

## Quote of the Day

A great city is that which has the greatest men and women.  
Walt Whitman

## Constitution

Issue decrees regarding the structure and authorities of the courts and basic administration structures within one year.

Article 159

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### President Ashraf Ghani

# Economic Stability Key to Regional Peace, Security

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has said conflict, regional security and the system of governance are confronted with challenges in Afghanistan and the regional countries are direly needed to focus on economic stability.

Ghani expressed these views while speaking at the BRICS summit held in the Russian Ufa City on Thursday. Leaders from Russia, China, India, Brazil and South Africa also attended the meeting.

He warned that growing terrorism was now posing great security threat to countries on the other side of the bor-



der such as China and Russian. In an indirect reference to Daesh, he said

that the regional countries should join hands to counter the spread of Daesh.

He suggested that regional states should shift focus ... (More on P4)...(1)

## Sen. Graham Advocates More American Troops in Afghanistan

KABUL - US Republican Senator Lindsey Olin Graham



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Afghan security forces is needed, Senator Graham has recently advocated for bringing more American troops back to Afghanistan. Speaking to supporters this week about his foreign policy agenda, Senator ... (More on P4)...(2)

## ANA Problems to be Resolved with Priority: Abdullah

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah has said the residents of Kabul were proud of their valiant Afghan National Army (ANA) forces.

He expressed these views during his meeting with the 209th Shahin Military Corps officers in northern Balkh province. He travelled to the northern province to evaluate performance of security.

He called the Afghan security forces as the real defenders of Afghanistan and said: "You are a ray of hope for Afghanistan. Afghans have reposed great confidence on you."



Referring to growing insecurity in parts of the country, Abdullah said: "I assure you the government has strong intention to eliminate enemies of Afghans." Pointing to peace talks with Taliban, Abdullah said the government ... (More on P4)...(3)

## Ghani, Nawaz Meet on Sidelines of SCO Summit

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani and Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in a meeting commented on the "upward trajectory" of Pak-Afghan relations, Pakistani media reports on Friday.

"We must ensure regional stability and further economic integration to realize our goals. We must work together to mitigate differences, resolve outstanding disputes and create a favourable environment for the betterment of our peoples," Nawaz expressed these views while speaking at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Ufa, a Russian city.

The meeting, the Dawn.com reports, which took place on the sidelines of the SCO summit in Russia comes just days after Pakistan brokered talks between the Afghan government and the Afghan Taliban in Islamabad. The two leaders expressed satisfaction over the progress made in the July 7 talks held to promote peace and reconciliation process.

Ghani and Nawaz exchanged views on how to carry forward the peace process. They also exchanged views on the efforts being made by the respective sides to counter terrorism and extremism.

Ghani appreciated Pakistan's efforts and its role in facilitating ... (More on P4)...(6)

## ISIL a Competitor to Taliban in Afghanistan: Dunford

WASHINGTON - The Islamic State is posing a threat and competition to the Taliban in Afghanistan, a top American general told lawmakers Thursday adding that there has been significant improvement in relationship between Kabul and Islamabad under President Ashraf Ghani.

"The current relationship appears to have improved since the election of President Ghani. It is clear that a security in Afghanistan and Pakistan are linked," General Joseph Dunford, nominee for Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, told members of Senate Armed Service Committee during his confirmation hearing.

Both Afghanistan and Pakistan are working to ensure that concrete steps are taken to enhance their bilateral relationship and cooperation, he said in written response to questions for the confirmation hearing.

Dunford said ISIL is "a competitor" with other groups that have traditionally operated in Afghanistan, which may result in increased violence between the various extremist groups.

"The Taliban has declared that it will not allow ISIL in Afghanistan. The coalition and the Afghan government are closely watching ISIL's attempt to expand its reach to Afghanistan and Pakistan," he said. The ANDSF, National Directorate of Security ... (More on P4)...(4)



stan, which may result in increased violence between the various extremist groups.

## Xi Pledges Security Equipment, Training for Afghanistan



BEIJING - China will provide Afghanistan with security equipment and training, President Xi Jinping told his Afghan counterpart on Friday, days after Chinese officials

observed the first tentative peace talks between Kabul and the Taliban. Pakistan hosted the talks aimed at ending more than 13 years ... (More on P4)...(8)

## Regional, Int'l Cooperation Needed to Curb Daesh: Ghani



KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani reiterated that regional and international community should join hands to counter rising trend of terror which posed great threat to regional security specifically Afghanistan. Earlier, the president leading a high-level delegation on Thursday arrived in Russia to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the BRICS

summits. A statement from the Presidential Palace on Friday said that Ghani held a detailed meeting with Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko in Ufa city in Russia. Both the dignitaries discussed bilateral cooperation in trade, economic, investment, culture and fighting terrorism. Ghani ... (More on P4)...(5)

## Putin Calls on SCO Leaders to Consolidate Efforts to Relieve Threats Coming from Afghanistan

MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin at the expanded meeting of heads of state of the Council of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on July 10 urged the leaders for better consolidation of efforts to relieve threats coming from Afghanistan.

He said ensuring security on the SCO's territory and its external borders remains one of the priorities of the organization. "Deployment of military troops in Afghanistan did not result in a qualitative improvement of the situation as the activities of ISIS are growing, making its influence grow. Within ... (More on P4)...(7)

## Banks Association Afghanistan Faces Millions of USD in Bad Debt

KABUL - Afghan Banks Association officials have warned that out of \$500 million loaned out by banks, some 30 percent of the debt is likely to not be repaid, which could cause major problems for the country's financial sector.



Experts say the outstanding loans are tied to existing legal structures involving real estate deposits and the length of time it takes for debt disputes to be resolved in court. In addition, corruption in some legal and judicial institutions has also been cited as a major contributing factor. Regardless of the source of the ... (More on P4)...(9)

## Rula Ghani Kindergarten System Needs to be Overhauled

KABUL - First Lady Rula Ghani on Thursday said current system of kindergarten in the country needed an overhaul and the government should address the budget and other related issues in this regard. In her message dispatched in a letter to one of the nurseries in the capital Kabul, she said the children of this country were like her own children and addressing their problems were her responsibility. The first lady expressed these

views on the occasion where she dispatched 400 new suits as gifts to the nursery children on the occasion of forthcoming Eid-ul-Fitar. Syed Zubair, a student of eight nursery class, thanked Rula Ghani for gifts and said he has been in nursery due to unfair treatment by his step month. He said after the death of his mother his father brought another bride to the house and it was difficult to live with her. (Pajhwok)

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