**Quote of the Day**

**Communication**

Honest communication is built on truth and integrity and upon respect of the one for the other.

Benjamin E. Mays

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**Lack of Agenda Items: Wolesi Jirga Cancels Session**

KABUL - Some Wolesi Jirga members on Saturday called the lower house’s administrative board as “incapable” as today’s session could not be held for lack of agenda.

Lawmaker Ramzan Bahadarzai told reporters that today’s session didn’t happen because there was no agenda for the meeting.

He termed the failure to hold the session “a violation of public mandate” and said: “It was announced that due to unavailability of agenda, the lawmakers shall hold meetings of commissions, but all the offices were occupied by senators.”

“The reason behind cancellation of today’s meeting was the presence of irresponsible and non-committed lawmakers in the house,” he said.

Abruhullah Muralak, a lawmaker from Nangarhar province, also criticized the administrative panel of the house. *(More on P4.)*

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**BRICS Voices Support for Afghan Peace Efforts**

KABUL - Ministers of the BRICS countries gathered in Rio de Janeiro Friday to discuss arrangements for the eleventh summit of the bloc, scheduled for November 13-14 in the capital, Brazil. The ministers reiterated support for international and national efforts to achieve an “Afghan-led, Afghan-owned” peace and reconciliation process and to build a peaceful, democratic Afghanistan. *(More on P4.)*

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**UN Hails Afghan Women’s Progress in Last 18 Years**

KABUL - UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohamed has said women have made significant progress in the past 18 years, making 27 percent of the civil service in Afghanistan.

Briefing UN Security Council members on Friday on her recent visit to Afghanistan, she said under the Taliban government, women and girls were denied access to education, health services and protection from extreme violence. Similarly, they could not participate in political or public life, she recalled. But in the past 18 years, she noted, there had been significant progress. Women are in senior roles in the Defence, Foreign Affairs and Interior Ministries. Critical elections are scheduled for September, and heads of the Independent Electoral Commission... *(More on P4.)*

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