

Quote of the Day

When real people fall down in life, they get right back up and keep on walking.
Michael Patrick King

Distrust is Main Problem in Afghanistan: Ghani

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani in a meeting with members of the council of ethnic groups of Afghanistan on Saturday in Kabul said that distrust is one of the main problems of Afghanistan.

Speaking at the Presidential Palace, Ghani said that "our efforts to create a national capital is for the benefit of the country."

"We can build the country with one voice and participation of the people," Ghani said. "We can do the work if we are united."

He also said that everyone should act to implement the law himself and added that "a number of irresponsible persons carry out bloodshed in



the country over our children." Referring to the security issues in the country, he said that "this year was the toughest year for the survival of Afghanistan." A

"The ethnic groups should work with the Afghan security forces together for security," and added that "we would not have progressed if we did not have a good administration."

He also said that the government has reviewed the security situation of eastern Nanghar.

His comment comes as the insurgents recently increased their activities in the Nanghar province and ... (More on P4)...(1)

Reports

US May Keep Thousands of Troops in Afghanistan after 2016



KABUL - U.S. and NATO officials are reportedly reviewing new draw down options, which include, keeping thousands of soldiers in Afghanistan beyond the end of 2016. General John Campbell, the commander of international troops in Afghanistan, has submitted five different recommendations to the Pen-

tagon and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials in Brussels, the Wall Street Journal reported on Thursday.

The options include keeping the current U.S. presence at or near 10,000; reducing it slightly to 8,000; cutting the force roughly in half; and ... (More on P4)...(2)

8 Afghan Pilgrims Missing after Hajj Stampede

KABUL - At least eight Afghan pilgrims are reportedly missing after a deadly stampede claimed the lives of over 700 people during Hajj pilgrimage on Thursday.

According to the Afghan Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs, five of the missing pilgrims are believed to have died as a result of incident which left over 800 others injured.

According to Saudi Arabia's civil defense, at least 717 pilgrims died while another 805 were wounded in a stampede during the stoning of Satan at Mina.

However unconfirmed reports suggest over a thousand people have been killed in the incident - which is the deadliest incident to occur during Hajj pilgrimage in 25 years.

"Five of the pilgrims disappeared at the beginning of the rite [stoning] and three others ... (More on P4)...(4)

Lack of Regional Cooperation Hurts Peace Process: CEO

NEW YORK - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah has said that Afghan government since its inception had strived for peace and stability in Afghanistan, however, lack of cooperation and peace talks under the leadership of a dead man sabotage the process.

Speaking at the United Nation Council on Foreign Relations, the CEO said Afghanistan had become a strong ally of international community



which was big achievement for his government.

He said his country tried to have cordial relations with its neighbors, but the response from the other side was not positive and therefore there was problem in relations.

He said Afghan security forces ... (More on P4)...(3)

UN Report

Daesh Active in 25 Provinces

KABUL - The United Nation (UN) recently published report showed the self-styled Islamic State (IS) group is making inroads in Afghanistan and recruiting followers in 25 of the country's 34 provinces.

"The number of groups and individuals who are openly declaring either loyalty to or



sympathy with IS continues to grow in a number of provinces in Afghanistan," said the report. The source has said that IS fighter had been fighting Afghan ... (More on P4)...(5)

Ghani Urges More Female Political Representation



KABUL - In a meeting with representatives of various women's organizations on Friday, President Ashraf Ghani stressed the need for more women political representation within government institutions, asking the ministries to consider more female appointments in a bid to empower Afghan women.

Ghani pledged to review employment opportunities for women in the Afghan legal system by implementing necessary reforms within the relevant institutions.

In his remarks, Ghani said that women have major potential in legal spheres, therefore he recommended a female for membership of the Supreme Court a few weeks back. However, Ghani strongly criticized the lawmakers for not casting the vote of confidence for supreme court female nominee Anisa Rassouli.

"There are qualified women in courts who have been sidelined ... (More on P4)...(6)

Afghan, Indian, Iranian Officials Meet to Finalize Transit Agreement

KABUL - The Afghan, Indian and Iranian officials have recently met to finalize an in-



ternational transit corridor agreement, it has been reported.

The project - Chabahar transit corridor is defined as ambitious ... (More on P4)...(7)

India Announces Scholarships for Afghans

KABUL - The Embassy of India is happy to announce that the Government of India scholarships scheme for the Afghan students was fully subscribed in 2015, as it was in 2014. From this year, for the first time, at the request of the Government of Afghanistan, 20 slots for pursuing PhD were offered. The Scheme is jointly implemented by Afghan Ministry of Higher Education and Embassy of India in Kabul and Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi. The ICCR offers ... (More on P4)...(8)

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