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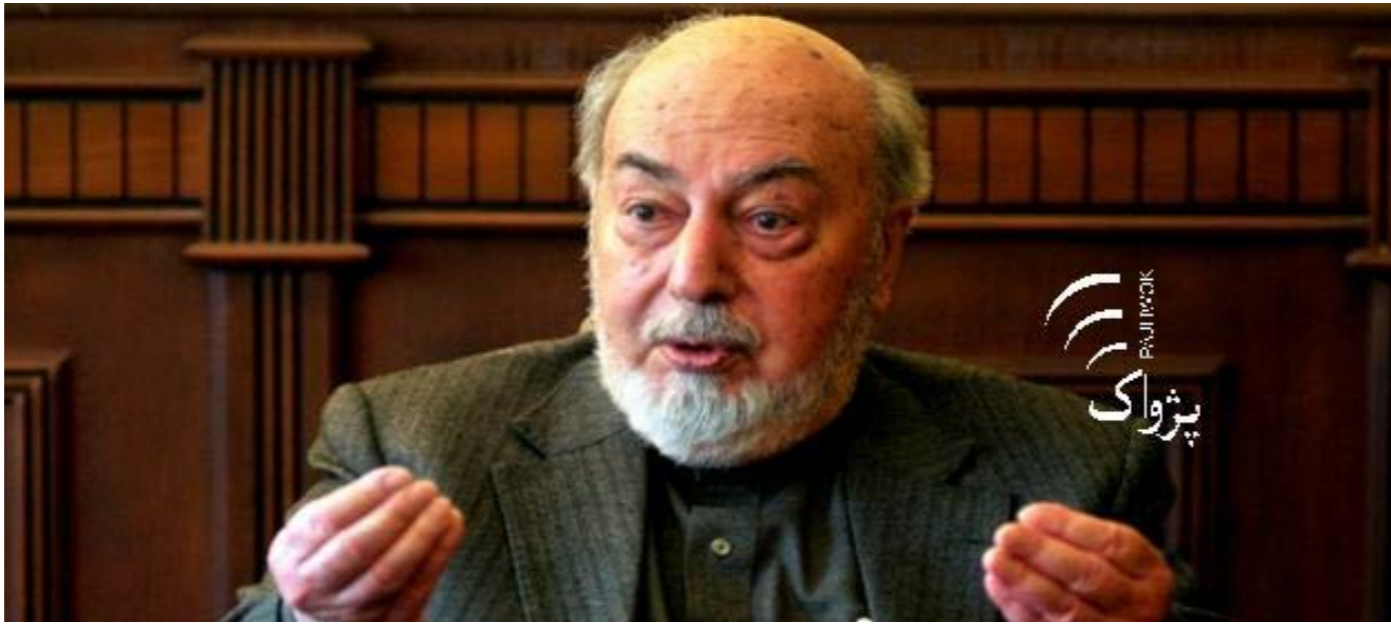
January 22, 2017

Jalalabad Partly Cloudy 16°C 5°C	Ghazni Snow 3°C -3°C	Kandahar Chance of Rain 12°C 5°C	Mazar Chance of Rain 10°C 4°C	Herat Chance of Rain 10°C 6°C	Bamayan Snow 2°C -7°C	Kabul Cloudy 3°C -7°C
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Daily Outlook Weather Forecast

Afghan High Peace Council Chief Gilani passes away

KABUL - The Afghan High Peace Council (AHPC) Chief Pir Syed Ahmad Gilani passed away, it has been reported. Gilani was an influential political and religious leader and was reportedly suffering from an illness. Sources close to Gilani have said he passed away as he was receiving treatment in the Afghan Intelligence, National Directorate of Security (NDS) hospital. Gilani assumed charge of the Afghan High Peace Council late in the month of February last year. He assumed charge of the High Peace Council almost a month after the major donors including the United States and United Kingdom suspended their financial aid to the council earlier last year. According to the council of



officials, the donors suspended financial support to the High Peace Council since the beginning of the last year, citing

lack of chairman for almost a year and issues within the secretariat of the council. Gilani assumed charge of the High

Peace Council amid ongoing efforts by Quadrilateral Coordination Group involving representatives of Afghanistan,

Pakistan, United States and China to revive direct peace talks between the Afghan government and Taliban groups. (KP)

Fresh Varsity Graduates in Uruzgan Seek Jobs



TIRINKOT - Hundreds of university graduates in central Uruzgan province on Saturday asked the government to provide them job opportunities. Prof. Mohammad Pazeer Hakimi, the Uruzgan Higher Education Institute head, said 284 students of the agriculture and education faculties had completed their degrees. He said the government should provide jobs to the graduates to overcome the shortage of professional teachers and agriculture experts in the province. He said it was government's responsibility to employ edu-

cated youth in their respective fields so they were able to serve the society. Governor Mohammad Nazir Kharotai thanked the university officials and the graduates for completing their studies despite insecurity and challenges. He said the government would make every effort to provide jobs to the graduates in government and non-governmental organizations. Sharifullah, one of the graduates, said agriculture was his favorite field and he wanted to find a job in the same field. He asked ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Hamid Karzai

US Needs New Afghan Policy

KABUL - Former Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai asked the new US administration to review the Afghan policy and 'correct mistakes' committed during the past 15 years. He also held Pakistan responsible for failure of the US-Afghan policy. In an interaction with India's Minister of State for External Affairs, MJ Akbar, at the concluding session of Raisina Dialogue, the former Afghan President admitted that things went wrong during this period. "That is why we have not been able to defeat the Taliban and other extremist forces despite our best efforts which yielded good re-



sults initially," he said. Karzai suggested that the US, along with Russia, China and India, should sit together and work out a new policy. He believed that Trump's apparent willingness to cooperate with Russia would help the fight against terror in the region. He said the so-called

US ally, Pakistan, was itself responsible for the failure of Washington's Afghan policy, as it, through the ISI, encouraged and assisted regrouping of Taliban activists who had gone back and settled in villages after losing power. He said it used religion to motivate ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Don't Repeat Past Mistakes, Faryab Residents Tell Russia

MAIMANA - Hundreds of ulema, tribal elders, women and civil society activists in northwestern Faryab province on Saturday supported Afghan security forces, asking militants to join the peace process. At a gathering in Maimana, the provincial capital, Faryab residents said terrorist attacks were strictly forbidden in Islam. They roundly condemned any type of violent acts. Maulvi Gul Ahmad Latifi, deputy director of hajj and religious affairs, called the killing of innocent people in suicide bombings an un-Islamic act. He said perpetrators of such attacks would be held accountable to their deeds on the Day of Judgment. "Allah says in Quran says that the killing one person amounts to the killing of all



humanity," he said, claiming the militants could not reach a peace deal with Afghanistan without Pakistan's permission. The rebel groups should be eliminated based on Islamic teachings, he demanded, asking all Afghans, particularly ulema, to support the government until their last drop of blood and stand with the security forces in

defence of the country. Maulvi Asadullah Jamali, head of the peace committee, believed stability could be established when all ulema collectively announce from pulpits that fighting against the government was illegal and killing civilians forbidden in Islam. "Pro-government people are condemned as Jewish puppets ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Jawzjan Women Embark on Growing Mushrooms

SHIBERGHAN - A number of poor women in northern Jawzjan province have grown mushrooms in their fields after receiving training. Mushrooms are grown in foreign countries and have recently been cultivated in some areas of Afghanistan, giving good result. Two types of mushrooms are grown in Jawzjan province. One type is known as wild mushroom which is used in medicines and another is normal mushroom which is delicious when cooked with eggs. Hajira, a resident of Shiberghan, the capital of Jawzjan, who received training in growing mushrooms, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the provincial agriculture and livestock department was supporting poor women like her and had provided them all farming tools free of cost for growing mushrooms. "Around 15 women have grown mushrooms in Kok Ganbad village of Shiberghan and each of us had so far harvested the crop for 12 times and we each time earned 12,000 afghanis," she said. About how mushrooms were grown, she said, "First we wet chaff in a barrel for 24 hours, then we took out the husks and dry them, then we mix the chaff with wheat bran and lime powder and put them in fabric bags and steam them." Then more chaff was added and pure mushrooms seeds were put over it and left for 20 days until the mushrooms were grown. "We keep temperature at the room at 25 centigrade every day," she added. Growing mushrooms was a good business for poor women who could earn enough and improve their economy, Hajira said. Shah Gul, 50, another woman from Kok Ganbad village, also said only a few number of people in Jawzjan knew about growing mushrooms. She learnt growing mushrooms from other women and had collected eight harvests from her field so far. "But we face problem in selling them. The agriculture and livestock ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Tolo Marks the First Anniversary of Attack on its Staff



KABUL - TOLO TV this week marked the first anniversary of the attack on a staff vehicle that killed seven employees and wounded 25 others. The suicide bombing took place on January 20 last year in Darulaman Road in Kabul city. Those killed in the attack were Hussain Khaksar, Mohammad Ali Mohammadi, Hussain Amiry, Mehry Azizi, Zainab Merzaie, Jawad Hussaini, and Maryam Ibrahim. Although 2016 was noted as the deadliest year for jour-

nalists ever in Afghanistan, journalists have said they will continue their work and won't let threats get the better of them. "Afghan media passed the year successfully and showed that when a human rights value is rooted in society, neither the Taliban, nor any other terrorist group can change peoples' perception toward it," said Mujeeb Khilwatgar, Executive Director of NAI, an organization supporting open media. Despite ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Visas for Afghan Students in Pakistan May be Extended

PESHAWAR - Visas for the Afghans studying in different Pakistani educational institutions will be extended, a senior government official has indicated. December 2017 will be the deadline for voluntary repatriation of around 1.3 million registered refugees if a summary sent the cabinet is accorded approval. The federal secretary to the Ministry of State and Frontier Regions said on Friday: "The deadline announced for the repatriation of refugees will not affect the Afghan students." Mohammad Shehzad Arbab told the inaugural ceremony for a skill development programme for Afghan and Pakistani youth here the proposed relaxation would facilitate thousands of refugee students. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and SAFRON jointly launched the skill development programme for local and Afghan youth, who will get training in different trades. Under the pilot project worth Rs30 million, more than 700 unskilled youth up to the age of 25 years will be trained and given the required tools on completion of the programme. The youth will be trained as beauticians, tailors, plumbers, electricians, stone masons and fridge, mobile phone, solar ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Kunduz Doctors Rally, Boycott Duty in Protest

KUNDUZ CITY - Hundreds of doctors and health officials on Saturday boycotted duty and threatened widespread protests if their security was not ensured following the kidnapping of a doctor's son in northern Kunduz province. The protesting doctors and health officials had gathered at the Kunduz Zonal Hospital and demanded the provincial government provide them security. Latif Sharifi, one of the doctors, said families of health officials were not safe. He said the doctor's son who



was kidnapped 10 days ago remained missing and no attention was paid to his recovery. He asked the government to ensure security of health official otherwise they would boycott duty for the next 48

hours. Police Chief Brig. Gen. Abdul Hamid Hamidi said a separate security team had been tasked with securing release of the kidnapped boy. He said some development had been made in the case but he ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

UN Commends Pakistan for Hosting Afghan Refugees

PESHAWAR - United Nations (UN) Secretary General Antonio Guterres has commended Pakistan's hospitality in hosting millions of Afghan refugees for decades. Guterres conveyed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif his appreciation of Pakistan's contribution to the world body and its peace-making operations. They discussed the overall situation in the region at a meeting in Davos on Thursday, according to the state-controlled Associated Press of Pakistan. Sharif



said it was encouraging to learn that Guterres had set his priorities soon after assuming

office. He invited the UN chief to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience. (Pajhwok)

Primary Military Court Judge Kidnapped in Kunduz

KUNUZ CITY - Unidentified gunmen kidnapped a primary military court judge in the restive northern province of Kunduz on Saturday morning, an official said. Mahfoozullah Akbari, spokesman for the 808th Spinzar Police Zone, told Pajhwok Afghan News the judge was abducted in the Khwaja Pasti locality of Khanabad district. He said Qazi Asal Din was on

his way to Kunduz province from Takhar when gunmen kidnapped him along with his bodyguard. The judge had not informed police ahead of embarking on his journey to Kunduz, Akbari said, adding a search had been mounted but there was no breakthrough yet. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Asal Din. (Pajhwok)