute criminal proceedings against instigators of the August 3-4 clashes between residents of border villages that left several people injured.

According to sources in Tajikistan's Isfara district, the incident along the border started on August 3 when residents of the Kyrgyz village of Kok-Tash blocked the flow of water to the Tajik village of Chorkuh, which caused protests by Tajiks. In response to this,

residents of the Tajik village of Chorkuh blocked a road that Kyrgyz residents of Kok-Tash use to reach a cemetery where relatives are buried.

Some 200 people then gathered on both sides of the border on August 3 and threw stones at each other. (Asia-Plus)

(26) Indian Contingent ..

September 3, 2010. India contributed 70 million USD toward the renovation and sent specialists to help with the work. The airfield, located some 20 kilometers west of Dushanbe, now has state-of-the-art navigational and defense technology. Its runway was also extended to 3,200 meters so that all types of aircraft can land there. (Asia-Plus)

(27) Chinese....

in order to get better involved in local business environment and market.

"Localization is a must for Chinese companies to succeed in Germany,"

Wang said, adding that newcomers should also attract local talents and get adapted to local culture when expanding their business here.

He revealed that some Chinese enterprises failed in their attempts to enter Germany in recent years due to their insufficient preparation for the differences in laws and business philosophies. (Xinhua)