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October 17, 2015









Mazar

Herat

Bamayan

Clear

Kabul

26°c



Daily Outlook Weather **Forcast**

Religious Scholars Term Taliban Acts Un-Islamic

KABUL - At a gathering in Kabul, a number of religious scholars stated the Taliban's acts over the past few years are against the teachings of Is-

The religious scholars said the Taliban - who they say take orders from Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) - kill government forces, civilians and children. The clerics said these acts are

Condemning the acts of the Taliban, the clerics called upon the people of Afghanistan to unite against insurgency. The religious scholars meanwhile praised the performance of Afghan security forces, and said they them-



selves support the Afghan troops wherever they are serving in the line of duty. Condemning Taliban's acts, Haqqani, a religious scholar, said: "Taliban, after taking orders from ISI, term the killing of civilians and even children as legal." "The Taliban militants receive weapons from this organization [Pakistan's ISI] and are trained and financed by this agency,"

However, one of the primary calls by the clerics on Wednesday was to the nation - calling on them to unite against insurgents and plots by enemy and to stand by the government and security forces. (Tolonews)

Decades of War Damaged Land Management System

KABUL - The Minister of Urban Development Affairs and Housing has said that the decades-long war in the country has damaged the land management system especially of the urban land.

Sayed Sadat Mansoor Naderi who was talking at Afghanistan's first conference over land management in Kabul said that there are troubles in expropriation process which has resulted in a deadlock in front of the urban development and other infrastructure projects including roads and power.

Naderi said that several projects of the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing face difficulties because of the unplanned settlements

and the current expropriation law.

He said more facilities need to be considered for unplanned settlements and private sector that plays a vital role in the reconstruction, and as well the period of the ...(More on P4)...(8)

Nowhere to Go for Orphan Girls after 18

KABUL - Officials from orphanages housing girls have raised concerns over the lack of housing for them once they turn 18. Head of Allauddin Kabul city orphanage said with Afghanistan being a traditional society, girls leaving the safety of orphanages may not live alone which is a serious problem for

"When the girls graduate from orphanages, the girls don't have a place to live after 18. It would be really good if there could be housing provided for them," said Mawa, the head of Allauddin Kabul city orphanage.

Meanwhile Shahla, a young girl who has been living in the Allauddin orphanage for 11 vears says she can stay for only one more year before she has to

"Once I finish school and leave the orphanage I don't have any place to live. I just ask that someone can provide me with a place to live once I graduate from the orphanage," said Shahla.

Officials said that all orphanages across the country face similar problems, but that those in the provinces were below standard.

In addition, the head of Afghanistan ...(More on P4)...(10)

Activists Urge

Rights Bodies to

Probe Kunduz

'Crimes'

KABUL - A civil society

group, protection of Civilians

Group, on Thursday urged

UNAMA and Afghanistan Independent Human Rights

Commission (AIHRC) to as-

UN Urges EU to Speed Registration, Relocation of Refugees



adequate centers to receive and register asylum seekers in Greece and Italy and then briefing. distribute them across the Seven people drowned on

nean by sea this year, includ- the Greek coast guard said. missioner for Refugees said. wards said.

GENEVA - The European onset of winter and a fear that Union must quickly establish European borders may soon close," UNHCR spokesman Adrian Edwards told a news

bloc before winter sets in, the Thursday, among them a United Nations said on Fri- baby and three children, after their wooden boat and a coast More than 591,000 people guard vessel crashed during have crossed the Mediterra- a rescue operation off Lesbos, ing 450,000 to Greece, and Violence at a crowded regthis week 85 boats have been istration site on Lesbos on arriving daily on the island of Thursday forced UNHCR Lesbos, the U.N. High Com- staff to evacuate briefly, Ed-

"We don't know the full rea- He said facilities in Sicsons for this surge in arrivals: ilv, Greece and other areas it could be the result of a tem- "haven't been adequate to porary improvement in the cope with the numbers," addweather, a rush to beat the ing: ... (More on P4)...(9)

Rahmon Calls on CIS Leaders to Step up Fight Against Int'l Terrorism

BURABAY - Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmon expressed concern about the situation in the region and on the Tajikistan-Afghanistan border and called on the CIS leaders to step up efforts to eradicate international terrorism. He made the statement at the session of the CIS Heads of State Council in Kazakhstan on 16 October. "Taking into account the unstable situation in the world, aggravating regional conflicts in the world, we have an opportunity to discuss these problems and find solu-

tions, including regarding the fight against the Islamic State and other international terrorist organizations, in the Commonwealth," Emomali Rahmon stressed. The Tajikistan head of state also pointed out the importance of closer cooperation of the CIS member states in crime prevention, protection of borders, mitigation of emergencies and other issues. The Tajikistan leader expressed concern about the strengthening of extremist groups in Tajikistan, involvement of part of young people

in these groups. He called on the CIS leaders to take tougher measures to eradicate these negative phenomena. According to the intelligence service of Tajikistan, the Islamic State comprises about 800 citizens of the republic, including women. Besides, the State National Security Committee of Tajikistan informs that there is an extensive network of extremist and terrorist organizations such as the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, Jamaat Ansarullah in the country.(Agencies)

Olson Appointed as U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan

KABUL - Richard Olson, who is currently serving as the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, has been appointed as the U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP), states a statement released by the State Department.

He is replacing Dan Feldman who concluded his tenure on September 18.

Thursday's press release further states that Olson will assume his responsibilities on November 17 and will be responsible for developing and implementing U.S. policies and programs for stability and prosperity in Afghanistan and Pakistan. "Ambassador Olson will

assume his responsibilities as SRAP on November 17, after concluding his service as the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan. As were his predecessors, Ambassador Olson will be responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs that support U.S. national security interests in promoting stability and increasing prosperity in Afghanistan and Pakistan."

Olson brings extraordinary experience in Afghanistan and Pakistan to his new position. Prior to his three years ...(*More on P4*)...(12)

'Time Has Gone when Taliban was Imposed on Afghan People'



sess all alleged crimes against humanity committed in Kunduz by insurgents after they Asfandyar Wali Khan has seized the city three weeks said time has gone has gone when Taliban was imposed "The AIHRC and UNAMA should send all their findings on Afghan people, insisting to the international court if was inevitable for peace and they find that crimes against prosperity in Pakistan. humanity have been commit-

The President of Pakistan's The remarks by Asfandyar ted in Kunduz," said Karima Awami National Party criti-Karimi, a member of the protection of Civilians Group. cized the failure to maintain The group also condemned a spirit created by President the recent threats by the Tali-Mohammad Ashraf Ghani ban against TOLO TV and following his visit to Paki-1TV and termed the move a stan, saying Kabul and Islamabad were on the path of serious violation of human reconciliation.

rights. Addressing the Awami Na-"Taliban should avoid threattional Party provincial execening non-military organizations or else the insurgent group should be boycotted by Asfandyar said "It seems media," said Wadud Pedram, that some quarters have readopted their previous polianother member of the group. The group also prodded all aid organizations to help affected families in Kunduz. (Tolonews)

cies regarding Afghanistan,"

ISLAMABAD - A promi- terrorism and extremism nent Pakistani politician from Pakistan, Afghanistan and the entire region through the implementation of National Action Plan, Asfandyar said the Taliban or any other that peace in Afghanistan force could not be imposed on the Afghan people as Afghanistan has changed.

> comes as President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani said earlier in May this year that Pakistan is engaged in an undeclared war with Afghanistan and insisted that Afghanistan is in need of reconciliation process in two different phases.

President Ghani said the two phases includes peace with utive council on Wednesday, neighboring Pakistan as the country is engaged in an undeclared war with Afghani-

The remarks by President according to the local media Ghani followed the government of national unity's ef-Insisting on elimination of forts ... (More on P4)...(13)

US, Turkey Agree to Step up **Cooperation in Fight Against IS**

ANKARA - Turkey and the United States agreed to step up their campaign in fight against the Islamic State (IS), Daily News in Turkey reported on Friday.

In the wake of Saturday's twin blasts in Ankara that killed 99 people, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his U.S. counterpart Barack Obama Obama discussed on the phone ways to strengthen cooperation in fight against the IS and what could be done regarding Russia's military activities in Syria, according to the



report. The Russian air force began its air campaign in Syria on Sept. 30 following a request of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The Kremlin said the air raids have significantly diminished the combat capabilities of the IS.

Both presidents agreed on the necessity to immediately halt the attacks staged by the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) in Turkey, especially in southeastern and eastern Turkey, said ...(More on P4)...(11)

NATO Welcomes Obama's Decision



KABUL - NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg on Thursday welcomed U.S President Barack Obama's decision on delaying the troop drawn down in Afghanistan.

In a statement, Stoltenberg said: "I welcome President Obama's announcement that the United States will maintain its current troop levels in Afghanistan through 2016 and will retain a substantial presence beyond 2016."

"This important decision paves the way for a sustained presence by NATO Allies and partners in Afghanistan. It demonstrates the continued commitment by NATO Allies and our partners towards Afghanistan. In the coming weeks, the Alliance will take key decisions about the future scope of the Resolute Support Mission. The significant US contribution will be an important factor as we consider the way ahead," he said.

"The Afghan security forces continue to carry out their security responsibilities across the country, in a very challenging ... (More on P4)...(14)

Gen. Campbell Welcomes **Obama's Decision to Keep More Troops in Afghanistan**

KABUL - The commander of the US forces in Afghanistan Gen. John F. Campbell welcomed President Barack Obama's decision to keep more troops in Afghanistan through and beyond 2016.

"We welcome President Obama's decision today, which provides us the ability to further develop a lasting strategic relationship with our Afghan partners and allows us to counter the rise of violent extremism in a volatile part of the world," Gen. Campbell said.

Calling on insurgents to renounce and joint political process, Gen. Campbell said "This decision also serves notice to our common enemies: their war against the legitimate Afghan Government, the Afghan people, the international community, and our shared values, remains futile. It is time for them to lay down their arms and enter the political process."

Gen. Campbell further added "Our continued efforts to stabilize Afghanistan will benefit the entire



region, and in turn, offer greater security for the U.S. homeland and Americans abroad and at home." He said "We remain committed to assisting our Afghan partners in achieving sustainable security and stability as we work to solidify the gains made by our coalition over

the last 14 years." Nearly 10,000 US troops will remain in Afghanistan through most of the next year with 5,500 to remain in the country beyond 2016, according ... (More on P4)...(15)