**Biden Appoints Aides to Khalidzad’s Team**

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani says his US counterpart Joe Biden has appointed some of his representatives to US special envoy Zalmay Khalidzad’s team.

But Antony Blinken, the US secretary of state, on Friday announced that Khalidzad would continue his Afghan mission.

On the other hand, President Ghani told the ASPP Security Forum that Khalidzad, a veteran Afghan-born diplomat, would stay in his position, but President Joe Biden appointed his aides in Khalidzad’s team.

Another source told Pajhwok Afghan News Biden had included an Afghan-American woman in Khalidzad’s team. She had earlier served in eastern Kunar province.

But the source did not provide more information. (Pajhwok)

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**Nine Dead After Wardak Mob Clash with Police**

MAIDAN WARDAK - The Ministry of Interior Affairs (MoI) said that a team would be assigned to probe Friday’s skirmish in Maidan Wardak which left at least nine people dead and seven wounded.

Tariq Aqan, a spokesman for the MoI, said in a statement late Friday that the clashes happened after “irresponsible armed men loyal to commando Alipoor, an anti-Taliban commander known as Commander Shemani, resisted the appointment of police chiefs for Hisa-i-Awal and Hisa-i-Dawon Bishak district.

According to the statement, Alipoor’s armed men gathered outside of the district compound, and “opened fire on security forces and people... as a result of this chaos a number of security forces and four civilians were wounded.”

Aqan stated police fired in the air to control the situation, adding that 15 irresponsible armed men loyal to Alipoor have been arrested in connection with the clashes.

Meanwhile, MP Mahbub Rashid stated that police have opened fire on civilians while they stayed a peaceful protest in the district.

Rashid claimed that at least nine people were killed and 30 were wounded, “a number of wounded individuals and tribal elders are still around the police headquarters.

He stated that the Taliban have also attacked Sur-e Chashmah and Sur-e Khakh region of Bishak district.

Rashid warned the government to resolve the issue.

“Otherwise, it would have terrible consequences.” (ATN)

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**Afghanistan Achieves Self-Sufficiency in Production of 56 Types of Goods**

According to statistics provided by the officials, the Afghan market has an adequate level in the production of mineral water, non-alcoholic beverages, plastics and some construction items.

The country produces 56 types of products that it does not need to import from other countries.

The country is also self-sufficient in the production of certain sweets, ice-cream and flour and in four-processing.

Afghanistan Chief Minister of Industry and Commerce Nassim Ahmad Ghariani said the outbreak of coronavirus had caused a stagnation in a number of manufacturing plants, but with restrictions gradually lifted, some 300 new factories started operating.

Ghariani added that the government is committed to boosting the manufacturing industry by setting up five new factories in the industrial part in Kabul, Nangarhar, Kunduz, Herat and Mazhar-e-Sharif. According to him, in addition to industrial factories, there will be agricultural factories as well as boost... (KABUL)

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**Biden Might Not Be Withdrawn by May as Planned**

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani implied on Friday that he expects the Biden administration to keep US troops in Afghanistan for longer than anticipated under the US-Taliban deal, signed by the Trump administration, saying the Taliban isn’t meeting their obligations to reduce violence.

This comes after a dramatic surge in violence since the signing of the deal in Dubai in February last year.

On Thursday, Pentagon spokesman John Kirby told the Taliban’s refusal to reduce the violence as a question over whether the 230 US troops remaining will leave by May as planned.

In an interview on Friday with the Aspen Institute, Ghani cited statements said “a signal to the Taliban that the US is here to secure peace and not to treat and leave the field open.”

Ghani said during the virtual... (KABUL)

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**Afghanistans Resignation: ARG**

PESHAWAR - Pakistan has renewed its call for a negotiated solution to the political situation in Afghanistan, where Taliban-linked violence remains high.

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi rebuffed Pakistan’s stance in a phone call with US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken on Friday.

Peace in Afghanistan was one of the fundamental common goals for the two countries, Qureshi told the US secretary.

Blinken has been engaged in the dialogue leading to a ceasefire in Afghanistan, a government source said.

The minister claimed Pakistan facilitated the Afghan peace process and remained committed to working with the Biden administration as a partner for peace. Secretary Blinken acknowledged the sacrifices rendered by the people of Pakistan in the war on terror, saying the two nations had a long history of cooperation.

Qureshi said Blinken agreed to remain engaged and work together to address the bilateral agenda and promoting common interests in the region. (Pa-Jaw)
ZARANJ - The police branch chief for the second police district of Zaranj has been shot dead by a subordinate during a patrolling, an official said on Saturday.

A reliable security source, who wishes anonymity, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident occurred in Zaranj city’s Kordi local on Friday evening when police were patrolling the city. He identified the victim as Capt. Mohammad Hassani, who was gunned down by one of his subordinates while patrolling the city in a military vehicle. The perpetrator, who fled the scene, was later arrested by the security forces. The killer is now in police custody.

Zaranj police said in a statement the incident came when he was patrolling Zaranj on Friday evening. So far, the motive...

NDS Busted Deputy Shadow Governor for Kabul, Talib Deny the Allegations

KARABUL - Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) on Saturday said a deputy shadow governor of Kabul, Talib had been arrested by NDS in a special operation.

According to the NDS, Mohammad Talib was arrested on Friday evening through Jamar Agha, one of the Talib commanders, and Shadow governor for Kabul.

Haji Lala was initially appointed a senior member of the Taliban and was in charge of a 10-man unit. NDS indicated, that Mohammad was appointed as the acting military chief in Kabul after Jabir Agha left for Pakistan.

Following his arrest, the detainees were forwarded from Karabul province to Kabul, where he was...

Two Blasts Happen in Kabul; 1 Civilian Killed: Police

KABUL - Two explosions happened in Kabul on Saturday, leaving one civilian and four others wounded, according to police.

The first explosion happened in the Pol-e-Chari area west of Kabul, police said.

Sources said one person was wounded in the explosion. The explosion targeted a vehicle carrying the finance officer of a security forces region who was heading to Wardak province, sources said.

Another explosion happened in the Salim Karwan area in Kabul’s PD4, targeting a civilian vehicle, which belonged to civil-

The blasts happened at a time that targeted attacks have increased in Kabul. Meanwhile, three people, including a child, were killed in an explosion.

ABC Confirms Test Matches Against Zimbabwe in March Will Go Ahead

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Following his arrest, the detainees were forwarded from Karabul province to Kabul, where he was...

Outlook Horoscope

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

Jan 31, 2021 - Changes are happening at your work, and they might be stressful. That’s normal. The people you need to talk to might be at work, though you might not want to. What you don’t want to do is just sit there and hope it works out...naturally. Be brave and take a chance. You might just like it.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 20)

Jan 31, 2021 - Are you involved in a new project or challenge? Don’t worry, if you have to take a leap of faith, you needn’t be afraid of falling. You might get some unexpected support from someone unexpected.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 21)

Jan 31, 2021 - If you’re giving up on someone you’ve loved, Gemini, you might get a call or email or message from them when a dream comes true, though you might be skeptical. They might be trying to help you, but you need to remind them that you’re not necessarily looking for their help anymore.

JULY (Jun 22-Jul 22)

Jan 31, 2021 - Generally avoid politics in any group you belong to, Leo, but today you might come across all kinds of people, including some who are critical of your views. Be sure and assess the situation before you come to a conclusion. Don’t be too pushy or confrontational, or you might not get what you want.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22)

Jan 31, 2021 - A goal you’ve recently been on might not be on your radar anymore, but you might see it again. Perhaps it’s time to take another look at what you’ve been working on. The good news is, you might see some extra tasks that need to be done before you achieve it. Do what you have to, and hang in there.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 23)

Jan 31, 2021 - Libra, a new relationship might not be in a form you’d expected. Venus, lover of joy or pleasure, might pull you in a direction you didn’t want to go. It’s hard to tell whether or not the relationship is worth pursuing.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

Jan 31, 2021 - If there’s a secret you’re unfolding, it might not be able to go on your own merit. You might need a little help, or perhaps you need to talk to someone about it. Maybe it’s better to wait to see what happens.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 22)

Jan 31, 2021 - Various intellectual or human-centred activities you’ve been involved in might be coming to an end, perhaps subtly. Sagittarius, you might not notice it until you try to continue with it. Perhaps it’s time to let go.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19)

Jan 31, 2021 - A temporary separation might be unfolding, perhaps because of a very gloomy mood. Capricorn, At-
The International Position of Afghanistan in terms of Administrative Corruption

By: Mohammad Zahir Akbari

A lthough corruption is a phenomenon that exists everywhere in the world, its type, forms, and intensity vary from country to country. Given the social, cultural and economic distortions inflicted on Afghanistan by the Taliban regime, the extent of this corruption seems getting wider and its roots and factors seem getting deeper and stronger than ever. The internal and international reports successively confirm that Afghanistan is not in a good position in terms of fighting against corruption. For example, the report of Transparency International which released last Thursday, Afghanistan ranked 108th of 180 countries in terms of corruption perception for the year 2021. The country stands on the 109th place from the bottom in the list of Transparency International. The report highlighted the highest corruption scores in the areas of law enforcement, judicial system and public administration. The report states that the majority of the Afghan officials are been found guilty of corruption.

In the previous report in 2020, Afghanistan was ranked 107th, which was the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history. It is believed that there are three attitudes towards women in Afghanistan: First, the radical and Talibanic attitude holds that women have no rights and duties before the law. In the meantime, “liberty and human dignity” are the ingredients of the government’s report and test liberty as well as human dignity. The current Constitution of Afghanistan from 2004, which is the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history, it is believed that there are three attitudes towards women in Afghanistan: First, the radical and Talibanic attitude holds that women have no rights and duties before the law. In the meantime, “liberty and human dignity” are the ingredients of the government’s report and test liberty as well as human dignity. The current Constitution of Afghanistan from 2004, which is the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history, is against the public beliefs and may trigger a harsh reaction, mainly from the residents of tribal regions and religious figures and clerics have to enlighten women’s rules. In another item, the unmitigated oppression of women, which was the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history, is against the public beliefs and may trigger a harsh reaction, mainly from the residents of tribal regions and religious figures and clerics have to enlighten women’s rules. In another item, the unmitigated oppression of women, which was the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history, is against the public beliefs and may trigger a harsh reaction, mainly from the residents of tribal regions and religious figures and clerics have to enlighten women’s rules. In another item, the unmitigated oppression of women, which was the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history, is against the public beliefs and may trigger a harsh reaction, mainly from the residents of tribal regions and religious figures and clerics have to enlighten women’s rules. In another item, the unmitigated oppression of women, which was the most unprecedented one of its kind in the country’s history,
The government has been accused of failing to protect the Taliban's interests and allowing them to be exploited by others. The conflict has also raised questions about the future of the Afghan economy, which has been severely impacted by the war.

According to the government, the Taliban has been reduced to a minimum and domestic exports have increased. However, the country's agricultural products and other major exports are still facing challenges. The government has urged the Taliban to cooperate with the government to achieve peace and stability.

The government has also highlighted the importance of international cooperation in achieving peace and stability in Afghanistan. It has urged the international community to provide support and assistance to the Afghan government and the Taliban in order to achieve a peaceful settlement.

The government has been working on a new economic policy that aims to stimulate growth and improve the economy. It has also launched a number of initiatives to support local businesses and small and medium-sized enterprises. These initiatives include providing finance, tax incentives, and other forms of support to help businesses grow and create jobs.

The government has also been working on improving the quality of education and healthcare in the country. It has launched a number of initiatives to improve the quality of education, including providing free textbooks, increasing teacher salaries, and expanding access to education.

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**Venezuela hired Democratic Party donor for $6 million**

MIAMI—Newly disclosed lobbying records Yemenica reported was found to be a venue of $6 million. In 2010, the company, previously known as Yemenica, hired a former Democratic Party donor for $6 million. At the time, the company was owned by the late Washington lobbyist Juan Guaido. The lobbying firm hired the Democratic Party donor for $6 million to influence legislation.

**Joe Biden is warning of a steep increase in COVID-19 cases in the United States.**

WASHINGTON—President Biden signaled on Friday for the first time that he would not open up to significant immigration, setting a low bar for the early months of his administration.

As he faced a challenge from Senate Republicans in the early days of his presidency, Biden may struggle to convince Republican negotiators that the conference agreement already approved by both houses would mean-by the end of March an additional $1.9 trillion in aid to boost the economy. The US$ 1.9 trillion aid package is due to expire on March 21.

Biden said at a Friday meeting with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen in the Oval Office.

Joe Biden is warning of a steep increase in COVID-19 cases in the United States. (Photo: AP)

**Russia and Turkey open monitoring centre for Nagorno-Karabakh**

NEW DELHI- India’s vaccine maker Serum Institute of India (SII) on Friday announced the start of the vaccine trials on Turkey.

The SII is expected to start trials on Turkey.

**Ireland says given no forewarning of triggering of Brexit clause**

DUBLIN—Ireland was not given any forewarning by the European Union of the so-called ‘Brexit clause’ in the new agreement.

**Uzbekistan extends suspension of flights with 8 countries**

BISHkek—Uzbekistan has extended the suspension of flights with eight countries until April 2021.

**Iran says local COVID-19 vaccine effective against UK variant**

Tehran—Iranian health officials said in a media report on Saturday that the vaccine is 99.7% effective against the UK variant of the coronavirus.

**UAE adopts amendments to grant citizenship to investors and other professionals**

DUBAI—The United Arab Emirates has adopted amendments to the Federal Decree-Law no. 32 on the grant of citizenship to investors and other professionals.

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13 New Cases of COVID-19 Reported in Afghanistan

KABUL - The Ministry of Public Health on Friday reported 13 new positive cases of COVID-19 out of 480 samples tested in the last 24 hours. The ministry also reported 3 recoveries from COVID-19 in the same period.

The new cases were reported in Kabul (3), Kandahar (1), Balkh (6), Paktia (2), Nimroz (2), Maidan Wardak (2), Helmand (2) and Pakhtika (1) provinces. The ministry says the cumulative total of known COVID-19 cases is 38,021, the total number of reported deaths is 2,400, and the total number of recoveries is 47,609. So far, 248,984 samples have been tested in government centers and there are 5,012 known active COVID-19 cases in the...