**ISIL – A Threat to Afghanistan and Pakistan**

**By Hajjullah Zia**

_The self-proclaimed Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has raised the stakes in both Afghanistan and Pakistan. The ISIL group has aggrandized the security situation and continues to pose a threat to the government of Afghanistan and Pakistan..._ 

*Note: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not reflect the views or opinions of the Daily Outlook Afghanistan.*

### Developing ANSF’s Capabilities

A (fghan Air Force (AAF) showcased its capabilities on Friday at a special ceremony held in Kabul. Speaking to the Afghan Air Force (AAF) personnel, the chairman of the National Assembly, Meshrano Jirga, reiterated his commitment to revive the Afghan Air Force (AAF) to make it capable of effectively and efficiently carrying out its mission to protect the citizens of Afghanistan from the insurgent threat. He stressed that the Afghan Air Force must be prepared to meet the challenges of the new security environment. The Afghan Air Force is playing a crucial role in the fight against terrorism and insurgency in Afghanistan.

The Afghan Air Force is an integral part of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) and plays a vital role in providing air support to ground forces. The Afghan Air Force is responsible for providing air support to ground forces, including conducting air strikes against insurgent targets, providing aerial cover during ground operations, and conducting air surveillance.

The Afghan Air Force is also responsible for providing air support to the Afghan National Army (ANA) and the Afghan National Police (ANP). The Afghan Air Force provides air support to the ANA and ANP in the form of aerial surveillance, aerial support for ground operations, and air strikes against insurgent targets.

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### More War Than Peace

O n February 16, 2016, President Hamid Karzai officially declared the start of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)’s capabilities development program. The program aims to develop four capabilities of the ANSF to effectively fight against the insurgent groups in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The capabilities include: (1) effective intelligence-gathering and analysis, (2) timely and effective response to insurgent threats, (3) effective coordination and cooperation with other security agencies, and (4) effective use of force.

President Karzai stated that the development of these capabilities is crucial to the success of the ANSF in the fight against the insurgent groups. He emphasized that the ANSF must be able to effectively gather intelligence, respond to threats in a timely manner, coordinate with other security agencies, and use force effectively to defeat the insurgents.

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