

Quote of the Day

Success does not consist in never making blunders, but in never making the same one a second time. **Josh Billings**

Abdullah Defends his Remarks Against President Ghani

KABUL - The Chief Executive of the National Unity Government (NUG), Abdullah Abdullah, has defended his recent comments against President Ashraf Ghani over what he called the president's disinterest in addressing national issues - including the electoral reforms agenda and rolling out the electronic national identity cards to the Afghan people. According to a statement issued by the Chief Executive's media office, Abdullah on Saturday met with a number of political leaders in his office where they talked about the current situation in the country. The statement added that the participants of the meeting backed Abdullah's recent remarks and called for swift implementation of the NUG's



political agreement and bringing reforms to the administration. The meeting was attended by Abdullah's deputies, Foreign Affairs Minister Salahuddin Rabbani, acting Balkh governor Atta Mohammad Noor, former Defense Minister Bismillah Mohammadi, former NDS chief Amrullah Saleh, Justice Minister Abdul Basir Anwar and a number of other political figures, the statement said. On Thursday Abdullah

spoke to a number of youths on International Youth Day in Kabul where he called on the president to meet the demands of the Afghan public regarding election reforms the two officials pledged following the establishment of national unity government in 2014. Abdullah also criticized Ghani's patience for discussions, saying that the person who does not have the courage to discuss a topic is not qualified for the chairmanship. Following Abdullah's remarks, President Ghani on Friday hit back at Abdullah over his recent remarks, saying that he does not believe those who do not believe him. Speaking to a gathering of youths on Friday, the president said that those who support corrupt elements in fact try to obscure the government's reform agendas. (Tolnews)

Ghani-Abdullah Meeting Postponed



KABUL - A meeting between President Ashraf Ghani and his CEO Abdullah Abdullah has been postponed for unknown reasons, Abdullah's office said in a statement Saturday. The meeting was planned by the president but the two leaders have not met yet," said Mujiburrahman Rahimi, spokesman to Abdullah. Ghani and Abdullah were scheduled to meet Saturday in the wake of the recent backlash to discuss their issues. "The meeting was planned by

the presidential palace, but postponed over certain reasons, we are still prepared to hold the negotiations and wait for the presidential palace to be prepared," said Rahimi. The statement comes a few hours after Abdullah defended his recent remarks against Ghani. The non-implementation of the political agreement, delaying the electoral reform agenda and monopolizing appointments appear to be the ... (More on P4)...(1)

Balkh Youths Urge Diplomacy Amid Ghani-Abdullah Tensions

BALKH - Youths in the northern province of Balkh on Saturday advocated that President Ashraf Ghani and his CEO Abdullah Abdullah cease all action that can escalate further tension between the two officials and instead step up efforts to address issues of national importance. They also called for measures to be taken to improve good governance, rule of law and focus on the fundamental challenges that have underestimated youths' dynamism and potential in the present arena. Elaborating on the key challenges currently facing the youth, Balkh youths and civil society activists pushed for a comprehensive strategy to be addressed by the NUG leaders on the issue of poverty, job recession and illegal migrations. They said that ... (More on P4)...(3)

Trump Spokesperson Claims Obama Brought US into Afghanistan

WASHINGTON - A Donald Trump campaign spokeswoman on Saturday claimed President Obama brought U.S. forces into Afghanistan - something that happened eight years before his presidency began. "Remember, we weren't even in Afghanistan by this time," Katrina Pierson told CNN, referring to the withdrawal of troops from Iraq in 2011. "Barack Obama went into Afghanistan, creating another problem." "That was Obama's war," she added when pressed by CNN's Victor Blackwell. The Afghanistan war actually began in 2001 under President George W. Bush, shortly after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that year. Obama did call for a surge of troops ... (More on P4)...(6)

Govt. Leaders' Differences Against National Interests: MPs

KABUL - A number of parliament members and political experts have demanded a negotiated end to differences between the two government leaders, saying the political wrangling would create more problems in the country. Two days earlier, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, addressing a meeting in capital Kabul, criticized President Ashraf Ghani's leadership and said he was obliged to express his

differences with Ghani publicly. He said essential pledges of the national unity government agreement such as convening a Loya Jirga, amending the Constitution to create the post of a prime minister to replace the executive directorate and introduce electoral reforms had not been implemented so far. He said non-distribution of electronic national identity cards and appointments in government offices without his consultation were issues breaching



the agreement. Abdullah also expressed concern about the president's behavior with ministers and ... (More on P4)...(2)

Taliban Gathered to Create Safe Haven in Helmand: Waziri



LASHKARGAH - Officials in Ministry of Defense stated that Taliban have come from different provinces to change Helmand into a safe haven for carrying further terrorist activities but most of their plans failed in Helmand province. They have also urged that necessary measurements and new plans are underway for Helmand to ensure security though severe clashes continue in districts of Helmand. Ministry of Defense Spokesman Dawlat Waziri said, "As you all know that huge number of Taliban have come from different provinces in Helmand, to change the following province into a safe haven, but they have been defeated and lost huge number of their fighters." Law makers have insisted that significant work and new plans for ensure peace for Helmand should be adopted. Mp Abdul Jabar Qahraman said, "Musa Qala, Baghiran, Nawzad districts are controlled by Taliban, and in some other districts Government only controls the center of the districts." Experts believed that the only way that Afghan Government can curb the war in Helmand is to do some reformation within the Afghan ... (More on P4)...(7)

NDS-ISI Cooperation Deal Can Help Counter Terrorism: Aziz

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan's foreign affairs adviser Sartaj Aziz has said an intelligence sharing deal between the Afghan intelligence and Pakistani intelligence agencies could help counter terrorism. Speaking during a press conference, Aziz called on Afghanistan to help create a formal intelligence-sharing deal between National Directorate of Security (NDS) and Inter Services Intelligence (ISI). The call by Aziz came despite allegations against the



Afghan intelligence for supporting Jamaat-ul-Ahrar which claimed responsibility behind a deadly attack in Quetta that left at least 70 dead. ... (More on P4)...(4)

150 Afghan Businessmen to Ready to Invest in Chabahar Port

Officials in Ministry of Commerce and Industry have reported that 150 Afghan businessmen are ready to invest in Chabahar port for boosting their business and economy of the country. They have stated that now no problem is stance against the Afghan businessmen not to invest in the following port, because they are receiving full supports of the Afghan Government. Chabahar port is counted as one of the vital source of economy for Afghanistan. Ministry of Commerce



and Industry Spokesman Musafir Qoqandi said, "150 Afghan businessmen are ready to invest in Chabahar port, necessary measurements and facilities have been provided, this will encourage ... (More on P4)...(8)

Pentagon Confirms Killing of Daesh Leader Hafiz Saeed



WASHINGTON - In a major blow to the Islamic State group in Afghanistan, a US airstrike has killed its leader Hafiz Saeed Khan, the Pentagon announced on Friday. Pentagon Deputy Press Secretary Gordon Trowbridge said the US and Afghan Special Operations Forces conducted operations against ISIL in eastern Nangarhar province between July 1 and 30. "During this time, US forces conducted an airstrike targeting Hafiz Saeed Khan, the Islamic State in the Levant-Khorasan emir, in Achin district on July 26, resulting in his death," Trowbridge said. Khan was known to directly participate in attacks against US and coalition forces, and the actions of his network terrorized Afghans, especially in Nangarhar, a hotbed for ISIL-Khorasan activity since the summer of 2015. ISIL-K ... (More on P4)...(9)

IS will Still Fight on Despite Leader's Death



KABUL - The killing of the Islamic State group's leader in Afghanistan and Pakistan has dealt a major blow to the militants, but despite a US-backed scorched earth offensive the regional franchise is far from over, observers said Saturday. Hafiz Saeed was killed in a US air strike in eastern Nangarhar province last month - the Pentagon announced Friday - as Afghan forces mount an operation against the militants after they claimed the deadliest attack in Kabul for 15 years. The death of Saeed - the second prominent militant to be killed in a US regional strike in recent months - is a setback to the group's efforts to expand beyond its heartland of Syria and Iraq into Afghanistan and Pakistan. "The killing of IS leader Hafiz Saeed in a US airstrike is a major blow to the group, which will struggle to make gains without a strong leadership," Kabul-based political analyst Haroun Mir told AFP. "But the IS threat in the region is still far from over." The group claimed twin bombings ... (More on P4)...(5)



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