

Quote of the Day

There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power.

Washington Irving

Millions of Afghans Mourners Mark Ashura

Imam Hussein's revolution is a global message: Ghani

Ashura is a great lesson for Afghans to not accept defeat: Abdullah

KABUL - Millions of Afghans on Saturday commemorated the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hussein, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and third Shia Imam. Ashura Processions across Afghanistan concluded on by paying tribute to the greatest sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (A.S) and his companions who laid down their lives to preserve the uprightness of Islam in Karbala.



Speaking on the occasion, Ghani said that the "Ashura gives message of justice and the need to stand against tyranny." Adding that the message of Imam Hussein's revolution is a global message.

Ghani also said: "You should combat extremism and not let violence and extremism take hold because extremism is like robbery - it robs your children, women ... (More on P4)...(1)

Russian Envoy

ISIS and Taliban Competing for Leadership in Afghanistan



KABUL - The Russian ambassador to Tajikistan Igor Lyakin-Frolov has said the affiliates of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group are competing with the Taliban group for leadership among the extremist groups operating in Afghanistan. Lyakin-Frolov quoted in local media reports said "The relations between the Taliban movement and ISIL in Afghanistan can currently be characterized as rivalry."

Amid concerns regarding growing number of ISIS loyalists in Afghanistan, Lyakin-Frolov said "They have different views on the future structure of the country."

He was apparently pointing towards the terror group's intentions to expand their activities by considering the territory to be a part of a large quasi-state. His remarks are followed by the Russian General Staff's report earlier in October suggesting that the number of ISIS loyalists in Afghanistan ad reached 3,500 people. This comes as ... (More on P4)...(2)

Iran, Afghan Officials Discuss Joint Security Pact

KABUL - During a meeting between Iranian Ambassador to Kabul, Mohammadreza Bahrami, and Afghanistan's National Security Advisor Mohammad Hanif Atmar, the two sides discussed security agreement. In a meeting on Thursday, the two officials stressed that the draft of the security pact which will be ready by the next Iranian month (starting Nov.22).

A Afghan security and economic delegation will head to Iran during this Iranian calendar month (starting Oct. 23) to confer bilateral agreements between the two countries in fields of security and economy. Iran and Afghanistan have decided to sign a joint cooperation agreement to boost long term cooperation in various fields. (IRNA)

Ghani and Stoltenberg Discuss NATO's Future in Afghanistan

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg on Thursday had a telephonic conversation over NATO's future in Afghanistan.

"I commended the bravery of the Afghan National Security Forces who are leading security efforts across the country in a very challenging environment," said Stoltenberg in a statement.

During the conversation the NATO Secretary General also expressed that they will con-



tinue to support the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan.

They also discussed the security situation in Afghanistan and the ... (More on P4)...(3)

Action Against Afghan Taliban and Talks Can't Go Together: Nawaz

WASHINGTON - Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on Friday said he had told Afghan President Ashraf Ghani that Pakistan was prepared to assist with peace talks but could not bring the Afghan Taliban to the negotiating table "and be asked to take action against them at the same time."

"Pakistan has no reason to want any violence in Afghan-



istan. The attacks on the Afghan government, and indeed on Pakistan, emanated from the vast areas in Afghanistan now under Taliban control," he said while addressing the United States Institute of Peace (USIP).

"Pakistan's priority is to defeat the TTP, which has also found bases on the Afghan territory. Peace within Afghanistan will enable ... (More on P4)...(4)

USIP Chief Raises Concerns over Waziristan Operation

KABUL - Stephen John Hadley, the head of the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) and former national security adviser to President George W. Bush, said Pakistan's military operation in northern Waziristan has directly resulted in the increase of insecurity in Afghanistan - especially in northern

Afghanistan. Addressing a press conference late Friday, Hadley said terrorist groups have entered Afghanistan from Pakistan where they carry out acts of war.

Hadley also raised concerns over the spread of Daesh ... (More on P4)...(5)

Kerry, Lavrov Discuss Organizing talks Between the Syrian Govt. and Opposition

MOSCOW - Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry spoke on Saturday about organizing talks between the Syrian government and the opposition, the

Russian foreign ministry said in a statement. In a telephone conversation held at the request of the U.S. side, the ministry said on its website that the two men had ... (More on P4)...(6)

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