

<b>Jalalabad</b> Partly Cloudy 19°C 3°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Partly Cloudy 9°C -2°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Clear 19°C 6°C	<b>Mazar</b> Partly Cloudy 13°C 2°C	<b>Herat</b> Partly Cloudy 14°C 2°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Partly Cloudy 1°C -9°C	<b>Kabul</b> Partly Cloudy 12°C -3°C
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# Clerics Urge Afghans to Work for National Unity

GHAZNI/SHARAN - Religious leaders in southern Ghazni province have urged the Afghans to shun ethnic differences and work for solid national unity. Attending a Seerat-un-Nabi conference in Ghazni City, on Friday evening, the scholars said the Quran had declared all Muslims as brothers. Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras and Uzbeks should live like brothers. The day-long conference was organised by civil society group "Zhwand" (life) and was attended



by a number of religious scholars, tribal elders and local residents. One of the speakers, Muallim Muhammad Nadir, shed light on the life of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and urged the Afghans to join hands for national unity. Religious scholar from the Qarabagh ... (More on P4)... (10)

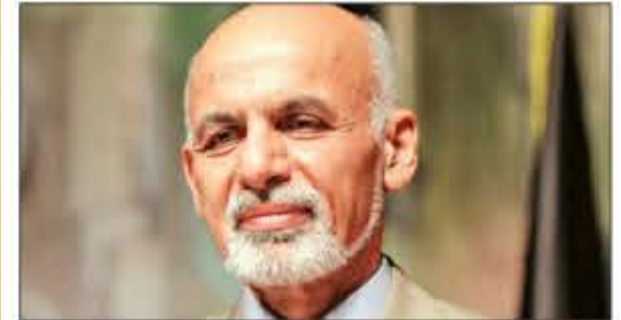
## Armed Militants Concentrate in Afghan-Tajik Border

DUSHANBE - Tajik Interior Minister Ramazon Rahimzoda has confirmed information about concentration of armed militants in the Afghan area near the Tajik border. Militants that have concentrated in Afghan areas bordering Tajikistan are members of various terrorist groups, including Taliban and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), Rahimzoda told journalists in Dushanbe on January 16. "In this connection, Tajikistan is taking ... (More on P4)... (13)

## 115 Illegal Afghans Rounded up in Peshawar Raids

KABUL - Pakistani security agencies have detained more than 110 Afghan citizens during a two-day search operation in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a media report said on Saturday. At least 434 suspicious, including 115 unregistered Afghan citizens, were detained in different parts of the province, especially Peshawar, on Thursday and Friday, a Pakistani newspaper reported. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was seized by police and security forces during the operation, which led to the forcible shutdown of several private hostels in different neighbourhoods of Peshawar. Police spokesman Riaz Ahmad told Dawn 189 weapons, 5,516 rounds and a large quantity of ammunition had been recovered from the detainees. At least 1,617 houses ... (More on P4)... (15)

## Ghani Condemns Prophet Mohammad's (PBUH) Cartoons



KABUL - The Afghan government on Saturday condemned the republication of blasphemous cartoons of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) by the French magazine Charlie Hebdo. President Ashraf Ghani said the freedom of expression should be exercised responsibly to create a peaceful environment for coexistence and understanding among followers of different faiths. Publishing such caricatures was an insult to Islam and provocative to ... (More on P4)... (14)

## 42 Rebels Killed in New Dangam Offensive

ASADABAD - Forty-two Taliban militants were killed and several others wounded as a result of a newly-launched operation in the Dangam district of eastern Kunar province in past 24 hours, an official said on Saturday. Maj. Gen. Mohammad Zaman Waziri, the 201st Selab Military Corps commander, told Pajhwok Afghan News that security forces had made progress during the ongoing operation. Eight bodies of Taliban fighters were found in Kantawal area and handed over to local residents, he said. Waziri ... (More on P4)... (11)

## Anti-Taliban Group in Paktia Seeks Govt. Support

GARDEZ - An anti-Taliban group in the Rabat locality on the outskirts of Gardez, the capital of southeastern Paktia province, on Saturday urged the government to assist it in the fight against militants. Sultankhel, deputy commander of an anti-Taliban tribal militia, told Pajhwok Afghan News that they had been waging a struggle against the insurgents but needed government's assistance in purging their area of fighters. Some members of groups visited the provincial



council headquarters late on Friday and asked the public representatives to contact higher authorities for equipping and arming them. "We will fight till our last breath against the armed insurgents if the government extends us a helping hand," said Sultankhel, who demanded weapons and ammunition ... (More on P4)... (12)

## 150 Truckloads of Inferior Fuel Seized in Nimroz



ZARANJ - The customs department of southwestern Nimroz province on Saturday announced seizing 150 truckloads of low-quality fuel imported from neighbouring Iran. The Council of Ministers banned inferior fuel imports this year, Customs Director Wais Sultani said, asking the importers to return the low-quality oil. But the traders said they had placed orders for the import of "diesel 50" before the start of 2014; their tankers could not reach the border in time due to ... (More on P4)... (16)



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