

Quote of the Day

The best political community is formed by citizens of the middle class.
Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)

Constitution

The State encourages and protects private capital investments and enterprises based on the market economy and guarantees their protection in accordance with the provisions of law.

Article 10

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Peace Doesn't Mean Gambling with Rights of People: Abdullah

KABUL - Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah at a peace seminar on Sunday declared that the peace talks with the Taliban will not be impeding on the rights of people, which many have feared. Abdullah stressed at the event, which was also attended by former Afghan President Hamid Karzai, that peace should be achieved in a way that respects the rights of citizens and should not jeopardize the past achievements made in the country. "Peace doesn't mean to make a deal on honor, prestige and rights of the people," Abdullah said. "If these efforts are taken place in re-



spect to these points, then they are based on people's demands." Many have supported the talks of peace with the Taliban, but have stressed on different points. Deputy leader of Mahaz Milli Islami Party Sayed Hamid Gailani said that peace talks with the Taliban will begin in two to three weeks, emphasizing that the government should not let such an opportunity slip. Gailani warned that if this opportunity is not taken and acted upon properly, then Afghanistan will never get another chance in the future. "According to the words of the elders, ... (More on P4)...(1)

Stringent Measures Stressed to Curb Human Trafficking



KABUL - The Ministry of Interior (MoI) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM) on Sunday expressed concerns over human trafficking and vowed to support Afghan border police in tackling the menace. ... (More on P4)...(2)

New Pentagon Chief Visits Airfield in Kandahar

KABUL - U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter is getting briefed on American military operations at Kandahar airfield in southern Afghanistan as part of what he calls a listening tour of the war zone. On his second day in Afghanistan, Carter flew to Kandahar from Kabul, the capital, where he had held a series of talks with Afghan government leaders and American military commanders. Carter is in Kandahar on Sunday to receive briefings from U.S. and Afghan commanders on progress in training Afghan security forces. Kandahar is home to the Afghan Army's 205th Corps, ... (More on P4)...(3)

Breshna Warns Changing KACA 1000 Route Could be Costly



KABUL - Officials at the Breshna Company have warned that changing the direction of the KASA 1000 electricity project, which some development officials have begun advocating, could cause delays that would be costly. The KASA 1000 project is among the major electricity transfer projects in the region, based on which 1,300 megawatts of electricity from Kazakhstan and Tajikistan is expected to be transferred to Afghanistan and Pakistan. The original route of the project inside Afghanistan ... (More on P4)...(8)

Interpol's Help Sought to Arrest Bank Looters



KANDAHAR CITY - A senior central bank official on Sunday said they had sought Interpol's help to trace and arrest the bank's employees who allegedly got away with as much as 76 million afghanis from a branch in southern Kandahar province. The theft at the branch in Spin Boldak town near the border with Pakistan was discovered on Thursday, and investigators believe the suspects had escaped to Pakistan. Fazal Ahmad, Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) director for south-western region, told Pajhokw Afghan News a delegation from Kabul had arrived in Kandahar to investigate the robbery, which reportedly involved a senior official at the bank, his son and brother-in-law, also on the staff. He said their investigation revealed 76 million afghanis had been looted from the bank, contradicting previous claims that a total of 50 million afis had been stolen. Ahmad said the suspects had sent their families to Pakistan prior to staging ... (More on P4)...(5)

Ali Akbar Velayati Afghan People Should Resolve their own Problems

TEHRAN - Head of Iran's Research Center of the Expediency Council Ali Akbar Velayati said on Sunday that the problems in Afghanistan should be resolved by its people without interference of foreign countries. He made the remarks in a meeting with visiting Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Afghanistan Nicholas Haysom in Tehran on Sunday. Iran and Afghanistan share many commonalities and Iran backs restoration of peace and calm to Afghanistan, he said. Iran has given shelter to millions of Afghan refugees in the past 40 years and treated them in a good manner, he said. All countries sharing borders



with Afghanistan are ready to help the country resolve its problems, he said. Referring to formation of terrorist groups in the region, he said after emergence of Daesh Takfiri ... (More on P4)...(4)

Senior Taliban Negotiator Visits Pakistan

KABUL - A senior Afghan Taliban's negotiator, Qari Din Mohammad, is expected in Pakistan amid reports initial talks between the rebels and the Kabul administration have begun in Qatar. A member of the Taliban's Doha office, Din Mohammad, who headed a delegation to China for talks, will hold talks with Pakistan officials on the Afghan peace



process. A Taliban official, who did not want to be identified, confirmed to a Pakistani ... (More on P4)...(6)

Kidnapped Indian Aid Worker Freed in Afghanistan

NEW DELHI - An Indian priest has been freed in Afghanistan eight months after he was kidnapped by unidentified gunmen, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday. India has "secured the release" of aid worker Alexis Prem Kumar who was snatched in Afghanistan's western province of Herat last June while visiting a school, Modi said in a series of tweets. "Delighted at securing the release of Indian Jesuit priest Father Alexis Prem Kumar from captivity in Afghanistan," Modi said. Modi said he has informed Kumar's family of the priest's "safe return" after being held for eight months, without giving details of the release or whether a ransom had been paid. Kumar, whose family comes from India's southern state of Tamil Nadu, had been working in Afghanistan for some four years before his abduction from the school in Sohadat village. He was working in the strife-torn neighbouring country as director of international educational charity Jesuit Refugee Service. India's foreign ministry said Kumar "is now back in the safety of his homeland and arrangements are being made for him to rejoin his family soon". "The matter of his release has been pursued by our leadership, including at the highest levels of the Prime ... (More on P4)...(7)

'Operation Zulfikar' Extended to Khanshin



LASHKARGAH - An ongoing operation was overnight extended to the Khanshin district of southern Helmand province, with security forces capturing six Pakistani militants, police said on Sunday. Deputy Helmand police chief Col. Pacha Gul Bakhtiyar told ... (More on P4)...(9)

Funds for Samangan Flood-Affected Families Misused: Officials

AIBAK - Funds allocated for construction of shelters for the flood-affected families in northern Samangan province have been embezzled, officials said on Sunday. Karim Mokrenzada, an official of the ministry of economy in Samangan, told Pajhokw Afghan News that Afghan Aid was planning to build shelters for 166 families that were affected by flash floods in Khuram Sarbagh district. He added the NGO later found that only 142 shelters had been constructed while the money withdrawn for construction of 166 shelters. At least 24 houses have not been constructed. Cost of each shelter, ... (More on P4)...(10)

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