

## Quote of the Day

The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand.

Frank Herbert (1920 - 1986)

## Constitution

When a judge is accused of having committed a crime, the Supreme Court shall inquire about the case involving the judge in accordance with the law.

Article 133

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# HPC Urges UN to Remove Taliban from Blacklist

KABUL - The High Peace Council (HPC), a government body tasked with brokering peace with Taliban and other insurgent groups, on Sunday said removing the names of Taliban figures from a UN blacklist would help assist the peace process.

HPC spokesman Maulvi Shahzada Shahid told Pajhwok Afghan News that the council had urged the United Nations to cooperate with it in removing the names of Taliban leaders from the sanction list.

He said the HPC had been insisting on removing the names of Taliban leaders from the



blacklist because it could help advance the peace process. Shahid preferred the

opening of a political bureau for the Taliban inside Afghanistan, but said it was not an insistence on their part. He said such an office should be opened everywhere the Taliban wanted.

He called as essential steps for making the peace process a success the removal of Taliban leaders' names from the UN blacklist and opening an office for the Taliban.

Few days ago, two days of informal talks took place in Qatar between Taliban delegates and political and government representatives.

At the talks, the Taliban demanded the removal of their leaders from the UN blacklist and reopening of their Doha office. They also called for withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan.

(Pajhwok)

## UNODC, Ministry to Launch Anti-Drug Awareness Drive



KABUL - The United Nations office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Ministry of Borders and Tribal Affairs on Sunday agreed to launch awareness programs against the use of drugs use in border provinces.

Director UNODC Andrew Aweston asked Gulab Mangal, minister of border and tribal affairs, to specify areas where they could organ-

ize awareness sessions against drugs, a statement from the ministry said Sunday.

The minister assured his complete support and said: "We can't achieve the desired goals, even if we put all efforts and resources without support from international community to discourage drugs. The international community should come ... (More on P4)...(1)

## Ghani Seeks Return of Educated Afghan Expats

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Sunday underlined the need for creation of a centre to attract highly educated Afghans living abroad.

The president received higher education minister Farida Mohmand and other officials, evaluating their first 100-day plan, a statement from the Presidential Palace said.

Farida Mohmand presented her ministry's plan regarding reforms in Kankur examinations, improvement of higher education, fighting administrative graft and finalizing



national gender research and strategy policy.

The president said a major chunk of Afghanistan's human resource was outside the country and it was necessary to pay special heed to those students who were busy studying abroad.

"A new centre should be established to ... (More on P4)...(3)

## Ulomi Signs Security, Anti-Drug Agreement with China

KABUL - Minister of Interior Noorulhaq Ulomi said on Sunday that he had agreed to a closer working relationship with China during his first official visit to the country earlier in the week.

Addressing a press conference on Sunday, Ulomi said he had met with officials and together they had signed a bi-lateral agreement to expand cooperation in the fight against terrorism and drug smuggling.

China's top security official Meng Jianzhu also vowed to boost cooperation with Afghanistan in fighting terrorism and drugs, state media agency Xinhua reported.

Ulomi said the forging of ties would also see tightened working commitment between the two countries in border security. Afghanistan and China share a common border in the northern part of the country. ... (More on P4)...(2)



## Taliban, Daesh Clashes Underway in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - The residents confronted with severe problems following six weeks fighting between self-styled Daesh fighters and Taliban militants in Deh-bala, Achin, Spenghar, Nazyan and Kot districts in eastern Nangarhar province, a security official said Sunday.

The official told Pajhwok Afghan News 70 Taliban militants and 50 Daesh fighters were pounding each others positions but now fighters on both side joining the fight.

"Twelve Daesh fighters were killed, 18 others wounded and 21 of them arrested. Seven Taliban fighters were killed, three wounded and six others detained in the firefight," he added.

He said that Taliban's shadowy governors of Achin and Durbaba districts were killed in the intense gun battle.

Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the governor's spokesman, confirmed the firefight between the two anti-state groups and said he did not have any information regarding fighters of civilian civilians.

Col. Nouman Hatafi, commander of the 201st Selab Military Corps, also confirmed clashes between Daesh and Taliban and said: "Three top Taliban commanders, including Taliban shadowy Durbaba district chief, senior ... (More on P4)...(5)

## Efforts on to Increase Women Share in Govt. Sectors

KABUL - Afghan officials say women's share in government has declined by three per cent but efforts are underway for more representation of women in various sectors.

The issue was discussed at a three-day seminar: "Expanding access to gender and women's empowerment in line with the objectives of the National Action Plan for Women" here in Kabul.

According to ministry of women's affairs, at least 10 years back there were 25 per cent of women in civil and military institutions of the



government, while now the figures have dropped to 23%. Currently, 15 per cent employees of security organs are women, but the government plans to increase the figure to 20 per cent. Diabar ... (More on P4)...(6)

## Ghani Vows to Block Meddling in Urban Ministry

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has directed the Ministry of Urban Development to investigate all previous contracts for government townships and initiate a judicial inquiry against officials misusing their authorities.

The president issued these directives while assessing the Urban Development Ministry's first 100-day plan at the Presidential Palace, a statement from the palace said on Sunday.

Urban Development Minister Syed Sadat Mansoor Naderi was present at the meeting. The president



was presented the ... (More on P4)...(4)

## Governor, Police Chief Involvement Alleged in Kunduz Insecurity

KABUL - The Mesharano Jirg delegation on Sunday accused governor and police chief of northern Kunduz province for having hands in recent incidents of insecurity in the province.

The delegation head alleged the two top officials for sending wrong reports about security situations on the ground,

but governor and police chief had rejected the allegations as wrong and baseless.

Recently insurgents had intensified their activities and targeted security forces check-post in different parts of Kunduz, however, security officials said the situations ... (More on P4)...(7)



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Afghans displaced from regions where Afghan forces are engaged in an operation against armed opposition groups, receive aid in Kunduz, Sunday May 17, 2015. According to reports some 2000 families have been displaced as the Afghan National Army (ANA) continues to clash with armed opposition fighters who have been effectively laying siege to Kunduz for the past three weeks and in the viallges of Mula Afghan and Kal Tapa where fighting once again broke out. (EFE/EPA/JAWED KARGER)