

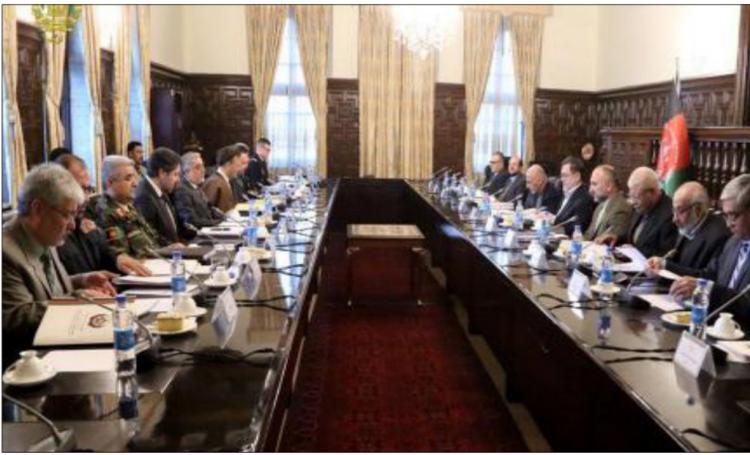
<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 22°C 8°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Partly Cloudy 16°C -2°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Partly Cloudy 22°C 6°C	<b>Mazar</b> Partly Cloudy 13°C 5°C	<b>Herat</b> Clear 18°C 6°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Clear 10°C -7°C	<b>Kabul</b> Clear 16°C 0°C
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**Daily Outlook Weather Forecast**

# Attacks on Worship Places Aimed to Fuel Sectarianism: NDS

## Pugwash Shares Ideas of Peace Negotiation between Afghan Govt, Taliban

**Sectarianism: NDS**  
KABUL - Recent attacks show that militants want to fuel sectarian violence in the country, an investigation commission said on Wednesday after a probe into suicide attacks on religious sites in Kabul. The report was presented during a National Directorate of Security (NDS) meeting chaired by President Ashraf Ghani. The Presidential Palace said the meeting was held Tuesday evening. Around two and a half months ago, 16 people were killed and 54 others wounded in a suicide attack on an Ashura gathering at the Sakhi Shrine in Kabul. Formed in line with a National Security Council (NSC) decision, the com-



mission was led by the second vice-president and had representatives from second deputy chief executive officer, attorney general of-

the commission, the main objective behind attacks on religious gatherings is to fuel ethnic clashes and sectarianism in the country. Member of the commission stressed the need for ethnic and religious solidarity and tasked security institutions with providing necessary security in line its recommendations for future religious events. During the meeting, progress in implementation of the peace deal between the government and Hezb-i-Islami Afghanistan (HIA) was also discussed. A joint panel overseeing progress in the peace process informed the meeting regarding the latest developments. Defence and security officials briefed the participants ...*(More on P4)...(9)*



KABUL - Pugwash, a Canada-based organisation, on Wednesday said it had suggested some points for discussion in possible peace negotiations between the Afghan government and the Taliban. In a statement, the organisation said the suggestion was in a proposal format that was updated and modified according to various views received from different sources the statement said. "This is a proposal that we submitted for consideration to the government, the Taliban and more generally to the Afghan public," the Pugwash statement added. The proposal was particularly dispatched to the High Peace Council (HPC), to the Afghan National Security Council (NSC), to the Taliban political commission in Doha, the organisation said. It added the blue-print was presented during the last meeting on December 13 in Kabul and shared with various personalities in Afghanistan, diplomatic missions in the country and the Taliban movement. Many issues, of course, need to be ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

## FEFA Proposes 'Basic Principles' for Electoral Reform

KABUL - The Free and Fair Election Foundation of Afghanistan (FEFA) on Wednesday provided a series of suggestions named 'basic principles of electoral reform.' The electoral watchdog officials said the principles had been devised and prepared with the help of an 'electoral reform advocacy group' comprised of representatives from political parties and civil society institutions. Mohammad Yousuf Rashid, FEFA executive director at, made public their suggestions at a press conference here. He said the principles would help bring about reforms to ensure transparent elections. The proposals included ensuring security at election centres, making polling stations small, utilizing ability of



government agencies in holding elections, recruitment of new workers, procurement of national resources and others. Rashid said restoring public trust in elections should be a top priority of electoral bodies. The principles' implementation could help prevent personal and partisan profits in the election, he said. Other members of the watchdog also stressed early implementation of the principles. Mazullah Dawlati, a member of the Independent Election

Commission (IEC), said the IEC was committed to conducting transparent and satisfactory elections with the help of officials and people. Shah Hussain Murtazawi, the presidential deputy spokesman, informed that there was consensus with regard to reforms in the country's electoral system. He said a lot of experience had been achieved from previous elections. He said his organization was ready for any kind of support in holding just and free elections. *(Pajhwok*

## MP, Brother, Son Injured in Kabul Bomb Attack

KABUL - A Wolesi Jirga member, Sayed Jamaluddin Fakoori Baheshti, his brother and a son were wounded in a bomb attack in Kabul on Wednesday, officials said. Col. Faridun Obaidi, crime investigation chief at police headquarters, told Pajhwok Afghan News the blast took on the Dasht-i-Barchi road in the limits of the sixth police district at around 9:00am. The wounded included, Baheshti, his brother and son, he said, adding the motive behind the attack was not immediately known as an investigation into the incident went on. Wolesi Jirga speaker Abdul Rauf Ibrahim confirmed the blast while speaking at the house's general session. He said Baheshti, a parliamentarian ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

## Over Half a Million Afghans Flee Conflict in 2016: A Look at the IDP Statistics

KABUL - In 2016, more than half a million Afghans fled conflict to places of safety inside Afghanistan's borders. Over a third of the yearly total fled in just one month - October. This mass movement was caused by heavy fighting between government and insurgent forces. At the year's end, AAN's Jelena

Bjelica looks at the statistics of Afghanistan's internally displaced persons (IDPs). More than 580,000 people - 84,257 families - had been displaced within Afghanistan by mid-December 2016, the United Nations Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) reported. *(For background on*

how IDPs are counted and recorded, statistics, see footnote (1)). More than half of the newly displaced population - 56 percent - were children under 18 years of age. In all but three of Afghanistan's 34 provinces, UNOCHA recorded some level of forced displacement, while all 34 provinces ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

## Iran Must be Included in Afghanistan Peace Process: Pakistan Diplomat

ISLAMABAD - Former Pakistani Ambassador to Afghanistan on Wednesday said that Iran must take part in Afghan peace process. Former Pakistani Ambassador to Afghanistan, Rustam Shah Mohmand, made the remarks in an interview with IRNA. He said that Iran's inclusion in any peace process on Af-

ghanistan is very important as Iran has a large border with Afghanistan, friendly ties with Kabul and hosts the Afghan refugees. So Iran's role in any peace process cannot be discarded. Expressing his views on recent discussions on Afghanistan by Russia, China and Pakistan in Moscow, the analyst said any ...*(More on P4)...(13)*



## 171 Drug Dealers Nabbed in Nangarhar this Year

JALALABAD - As many as 171 people involved in illicit drug trade have been arrested and introduced to the attorney's office for investigation in eastern Nangarhar province this solar year. During the same period, 21 tonnes of different drugs were torched and police captured six tones of narcotics including heroin, charrs, opium, acid and alcoholic beverages, said counternarcotics chief for Nangarhar Mohammad Idris Sapi during an interview with Pajhwok Afghan News. However, local residents said the number of people addicted to drugs was on



the increase with each passing day amid lack of government's attention. Sapi said his department had spent \$10 million on projects including a complex for rehabilitation of drug addicts, ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

## Mullah Omar not Visited Pakistan over the Past 25 Years, Claims Taliban

KABUL - The Taliban group founder and ex-supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar not visited Pakistan over the past 25 years, the insurgent group claimed Wednesday. The group released a statement to reject a report regarding a meeting between Mullah Omar and a Norwegian diplomat in a luxury hotel in Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan. "A western newspaper 'The New York Times' published a report citing a Norwegian diplomat - Alf Arne Ramslien - who claimed initially talking twice on the phone?? with the late Amir ul Mumineen Mullah Muhammad Omar Mujahid (may Allah have mercy on him) and even meeting him at a later stage in Pakistan during the year 2009. This report has then gone on to write many fabrications under this title," the statement said. The statement further added "We categorically reject this report from start to end. The late Amir ul Mumineen Mullah Muhammad Omar (may Allah have mercy on him) had not visited Pakistan over the past 25 years nor did he talk with anyone via telephone following the American invasion. And neither did he have ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Military Operation Launched to Clear Kandahar District

KABUL - Security forces have launched a military operation to clear a number of insecure areas in Shah Wali Kot district in Kandahar province, officials said on Wednesday. The officials said at least 13 villages have so far been cleared of Taliban in the district. The district police chief, Bacha, said an increase in conflicts in Uruzgan, Kanda-

har's neighboring province, has affected the security of Shah Wali Kot. Therefore, the police chief said, there is a need to increase the number of security forces in the province. According to officials, more than 100 villages in the district fell to the Taliban when they attacked the district a few months ago. Meanwhile, a number of residents ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

## Invitation for Bids (IFB)

The National Procurement Authority (NPA) acting on behalf of Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, (herein after referred as purchaser) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Procurement of Laboratory Equipments (chemistry, physics and Biology) For Universities (MoHE) against IFB No. NPA/MoHE/96/ICB/G-1463-RB.

Bidding will be conducted through the **International Competitive Bidding (ICB)** procedures specified in the Afghanistan procurement law.

A complete set of **Bidding Document in English** may be obtained by interested bidders by downloading the same from the NPA website [www.npa.gov.af](http://www.npa.gov.af). In case of problem in downloading from website, interested bidders may contact to National Procurement Authority, 5th Floor, Administrative Office of President, Pashtonistan Watt, and Kabul, Afghanistan.

Contact NO: +93 (0)20 214 7453 or +93 (0)791-045505

Email: [maisra.mirzazada@aop.gov.af](mailto:maisra.mirzazada@aop.gov.af) copy to [murwarid.tajzai@aop.gov.af](mailto:murwarid.tajzai@aop.gov.af)

Bids must be delivered to the address: Administrative Office of the President, National Procurement Authority, Procurement Facilitation Directorate, Floor 5<sup>th</sup> at or before **10:00 Hrs. (local time) on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2017**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline of bid submission at the same place of bid submission, in the presence of the bidders representatives who choose to attend in person.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security amount (Bank Guarantee) in US \$ or an equivalent amount in freely convertible currency:

Lot No.	Bid Security amount in USD or an equivalent amount in freely convertible currency
Lot 1	17,000 USD
Lot 2	6,000 USD
Lot 3	14,700 USD
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,700 USD</b>

A pre-bid conference shall be held for Bidding Document clarifications at **10:00 AM (local time) on 9 Jan 2017** at Ministry of Higher Education, Karte 4, Kabul, Afghanistan