**Quote of the Day**

**Personality**

I’d rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck.

*Emma Goldman*

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**Afghans Celebrate 100th Independence Day**

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Monday vowed to “eliminate” all safe havens of the country marked 100th Independence Day after a horrific wedding attack claimed by the militant group that killed 63 people all civilians.

Mr. Ghani laid a wreath at the Azadi Memorial minaret on Independence Day. Later he appeared at a ceremony in Darul Aman Palace, which has been renovated. He said the main celebration of the centenary of Independence Day was postponed to honor the victims of the deadly attack but added that “we will take the revenge of our people.”

“We will eliminate Daesh hideouts all around the country. The fight against Daesh will be intensified,” the president said.

At least 63 people were killed, and more than 180 others were wounded in the attack which happened inside the wedding hall where 1,200 guests were attending. (Coal News)

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**We Don’t Want Afghanistan to be Laboratory for Terror: Trump**

WASHINGTON - US President Donald Trump has expressed optimism over ongoing discussions on Afghanistan with the government and the Taliban and said they had good talks, a media report said on Monday.

“Look we’re there for one reason, we don’t want that to be a laboratory — it can’t be a laboratory for terror. And we’ve stopped that we have a very, very good view,” he told reporters on the tarmac before departing from New Jersey as he headed back to Washington.

Trump’s comments come after he met with top national security advisers last week at his golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey, to review a UN-Taliban peace plan that could end America’s longest running war.

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**Ghani Vows to Crush Daesh Havens after Wedding Attack**

Mr. Ghani says Independence Day celebration was postponed to honor victims of Kabul attack.

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**Kabul Attack: Surviving Groom Says He Was ‘Devastated’**

KABUL - An Afghan groom whose wedding ceremony was on the ground says he was on the ground.

On the evening of 17th August, a suicide attacker detonated explosives in the Shahr-e-Dubai Wedding Hall in West Kabul where approximately 1,000 people were gathered for a Shia wedding ceremony. UNAMA’s human rights team is looking into the incident and working to establish facts.

“An attack deliberately targeting civilians is an outrage, and deeply troubling, as it can only be described as a cowardly act of terror,” said Tadamichi Yamamoto, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Afghanistan.

UN Condemns AttackTargeting Civilians at Kabul Wedding

KABUL - The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, UNAMA, has condemned Kabul attack that initial reports indicate killed scores of civilians and injured many more, among them women and children.

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**President Orders Probe into Alleged Irregularities in MoFA**

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has ordered a multi-dimensional inquiry into contract deals, transparency in financial matters and foreign trips of Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani.

The president ordered the inquiry after MEC and Oversight Commission reported the existence of corruption in the Foreign Ministry.

Earlier, the anti-corruption watchdog MEC, in its report had said a new investigation showed more than 600 people “we will take the revenge of our people.”

“We don’t want that to be a laboratory — it can’t be a laboratory for terror. And we’ve stopped that we have a very, very good view,” he told reporters on the tarmac before departing from New Jersey as he headed back to Washington. Trump’s comments come after he met with top national security advisers last week at his golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey, to review a UN-Taliban peace plan that could end America’s longest running war.

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**Afghans Celebrate 100th Independence Day**

KABUL - Afghans across the country celebrated 100th Independence Day by holding gatherings in different provinces, mainly in Helmand, Balkh, Herat, Kabul, and Sangarber.

President Ashraf Ghani laid a wreath at the Azadi Memorial minaret on Independence Day before appearing at a ceremony at Darul Aman Palace. Mr. Ghani said the main celebration of the centenary of Independence Day was postponed to honor the victims of the deadly attack but added that “we will take the revenge of our people.”

“We will eliminate Daesh hideouts all around the country. The fight against Daesh will be intensified,” the president said.

At least 63 people were killed, and more than 180 others were wounded in the attack which happened inside the wedding hall where 1,200 guests were attending.

People from different parts of the country showed the need for stepping up security.

“Security is not proper. There is no peace. We want a safe environment to celebrate Independence Day,” said Latif Nazari, a Kabul resident.

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