

### (1) Politicians Mark...

He said that Massoud talked to Taliban's former leader Mullah Omar about peace talks and on ways to find a solution to the crisis in the country.

"Amir Sahib (Massoud) talked to the Taliban leader on the phone once, including his defense minister. In the conversation, Mullah Omar asked him to lay down arms, you (Massoud) are popular in Tajikistan and thus you can expand the Islamic Emirate over there, but Amir Sahib (Massoud) told Mullah Omar that it was not the solution," said Abdullah.

Abdullah also stated that the demands by political parties which are legitimate should be addressed. He says Afghans want transparent elections.

Abdul Rasul Sayyaf also addressed the event and said the enemies of Afghanistan are trying to create ethnic division in country.

Sayyaf, a former Jihadi leader, said the Afghan nation will one day stand on its own feet and that it will take its revenge against countries interfering in Afghanistan's affairs.

"Today we are enemies of each other," he said.

On peace talks, Sayyaf said that "as serious as we were about Jihad at the time against the opposition, we are serious about this and hungry for peace. Peace is the order of Allah and we want peace but peace that maintains the dignity and history of this nation. Peace to end the war and a peace that does not divide Afghanistan."

He said political parties are working on this and that they will soon share the details with the media.

On elections, he said: "there is no other way than elections to transfer the power in the country. We must not allow Afghanistan to go backwards, to 16 or 17 years ago. We will hold elections. Elections is a must and no one with any reason can daily the elections."

Ahmad Shah Massoud was assassinated 17 years ago in a suicide bombing in Khajwa Bahawuddin district in Takhar by two terrorists posing as journalists.

Ahmad Shah Massoud, son of Colonel Dost Mohammad Khan, was born in Jangalak area in Panjshir district in September 1953.

He spent his childhood days in Panjshir and started school at the age of five. As a young boy he moved to Herat with his family and then to Kabul where he continued his studies.

Massoud enrolled at the Polytechnic University in Kabul in 1973 and at the same time received membership of the Nahzat Islami Afghanistan party. Two years later, in 1975, he led the first rebellion of Panjshir residents against the government of that time. (Tolo news)

### (2) Ingrid Hayden...

Hayden holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Queensland, Australia, and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia. (Pajhwok)

### (3) MPs Concern...

capital is vulnerable to collapse, he said.

He said if security situation in Paktia not improved, some other provinces around the capital Kabul would also collapse to militants. Talking to the government

officials, he said, "If you are unable to improve security for the public, then let people themselves hold their security,"

Jafar Mahdawi, a lawmaker from Kabul, said, "In the past, we were witnessing one massacre incident in the west of Kabul, but now we see it every week, people are disappointed from due to the weakness of Afghan forces,"

Around 200 people killed or wounded in suicide attacks and car bombing, that targeted an educational center and a sports club in Dasht-I-Barchi area of Kabul on August 15 and September 5.

Abul Rahim Ayubi, an MP from Kandahar, said around 4,000 Afghans were killed or wounded during the last one and half months.

He said security officials should be disqualified considering to the country's security situation.

Wolesi Jirga speaker, Abdul Raouf Ibrahim, also expressed concern over security situation of the country and said security officials should respond to the public.

He asked internal security and defense affairs commissions to summon interior and defense ministers as well as the National Directorate of Security (NDS) chief to the lower house.

Fraud in the elections

The Wolesi Jirga election is scheduled for October 20. The Independent Election Commission (IEC) has said more than 9 million people have so far registered as voters.

However, some political parties and processes claimed the number of voters was less compared to what announced by the IEC.

Grand National Alliance which formed of several political parties and processes, said that distribution of new paper identity cards and attachment of the voter sticker on them were highly rigged processes.

The alliance exposed thousands of fake ID cards that used by voters.

Gen. Nazifa Zaki, a representative from Kabul, said, "The fraud in the election process is organized, it is our responsibility to prevent it and not let this national process face with crisis,"

She asked the administrative board of the lower house to summon the Population Registration Department head and the IEC chief to provide information about fake ID cards and voter stickers used with them.

Mohammad Naim Lalai Hamidzai, said, "No one wants a fabricated elections if the election system not become based on biometric,"

He stressed on the demands of political parties and said an election with fraud would face Afghanistan with crisis. (Pajhwok)

### (4) China, Pakistan...

fight against terrorism.

Associated Press reported that Wang met Qureshi in Islamabad to discuss matters of mutual interest, including the China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Wang arrived Friday night for a three-day visit.

He said in a news conference that China wants to help strengthen and stabilize Pakistan's economy and enhance strategic relations between the two countries.

In the meantime, Qureshi said they discussed regional security, the peace process in Afghanistan and strengthening strategic cooperation.

Wang will also meet Pakistan's Prime Minister, President, Army

Chief and other top officials. (Tolo news)

### (5) Turkmenistan Opens...

and it is building a pipeline to ship gas to new customers in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, the AP report said.

Meanwhile, AFP reported that Turkmenistan President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow said the 1.2\$ billion expansion project would allow Turkmenistan to export an additional three billion kilowatt-hours per year to neighbouring countries.

An employee in the energy ministry, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed to AFP the cost of the expansion, carried out jointly by Turkish firm Calik Holding and General Electric.

Central Asian states are jockeying to supply electricity to potentially promising markets in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

One project called CASA 1000, backed in part by the United States, would see electricity produced at hydropower plants in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan sent to the two countries.

For Turkmenistan, which sits on the world's fourth largest reserves of natural gas, electricity exports as well as trade and transit have assumed added importance as it struggles to find markets for its main export.

Planned gas pipelines to Europe and India have been slow to materialise despite years of negotiations plagued by political and economic doubts, while major buyer Russia ceased importing Turkmen gas in 2016.

Turkmenistan sliced a fifth off its manat currency in 2015 after the global hydrocarbons market dropped but black-market estimations of the manat's value relative to the dollar are over six times lower than the official rate. (Tolo news)

### (6) President Orders...

proved that, the president added. He said joint committees involving security personnel and members of the general public would be formed on the basis of people's suggestion. A clear monitoring mechanism will be set up at the leadership level.

In response to the suggestion about temporary distribution of arms to mosques and religious places, he directed the relevant authorities to explore ways of doing so and prevent public disturbance. (Pajhwok)

### (7) Iran Economic Crisis...

after fresh economic sanctions therefore that had to return to their country.

After the economic sanctions on Iran, the local currency of the neighbouring country suffered depreciation which hit hard the overall economy of Iran. (Pajhwok)

### (8) Taliban's Red...

check-post commander was also killed in the attack, which left at least one policeman wounded, the spokesman said. The Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. (Pajhwok)

### (9) ANA Soldier...

their hands and feet and took all the weapons and ammunition in the check posts.

Judged Sikanar Baig while announcing the court decision said Ebrar is penalised for Afghanis 400,000 for handing over the state weapons and ammunition to the Taliban and he is sentenced to death for handing over other soldiers. The judged added that the court decision was primary and could be challenged. (Pajhwok)

### (10) Congo Fever Kills...

Agriculture Department had launched administering Congo prevention vaccine to livestock in the province.

In addition, he said around 1,000 farmers would be distributed health packages which would advise them about the preventive measure against Congo Viruse. (Pajhwok)

### (11) Afghanistan...

will face Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in Group B and will play its opening match against Sri Lanka on September 17.

The tournament is divided into two different groups with India, Pakistan and Hong Kong placed in Group A.

Sri Lanka have won the Asia Cup title on five occasions while Bangladesh have finished as runner-up twice. (Tolo news)

## China, Pakistan Agree to Enhance Exchanges between Legislative Organs

ISLAMABAD - China and Pakistan on Saturday agreed to enhance exchanges between the two sides' legislative organs and push forward the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

While meeting with Pakistani National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that the friendship between the peoples of the two countries is the foundation of the sustainable development of bilateral ties and the driving force of bilateral all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

The Chinese top diplomat said that the two sides' legislative institutes should enhance exchanges so as to promote the friendly exchanges between the two peoples and consolidate the public opinion foundation.

Wang also hoped that the Pakistani National Assembly could continue to support CPEC, which has already achieved early harvests and is going to extend to industrial cooperation so as to improve local people's livelihood and increase employment.

For his part, Qaiser said CPEC is conducive to Pakistan's social economic development, Pakistan-China relations, regional prosperity and stability, adding that the Pakistani National Assembly will fully support the development of CPEC to benefit more Pakistanis.

Qaiser also said that the Pakistani side is willing to enhance people-to-people exchanges and legislative organ communication with China and learn the experiences from China in the fields such as state governance, anti-corruption and vocational education. (Xinhua)

## Florence Expected to Become Hurricane, Head to Southeast US

ATLANTA - The U.S. East Coast could be hit with a powerful hurricane next week as Tropical Storm Florence continues to strengthen as it moves toward the mainland, forecasters said Saturday.

Florence is expected to become a major hurricane by Monday, the National Hurricane Center said, adding that «a rapid intensification» is forecast to begin Sunday.

The storm is forecast to become a «major hurricane» Monday, travel between Bermuda and the Bahamas on Tuesday and

Wednesday before approaching the southeastern U.S. coast on Thursday, the Miami-based weather center said.

Officials in the Carolinas warned residents to prepare and to brace for impact.

Governors in both South Carolina and Virginia declared a state of emergency Saturday to give their states time to prepare for the possible arrival of the storm. South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster emphasized that there's no way to know yet when and where the storm will hit land, or when evacuations might be called.

On Friday, North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency and urged residents to use the weekend to prepare for the possibility of a natural disaster.

«We are entering the peak of hurricane season and we know well the unpredictability and power of these storms,» Cooper said.

The U.S. Navy is making preparations this weekend for its ships in the Hampton Roads area to leave port. The U.S. Fleet Forces Command said in a news release Saturday that the ships will get ready in anticipation of getting under way Monday to avoid storm damage.

Adm. Christopher Grady said in a statement that the decision was based on Florence's current track, which indicates the area could see strong sustained winds and storm surges.

The news release notes that plans could change if forecasts indicate a decrease in the strength or change in the track of the storm.

Swells generated by Florence are affecting Bermuda and starting to reach parts of the Eastern Seaboard, the National Weather Service said. (AP)

## Fresh Sigs Germany Wants to Keep Iran Trade Bonds

TEHRAN - A new indication from Germany appeared on Sunday showing that the country's businesses are eager to maintain their business bonds with Iran in face of pressures by the United States to give them up. Armin Laschet, the powerful governor of the largest German state North Rhine-Westphalia, was quoted by media as indicating in an interview that companies in his state were unwilling to stop trade with Iran.

During a visit to Israel, Laschet refused to comment on whether North Rhine-Westphalia had any plans to halt business with the Islamic Republic in a sign that could show his state favored the continuation of trade with the country.

The official even refused to acknowledge that his state would outlaw Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement.

Laschet - who is a member of Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union party - referred to remarks by his interior minister who told the Jerusalem Post in 2017 «associations that support Hezbollah can presently be banned, if financial support [for them] is provable.»

Following a decision by US President Donald Trump in August to restore sanctions against Iran, indications grew in Berlin that German businesses were unhappy about what they saw as a unilateral decision by Washington to ban trade with the Islamic Republic. On the same front, German Economy Minister Peter Altmaier said the United States is in no position to tell Berlin with which countries it can do business, vowing support for companies doing business with Iran. (Press TV)