

### (1) Kabul to ...

and international levels for peace with the Taliban, and galvanize it into a single 'Afghan-led and Afghan-own' process for peaceful resolution of the conflict.

The conference has become even more significant following the massive truck bombing that claimed up to 90 lives a few meters away from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where the conference on June 6 would be held.

Dawa Khan Menapal, deputy spokesman for the president, told Anadolu Agency one of the objectives of the truck bombing was to disrupt this conference.

"A way for peaceful resolution of the conflict would be sought at this conference, talks and discussions with representatives of various countries would take place for an 'Afghan-led and Afghan-own' peace process", he said.

In the meeting with the ambassadors, Ghani presented the peace deal with Hezb-e-Islami as a success story of the Afghan-led peace initiative.

"Afghanistan has a strategic location that links South Asia with Central Asia and Europe. The terrorists want to insecure Afghanistan to eventually destabilize the region and the world", Ghani told the meeting. (AA)

### (2) Time to ....

Afghanistan until a further security assessment by the foreign ministry. The suspension would continue until July, she indicated.

However, Merkel explained, her administration would continue to encourage voluntary repatriation in addition to deporting criminals and those who are seen as threats to security on a case by case basis.

Also on Thursday, the German Green Party launched a parliamentary motion to stop the deportations, which were denounced as "inhumane".

On Wednesday, 300 people confronted police who wanted to detain and deport a 20-year-old Afghan in Nuremberg. Nine individuals were wounded in the confrontations. (Pajhwok)

### (3) Iran with ....

its decisive battle to completely eradicate terror and extremism," Rouhani pledged.

According to Iran's state-controlled media, the president expressed condolences to the Afghan government and nation and wished patience for the families of the victims.

"Carrying out criminal terrorist attacks in the holy month of Ramadan is indicative of the fact that the perpetrators, directors and supporters of such blind actions have in no way benefited from Islam," he remarked. (Pajhwok)

### (4) Kabul ...

the White House said in a readout of the phone call between the two leaders.

Conveying his deepest condolences to the families and friends of those killed and injured in the murderous attack that took place this morning near the diplomatic zone in Kabul, Trump also commended the Afghan security forces for their steadfast efforts to defend the Afghan people from enemies who would seek to deny them the security and prosperity they so richly deserve, the White House said.

The US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson offered his deepest condolences to the families and friends of those who were killed and injured, including Afghan partners, members of the diplomatic and international communities, and many innocent Afghan citizens.

"We pray for a speedy recovery to the American and Afghan members of our mission staff and others who were injured in this attack, and we praise the Afghan Security Forces, police, and medical professionals who were the first responders to the scene," he said.

"In the face of this senseless and cowardly act, the U.S. commitment to Afghanistan is unwavering; the United States stands with the government and the people of Afghanistan and will continue to support their efforts to achieve peace, security, and prosperity for their country," Tillerson said.

The UN Secretary General António Guterres strongly condemns the terrorist attack in the city's diplomatic district in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul. In a statement he expressed his abhorrence at this act and underlined the need to reinforce the fight against terrorism and violent extremism.

"Indiscriminate attacks against civilians are grave violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and can never be justified. Those responsible for today's attack must be brought to justice," said a statement issued by his spokesman.

Condemning in strongest term the "heinous and cowardly terrorist attack" that took place during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan in the Wazir Akbar Khan area in Kabul on 31 May 2017, the UN Security Council

in a statement underlined the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice.

Members of the Security Council stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable, and urged all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Government of Afghanistan and all other relevant authorities in this regard.

Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland, said the timing of this cowardly attack during the holy month of Ramadan was deliberate and intended to target civilians and foreign service workers from some of the closest allies. (Pajhwok)

### (5) Misuse of ...

At least seven people were killed and 10 others wounded on Friday when a massive protest erupted at the site of a devastating suicide bombing in Kabul earlier in the week.

Ghani said security forces were duty-bound to deal patiently and professionally with demonstrators. "But protest organisers should not allow the misuse of this democratic right of the people..."

However, the government promised it would not let anyone incite violence, disturb the public order or whip up public sentiments in their petty personal interest. (Pajhwok)

### (6) Abdullah ...

Circle, which was the scene of Wednesday's deadly bombing, police started firing off tear gas canisters. Fire trucks also sprayed the demonstrators with water.

When this failed to disperse the crowd, police opened fire with live rounds on the protestors.

Hospital officials have confirmed five were killed, including the son of a Meshrano Jirga (Upper House of Parliament) senator.

At least 15 people were wounded - most of whom were shot in the legs and feet, hospital officials confirmed. However, two of those killed were shot in the mouth and two were shot in the chest.

Eventually the Afghan National Army was brought in to control the situation and they managed to push back the demonstrators.

The angry protestors took possession of the bodies from hospital authorities they continued to chant slogans including "Down with (President Ashraf) Ghani." (Tolonews)

### (7) Protestors ...

the interior minister," said Abdullah Rasuli, a civil society activist.

"We want changes in security apparatus. The main perpetrators of the attack must be identified and punished," said Shahbaz Shahrukhi, a civil society activist.

The protestors meanwhile criticized those who call the Taliban brothers. "From Mr. (former president Hamid) Karzai to ( Hizb-e-Islami leader Gulbuddin) Hekmatyar, all those who have called the Taliban brothers; can they call the Taliban brothers again?" asked Rahila Jafari, a civil society activist.

"We (government) train the security forces for what purpose? Who are those who lose their lives? They are my sons your brother! Why there should be blood shedding in our soil?" said Abdul Farid Aryaee, a resident of Kabul.

This comes after the Ministry of Interior said in a statement on Thursday afternoon that it has suspended three police officers from their posts.

However, residents say the 'symbolic moves' are taken by government in order to silence criticisms and the people. (Tolonews)

### (8) Nicholson ...

Embassy Charge d'Affaires Dr. Ulrich Ernst, NATO Senior Civilian Representative Cornelius Zimmerman and Resolute Support Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Jurgen Weigt. The German Embassy is one of the locations most affected by the detonation.

"Once again we stand shoulder by shoulder with our Afghan partners and grieve for our losses," said Weigt. "These helping hands stand for the strength of this so proud country, which will not lose ground facing this ruthless enemy."

The attack demonstrated a complete disregard for civilians and revealed the barbaric nature of the enemy, Nicholson added. He said it also highlights the hypocrisy of an enemy who claim they only target Afghan Security Forces and foreign troops, yet continue to cause death among innocent people.

The senior enlisted leader for Resolute Support, Command Sergeant Major David M. Clark, also expressed lock-step support for the Afghan partners. "Today many Afghans have lost their lives, and many more have

been wounded. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our Afghan partners," Clark said.

"The ANDSF is made of men and women with hopes and dreams, a passionate commitment to the idea of freedom, and the willingness to fight for those ideals. With courage and honor, we will prevail."

Resolute Support and coalition forces stand together with the Afghan people, committed to seek a peaceful, stable future for this country. (Pajhwok)

### (9) Concerns ...

should change this type of security into a security which is maintained by using technological capabilities plus human capacity. It is needed for all over the (Kabul) city," said Mirza Mohammad Yarmand, former deputy minister of interior.

"This shows the weakness, failure and irresponsibility of security forces and in general of our government," said Assadullah Saadati, MP.

Meanwhile, military analysts slammed security institutions, the National Security Council and the National Directorate of Security for having failed to safeguard security in the city and said all bodies need to apologize to the public and leaders need to resign.

"Government leaders should apologize from the people and should say that they cannot carry on. This is either their guts, their duty, their courage and it is the best option on the ground," said Atiqullah Amarkhail, a former military official.

However, the Kabul Police Chief Hassan Shah Frogh termed such deadly attacks as normal.

"Such incidents are happening around the world; they are not in Afghanistan alone. Afghanistan is a country which has experienced thirty years of war. Afghanistan is dealing with terrorism. The incident (in Kabul on Wednesday) is an incident which could have occurred and we cannot say that this was the last incident; and we cannot say that no incident will happen (in the future)," the police chief said in an interview with TOLONews on Wednesday. (Tolonews)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

He said some foreigners suffered injuries, including American and German embassy staff, but those murdered were overwhelmingly Afghan citizens and followers of the Islamic faith. "I don't know if they conformed to every single letter and tenet of their religion, few people of any faith ever do. But I suspect they were very good Muslims, doing their best to be good parents, good citizens, good people," he said.

"At the beginning of this most holy time in the Islamic faith, this act of terror is a crime against Islam, and a crime against humanity," he added.

In his cable, Saudi King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud said: "We have received with profound pain and sadness the news of a terrorist explosion that took place in the diplomatic quarter in Kabul, killing and injuring dozens."

Meanwhile, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan made a telephone call to President Ghani.

During the conversation, Mohamed voiced his strong condemnation of the "heinous terrorist attack" that took place in Wazir Akbar Khan area.

Mohamed said the UAE's stand with Afghanistan at this delicate time of confronting terrorism, and reiterated UAE's firm position in rejection of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said that Iran would continue support for Afghan people and government in fighting terrorism and establishing security and peace there.

In separate messages to Afghan Parliament Speaker Abdul Raouf Ibrahimy and the Senate Speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar, the Iranian speaker condemned the attack, adding that Iran will spare no effort help the Afghan nation.

Terrorism and extremism are big threats to peace and stability in the globe, Larijani added.

The speaker expressed solidarity with people and government of Afghanistan as well as the bereaved families of the victims. (Agencies)

attack and take serious steps for improvement of public security.

Ghani also ordered security officials to share details of the attack with the public. The president ordered MoUD and municipality officials to reconstruct all areas damaged in Wednesday's powerful explosion.

According to the Ministry of Public Health, 80 civilians were killed and 450 others wounded in the truck suicide bombing close to Zanaq Square in the limits of the 10th police district. (Pajhwok)

### (15) 51 Surgeries ...

A number of families who were waiting for to collect the bodies of their relatives outside the hospital said despite recovery efforts the remains of their loved ones were still missing.

"We searched all hospitals in Kabul," said Sardar, a relative of Mohammad Zafar, a security guard, who was believed killed in Wednesday's attack.

Another family, who came to Kabul from Baghlan, said their son had been working as a security guard at the German Embassy in Kabul.

They said his body cannot be completely identified as it was completely dismembered in the explosion.

Kadija, a resident of Kabul, says her husband had been working for Ariana Airlines and was on his way to work when the explosion took place. She has had no word on his whereabouts since then.

"He was working as an engineer installing antennas in Faryab, Herat and other provinces. I am searching for him, no one says where he is," she said.

Another woman at the hospital said she is searching for her 14-year-old son who was working as an assistant driver for a private organization.

Head of Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital, Gul Ahmad Ayubi, said a number of bodies are not identifiable.

"The ceiling had collapsed on her. Her face was pressured. She was brought here this (Thursday) morning," he said.

Zabi, who has worked in the mortuary at the hospital for 20 years, said the body of a woman, killed in the deadly bombing on Wednesday, was brought to the hospital on Thursday.

"The emergency wards for women and men were full and we had to send emergency patients to other departments. We had to evacuate a number of patients who were partially in a good condition," he said.

Wazir Akbar Khan hospital has 30 trolleys, four ambulances and 100 medical doctors.

Doctors at the hospital said at least 24 surgeons were busy in surgery right through Wednesday night in a bid to help those wounded in the bombing. Experts say Wednesday's attack was one of the most deadliest incidents in Kabul in the past few years. (Tolonews)

### (16) Family of ...

how long with they (NUG leaders) think only of power? Let the youths like us who have been suffering lead the country because they do not think of power," she added.

"(President) Ashraf Ghani and (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah are you waiting to grieve the loss of your own sons? My only brother was killed and my sister, father and mother's destiny are unknown after this," said Maryam, the older sister.

Hussain's relatives also called on government leaders to step down.

"I say to you cowardly leaders that you cannot do anything for Afghan people and that you should step down. People cannot stand you anymore," Mohammad Amir, a relative of Hussain said.

"Hussain was an electrician at the Canadian embassy. He worked there from 4pm to 8am. He was on his way back home on Wednesday when he was killed in the incident," Hussain's uncle, Mohammad Ali said.

Hussain was 28 years old and started working at the Canadian embassy six months ago. (Tolonews)

### (17) Iranian ...

Process' which is set to be organised in near future, he said the Iranian government supported the initiative of the Ghani administration

Ghani thanked the ambassador for sharing Afghans' grief, saying Afghanistan was ready to initiate talks with Iran within the framework of five cooperation committees. Both sides stressed bilateral cooperation in various fields. (Pajhwok)

"Turkey will continue to stand with friendly and brotherly people and Government of Afghanistan in the fight against terrorism," the statement said.

Bill Shorten, leader of the Opposition in the Parliament of Australia, told Thursday's session that the Prime Minister had dealt with some of the terrible details of the incident and the terrible toll of human life.

Bill Shorten, leader of the Opposition in the Parliament of Australia, told Thursday's session that the Prime Minister had dealt with some of the terrible details of the incident and the terrible toll of human life.

powerful individuals involved in illegal activities.

About disarming illegal armed individuals, Balkh police chief Kamal Sadat said he could control such groups if ordered by the government leaders. (Pajhwok)

### (19) Southeastern...

joblessness, corruption, drug smuggling and illegal mining were the factors boosting militancy.

"I am proud of the security forces who are bravely defending their people and land, but administrative corruption, illegal mining and unemployment are the reasons for the prolonged war," he remarked.

Paktika Governor Elyas Wahdat also appreciated the security forces but stressed they should be equipped with advanced weapons. He said the Taliban were unable to fight face to face with the Afghan forces.

"Paktika is a surrounded province where three routes lead, including the one in Zurmat and another in the Andar town of Ghazni. But both routes are controlled by Taliban who stop people.

"Air transportation is another way but the shortage of helicopters makes this option less feasible," he explained.

Khost Governor Hakam Khan Habibi stressed the need for strict control of the Durand Line and good governance, saying security in the southeastern zone could be boosted if the routes frequented by militants were closed.

"Let's use strategic methods and block the ways the terrorists are using for their movements; there may be need for some security personnel but it will make other forces to feel safe," he remarked.

Brig. Gen. Abdul Wase Milad, commander of the 203rd Thunder Military Corps, after hearing suggestions from the governors, promised to implement their decisions.

He said security forces had tightened control on the Durand Line and other routes used by militant groups. Milad assured Elyas Wahdat one of the two routes would be secured for safe transportation.

The governors said lack of development projects and weak local governance were the reason for the increasing distance between the people and the government. They agreed to meet on security and civil services every three months. (Pajhwok)

### (20) 11 Taliban...

wounded.

The ministry said four of the dead were foreign terrorists. However, the MoD did not give their nationalities. The Taliban have not yet commented on either incident. (Pajhwok)

### (21) 19 Taliban ...

belonging to them were destroyed during the same operation, the officials added.

The Afghan forces also conducted operations in the outskirts of Sangin district, leaving at least three militants dead and four others wounded, the officials said, adding that the security personnel and civilians did not suffer any casualties during the operations.

The anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the report so far. (KP)

### (22) Taliban,...

unaware about the exact figure. Zabiullah Mujahid, the Taliban's spokesman, confirmed the gun battle and said their fighters stormed security check-posts in Shpolay area for Dand-i-Pathan district.

He claimed that 12 security personnel were killed, 10 wounded, two others arrested and four check-posts captured by the Taliban. Only two Taliban were killed, he concluded.

Dand-i-Pathan is one of the insecure districts of Paktia where fighting often take place between Taliban and security forces. (Pajhwok)

### (23) Efforts ...

forest which is the only livelihood of area people. Residents have suffered losses."

Provincial council head Saadullah Payandazai asked the government to extinguish the blaze through aircraft and prevent the forest from being reduced to ashes. He said residents could not tackle the fire.

But Governor Hafiz Abdul Qayyum believed only local residents would extinguish the fire. "The government has no facility to spray water from the air; but people have reached the area and are making efforts to control the blaze. We have also sent residents of other areas to help control the fire."

The fire is raging in an area haunted by a large number of insurgents. With a reason yet to be ascertained, officials alleged shepherds set up a fire in the forest last night.

According to another report, a fire eruption in Kot and Rodat districts of eastern Nangarhar province gutted 75 homes, inflicted heavy financial losses on people. (Pajhwok)