

Quote of the Day

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.
Franklin D. Roosevelt

Constitution

The amendment of the fundamental rights of the people are permitted only in order to make them more effective.

Article 149

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Mohaqqiq Voices Doubts after Meeting Taliban

KABUL - With no plans for peace talks on the horizon, Haji Muhammad Mohaqqiq, the Second Deputy of Chief Executive Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, has expressed doubts that any progress has been made in the peace process after meeting with Taliban representatives in Norway last week.

Upon the conclusion of the meeting in the Norwegian capital of Oslo, which was the source of considerable hope when it was first announced, Mohaqqiq said the views expressed by the Taliban representatives were unchanged from the past.



"There were five individuals from the Taliban, and there was no discussion or exchange of words," Mohaqqiq said. "In this conference, only views were presented; there wasn't a major difference since the past, and I didn't feel a great development in the peace process."

Nevertheless, it appears the Afghan government is willing to take the first goodwill step toward real peace talks - officials have indicated leaders in Kabul may soon agree to allow the Taliban to open an official office in Qatar. Taliban leaders have said the ... (More on P4)...(1)

Dostum-Atta Alliance Forged in Bid to Fight Insurgency



KABUL - A deteriorating security situation in the northern parts of Afghanistan has resulted in two former rivals Frist Vice-President Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum and Governor of Balkh Province, Atta Mohammad Noor, setting aside their differences and forging a new coalition aimed at fighting insurgents. Noor, ... (More on P4)...(2)

'International Community Backs Parliamentary Vote'



KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Monday said reforms in the electoral system would be brought through a special mechanism to reduce costs and make future elections transparent. The president said this during a meeting with leading United Nations members in Afghanistan at the Presidential Palace in Kabul, a statement from the palace said. The meeting discussed people's trust in credibility of elections and the date and costs of the par ... (More on P4)...(4)

Govt. Has no Strategy to Fight Daesh: MPs



KABUL - Some Wolesi Jirga members on Monday said the government lacked strategy how to deal with threats posed by the so-called Islamic State or Daesh group.

Speaking at the general session, these lawmakers warned that security situation would further deteriorate if the government did not pay heed to the prevailing situation.

The self-styled Islamic State group is comprised of Chechen, Uzbek, Tajik and Arab fighters. The group emerged last winter in Helmand, Farah, Kunar and Logar provinces and is said to be active in Badakhshan, Kunduz and Nangarhar.

Farooq Majrooh, a lawmaker from Herat province, said: "Daesh presence expands day by day. If their recruitment completes, they would also start mounting attacks coming winter or next spring."

He accused government officials of negligence, saying currently only the Taliban fought against the ... (More on P4)...(5)

ISIS Not Posing Strategic Threat to Afghanistan: NATO Official

KABUL - The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group does not pose a strategic threat to Afghanistan, a senior NATO official said Monday.

The official further added that both the Afghan government and the NATO take the issue regarding the alleged emergence of the terror group in Afghanistan as "very seriously".

The remark by the NATO official comes as there have been growing concerns among the Afghans regarding the growing activities by



the affiliates of the terror group to gain a foothold in Afghanistan. The social media have been rife

with posts published by the pro-ISIS activists recently, which suggests the ... (More on P4)...(3)

MPs Summon Ulomi to Explain Delay in Digital IDs Distribution

KABUL - Lawmakers in Parliament have summoned Interior Minister Noor-ul-Haq Ulomi to answer questions on Saturday about the government's continued delays in rolling out the new computer-based national ID card program, which is said to be ready for full implementation.

"We have included the issue on our agenda, discussed it ... (More on P4)...(6)

Dr. Abdullah Electoral Reforms Commission to Start Work Soon

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah has said electoral reforms commission will start work soon.

He expressed these views in a meeting with Spanish Ambassador to Kabul Jose Rubio on Sunday.

A statement from the CEO office said the government was committed to bring about fundamental reforms



in the electoral system of the country. Abdullah assured all prerequisites for reforms have been finalized and the electoral reforms commission would start work soon. The commission would then present its suggestions to the government in an opportune time. "The electoral reforms commission will continue its work under the leadership of the CEO ... (More on P4)...(7)

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