

Quote of the Day

The world is a tragedy to those who feel, but a comedy to those who think.
Horace Walpole (1717 - 1797)

Constitution

No one can misuse the rights and freedoms under this Constitution against the independence, territorial integrity, sovereignty and national unity.

Article 59

Reg: No 352

Volume No. 2949

Tuesday February 24, 2015

Hoot 05, 1393

www.outlookafghanistan.net

Price: 15/- Afs

Dr. Abdullah

Afghans Want Peace and Stability

National interest would not be damaged in the peace process

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Abdullah Abdullah on Monday hinted at early beginning of peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban leadership, but said national interests would be kept supreme. Chairing a meeting of the council of ministers, Abdullah assured the Afghans that national interest would not be damaged in the peace process, the details of which would be released in the next few days. He said the nation would be kept onboard with regard to any progress in the yet to be started ne-



gotiations and that no behind the scene deal would be struck with the insurgents.

"The people of Afghanistan will be informed from where these talks will start and what are the developments during the talks," Abdullah said.

"The chief of staff of Pakistan's [army] and his delegation visited Afghanistan a few days ago, we welcome that they said Afghanistan's enemy is Pakistan's enemy, and Pakistan has told those people that are involved in the war that they do not have any other option than ... (More on P4)...(1)

Taliban Reject Reports about Peace Talks



KABUL - The Taliban on Monday rejected media reports that their leadership had given a go-ahead for preliminary peace negotiations with the Afghan government. The reports a day earlier quoted a Taliban leader as saying their leadership had approved initial peace talks with representatives of the Afghan government and the talks were expected to start in March.

The top former commander, who spoke on condition anonymity, said: "Taliban officials, who had been involved in talks with the Pakistanis and the Chinese, and had sought time for consultations with the senior leaders, have received a green signal from the leadership."

He also confirmed that "Pakistani officials had advised Taliban ... (More on P4)...(2)

Officials Allowed Us to Grow Poppy: Helmand Farmers



LASHKARGAH - Farmers claim local officials have allowed them to cultivate poppy crops in their fields in return for money in southern Helmand province, the world's leading opium producing region.

The growers say the government has ignored the issue of poppy cultivation and local officials have allowed the illicit plant's cultivation in exchange for heavy bribes.

Wishing not to be named, these growers in Nad Ali, Marja, Garamsir, Nawa, Greshk and other districts say the poppy crop has become a major source of income for local officials.

A farmer in Nad Ali district told Pajhwok ... (More on P4)...(4)

US Defense Secretary

'We will never be gone from Afghanistan'

KANDAHAR - The US Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter has said the United States will never be gone from Afghanistan while on insisting on the importance of the country.

Speaking to US troops at TAAC South's Kandahar Airfield headquarters, Carter said "We'll never be gone from Afghanistan because Afghanistan is an important



country in the world." He said "but when our presence here is reduced to some-

thing much smaller than today, we want to make sure that the ... (More on P4)...(3)

Russia Wants Security Agreement Inked with Afghanistan: Ambassador

KABUL - Russian ambassador to Afghanistan, Alexander Mantytskiy, called on second deputy to chief executive Haji Mohammad Mohaqiq and expressed his country's willingness, to ink security agreement with Afghanistan.

During the meeting, ... (More on P4)...(5)



Over 11,000 Afghan Students Studying in Iran

TEHRAN - Caretaker Higher Education Ministry, Osman Baberi, said Iran's standard universities and experienced professors have caused Afghan students to prefer the neighboring country for their higher education studies.

Baberi said in Mashhad on Sunday that more than 11,000 Afghan students are studying various branches of sciences in the Iranian higher education centers, and expressed the hope that academic centers in Afghanistan would improve their scientific level through expansion of Iran's cooperation.

He further added that Iran's Islamic Azad University can play crucial role in this respect.

Iran is one of the most important donors to ... (More on P4)...(6)



HRW Asks Pakistan to Stop Forced Refugees' Repatriation



KABUL - The Human Rights Watch (HRW) urged Pakistan to stop forced repatriation of Afghan refugees.

"Pakistani officials should not make refugees scapegoat in the wake of Taliban's atrocities in Peshawar," said Phelim Kine, HRW deputy Asia director.

The HRW asked Pakistani authorities to honor its obligation of protecting Afghan refugees from harassment, including those who were not registered.

"It is inhumane, not to mention unlawful, to return Afghans to places they may face harm and not protect them from harassment and ... (More on P4)...(7)

Get free Facebook with MTN data bundles

Get 500 MB **free for Facebook** + 1GB internet free by subscribing to the monthly 3 GB bundle and 50 MB **free for Facebook** by subscribing to the daily 200 MB bundle.

To check your existing data volume and validity, send 7 to 344.

Data Packages	Price	Volume	Free Internet	Subscription Method
Daily	50 AFS	200 MB	50 MB Free Facebook	Send 11 to 344
Monthly	500 AFS	3 GB	500 MB Free Facebook + 1 GB Free Data	Send 32 to 344

*The bonus internet for Facebook is for your mobile usage only.



Call 779 for details. Sim registration is **mandatory**.

www.mtn.com.af MTN Afghanistan @MTNAfghanistan
LinkedIn MTN Afghanistan

everywhere you go