Ghani Sworn in as Afghan President For Second Term

KABUL - Incumbent Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani was sworn in for a second five-year term on Monday, while his main election rival and government Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah also held a parallel presidential swearing-in ceremony.

Afghanistan's Chief Justice Sayed Yousaf Haqeen administered Ghani's swearing-in ceremony at the fortified Presidential Palace.

"The election process has ended... today I fall on every Afghan, men, women, child and youth, particularly on political hand that this government is yours," Ghani said in his speech after taking the oath.

"The division-time has passed, today is the day of unity, and today is the day of victory," Ghani said.

The ceremony was attended by hundreds of Afghan and foreign guests including U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad, Commander of NATO's Resolute Support Mission and U.S. forces Gen. Austin Scott Miller and ambassadors from China, Saudi Arabia, India, France, Germany, Canada, Italy among others.

At the same ceremony, Amrullah Saleh and Mohammad Sedar Danish also took the oath of office as first and second vice president respectively.

Ghani issued the first presidential decree shortly after taking the oath, appointing Mohammad Yousuf Ghazni as minister of the interior affairs.

As president, Ghani has demanded release of 5,000 of their prisoners before intra-Afghan talks scheduled to start tomorrow.

Talking at the inauguration of his second term, Ghani, (More on P4... (1))

ANDSF to End Defensive Stance: Khalid

KABUL - Acting Defense Minister Asadullah Khalid on Sunday said the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) will end their defensive stance by the end of this week, criticizing the Taliban for "breaching" their commitments during the reduction in violence period.

Khalid, who appeared in a televised video with the acting Minister of Interior Gen. Masoud Andarabi and the acting head of the National Directorate of Security Ahmad Zia Siraj, said Afghan forces have given sacrifices in Taliban attacks during reduction in violence.

Figures by the Afghan government show that 22 security force members and nine civilians were killed in security incidents, mostly Taliban attacks, in 32 provinces during the week-long reduction in violence from February 21 to February 28.

"Up until this moment I am speaking, Afghan forces have been in defense mode respecting the (US-Taliban) deal and following the president's decree... We will stay in defense mode until the end of this week, otherwise, we will chase the enemy anywhere in any hideout they chase the enemy," Khalid said. (More on P4... (2))

Taliban Reacts to Parallel Swearing In Ceremonies of Abdullah and Ghani

KABUL - The Taliban group reacted to parallel swearing-in ceremonies of Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani due to be held in capital Kabul today.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid has said the disagreements between the Afghan leaders and the swearing-in ceremonies threatens the peace process.

"We don't think they will make it to getting ready for the intra-Afghan talks on March 10, because of failure to arrive at a consensus on the peace process," Mujahid was quoted as saying by The News.

He also added "Instead of swearing in, we want them to focus on intra-Afghan talks. We call upon them to leave the internal disagreements, stop the swearing in, and work for peace."

The Independent Election Commission announced incumbent Ashraf Ghani as the winner of the controversial presidential elections last month.

However, Ghani’s rival Abdullah Abdullah said he had won the presidential race insisting that he would form a parallel government.

According to reports, both Abdullah and Ghani have issued invitations to parallel swearing-in ceremonies.

"There is a need for profound negotiations and talks with Taliban," he said. (More on P4... (1))

Ghani to Issue Order on Release of Taliban Prisoners

KABUL - Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Monday vowed to issue an order tomorrow (Tuesday) about release of Taliban prisoners.

In the deal with the United States, the Taliban have demanded release of 5,000 of their prisoners before intra-Afghan talks scheduled to start tomorrow.

Speaking at the inauguration of his second term, Ghani, (More on P4... (1))

Two Blasts in Afghan Capital During Presidential Inaugurations

KABUL - Hundreds of people had assembled at two venues inside the presidential palace complex to watch the swearing-in ceremonies for President Ashraf Ghani and challenger Abdullah Abdullah, when the blasts went heard.

Two blasts were heard as Afghanistan’s two rival leaders held parallel presidential inaugurations in Kabul on Monday, underscoring the country’s political security ahead of talks with a resurgent Taliban.

Hundreds of people had assembled at two venues inside the presidential palace complex to watch the swearing-in ceremonies for President Ashraf Ghani and challenger Abdullah Abdullah, when the blasts went heard, prompting some to flee.

"I have no bulletproof vest on, only my shirt, I will stay even if I have to sacrifice my head," Ghani told the remaining crowd, as sirens sounded overhead.

Squalling Afghan presidential rival's threatened to bring down themselves present in dual inauguration ceremonies Monday, throwing plans for negotiations with the Taliban into chaos. (ITR)

Envoys from 35 Countries Attend Ghani Inauguration

KABUL - US envoy Zalmay Khalid Khalilzad was among ambassadors from 35 countries who attended President Ashraf Ghani’s oath-taking ceremony in Kabul on Monday.

Ghani was scheduled to take oath at 11:00am today, but his speech Sunday saying Ghani’s first term had been delayed for a few hours.

On the other hand, Ghani’s main challenger CEO Dr. Abdullah Abdullah was also sworn in as president at a rival ceremony.

Abdullah has claimed victory in the September presidential election.

The CEO had said if Ghani was administered oath, he would also take oath.

Gran Hews, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said a number of foreign diplomats based in Kabul had been invited to participate in Ghani’s oath-taking ceremony.

Diplomatic sources said ambassadors from the EU, UK, the US, Pakistan and India attended President Ashraf Ghani’s oath-taking ceremony.

The sources said the US has been trying to find a solution to the crisis and its ambassador Zalmay Khalid Khalilzad would not participate in Dr. Abdullah’s oath-taking. An official at the Indonesian embassy told Pajhwok they would attend Ghani’s oath-taking ceremony. (Pajh)

Quote of the Day

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Hope

‘We have always held to the hope, the belief, the conviction that there is a better life, a better world, beyond the horizon.’
**Mazari-sharif** - All needed preparations measures have been done to celebrate the new solar year in northern Balkh province despite health officials warning not to participate in the festival due to coronavirus threat. The Nawroz Festival Committee, despite fears of coronavirus spread, they deliver all needed measures for celebration of the new solar year.

The committee says around 4,000 people participate in the festival every year and they the same number of people will attend the New Year’s festivities as well.

Police Commandant Sorooj, a coordinator of the Taliban and head of their political office in Qanar, reiterated in his latest interview with Radio Station P7 that changes have been brought to the Taliban’s mindset since 2018, and they will accept women’s rights to the extent recognized by Islam (based on the Taliban’s narrative, though).

With this mindset, the Taliban do not simply seek to integrate into the system as a group via the ongoing peace talks but nurture the strategy of rewriting the ‘Islamic Emirate’ and after the US and NATO troop pullout, establish their emirate.

(3) Pakistan and ISAF’s Approach. With the US-Taliban peace agreement, Pakistan hopes to witness the establishment of its influential administration in Afghanistan through the incorporation of the Taliban in the frame of Islamic Emirate or through the Taliban’s active participation in the country’s future political system. Pakistan considers two scenarios for the future of Afghanistan: First, to establish its influence administration via the Taliban’s access to power to be subdued in Bill and get access not only to Afghanistan’s policy but also to its waters, mines, and resources, and also assure their concern about Haik and Hazar. Second, and most significant is security concerns of many Portugal’s generals and CIA’s veteran authorities in terms of probable threat from the Taliban side and their re-emergence as well as conditions conducive to terrorist networks in the country, which would generate serious threat to the US security interests.

(2) Taliban’s Approach: It is indicated that the Taliban’s ideology has undergone no changes. The Taliban view the kind of political system, citizen rights, and status with fundamental, degradate, and parochial mindset. Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the Taliban and head of their political office in Qatar, reiterated in his latest interview with Radio Station P7 that the cycle of Khalilzad’s peace machine turns for the US, but so far the cycle of the US-Taliban peace agreement has been derisory, similar to the past. Moreover, US Special Envoy for Afghanistan, Zalmay Khalilzad, is likely to be trapped in strategic error on the US leadership agenda.

The U.S. president is likely to obtain from the US leadership agenda, therefore, he is likely to be trapped in a strategic error on the US leadership agenda. So far, the US-Taliban peace agreement has proposed Afghan-owned and Afghan-led clear agenda and gradual transparent timeline. The government presents the peace roadmap. And it was reiterated on several occasions that the difference between the Afghan nation and state on the one side and the Taliban on the other side is fundamental not superficial. Representing the nation in the peace process, the Taliban’s emirate has been emphasized the principle that they are a public body, and it is true that after the Taliban take over the political decision-making over terrorist networks and anti-government armed groups reconcile themselves with these principles.

The fundamental differences would be resolved and the path would be paved for minor issues. The fundamental issues are as following:

- Legitimacy of government against terrorist groups
- Afghan-owned and Afghan-led peace process
- The principle of protection of constitution and citizens’ rights
- The principle of protection of the republic and Islamic government

Outlining the reason behind the presence of US bases and equipment.

Tension Repeats in Kabul? Will the Republic be Saved or Destroyed?

KABUL - The authorities have decided to prevent a protest by members of a family in Kabul against the victims of poisoning. The security forces had discovered the dead bodies of the family members in their house in 8th district of Kabul city.

Faizabad Sit-Ins Want Education Head Removed

Faizabad - Education Department employees in northeastern Badakhshan province on Monday called for the education department head to be removed. Syawash Rabbani, an official of the department and a promoter, said Education Department Head Abdul Sami Abdurah had transferred to Zhob district to开设 any mistake. He said the road to Zhob district was insecure and he could not travel there due to road...
By: Mohammad Zahir Akbari

**March 10, 2020**

**International Women’s Day Marks Hopes and Fears in Afghanistan**

The war on terror was ushered in following the 9/11 attacks on the US. The Taliban and al-Qaeda and to don’t it is also a result of operations in Afghanistan by removing the Taliban from power. The United Kingdom was the key ally of the United States, offering support for military action from the start of the preparations for the invasion. In August 2001, NATO became involved as an alliance, taking the helm of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). With the increased attrition against al-Qaeda and the Taliban regime collapse, insurgency lulled in the country. The guerrilla fighters seemed to have surrendered and were either retreat in the south or Afghanised. This and this focused increased pressure and hope for peace and freedom.

As a result, the residents of the country, the Afghan people have lost their trust in political activities. Sadly, the nation’s dream did not come true because the Taliban guerillas reregistered and resumed military violence. Violence and bloodshed were orchestrated and continued. The focus of men and women's efforts turned to the long-term conflicts. Women are currently the women of 20 years before. The Taliban government, they did not allow women for work, education, marriage, and any political activities. Given the report card of Taliban in the past and given the lack of law, order, and peace, the women of today have no similarity with the women of twenty years before. In addition, the women are deprived of their fundamental rights. Given the report card of Taliban in the past and given the lack of law, order, and peace, the women of today have no similarity with the women of twenty years before.

The Constitution of Afghanistan was adopted based on the 1964 Hekmatyar constitution. One of the main pillars of the 1964 Hekmatyar constitution was to make the rights and dignity of the individuals be protected for freedom from want and from fear. However, this was not the case because the Taliban and al-Qaeda war also switched against the country. It was filled with hope and want. The divided government was in power and there were no political solutions for the long-term conflicts.

**The Challenges and Political Wielding The Economic Wielding**

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind

By: Hayamun Khan

The chapter; so far remained folded inside the ACB needed to be unfolded to the public, given the skirmishes that have been witnessed in the cricket team. A number of players have been dropped due to their inordinate and the outrageous episode. The disagreement among the players led to the poor performance of the National Cricket Team. On April 29, 2019 held a crucial meeting which triggered the outrage of the Afghan people, many went on to social media and condemned the cricketers calling on the government for urgent replacement of the board members who claimed were corrupt and failed to monitor and check the pay of the team.

Many, as they say in the bare-faced political interference in ACB, but economic analysts on the other hand believe that the board allocated to the ACB was instead mismanaged, not used properly. In fact, both are agitating issues and diligently required to be addressed. Not otherwise it will be the fate of the national cricket board that the government should immediately improve the board. This statement was done by the Cricket Council (ICC). ACB receives hundreds of millions of dollars from ICC and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) of Afghanis- tan that every year allocates $1 million budget to the ACB. Besides, big flows (e.g., the Afghanistan group of companies) had a contract with ACB, which provided the board $3.1 million annually until 2021.

The ICC allocates a special budget to the member countries for the expenses of cricket in the far-flung areas; developing its scope and construction of stadiums and academies, framing policies for budget allocation to mainstream cricket and accessible to everyone. The current status of the cricket board is that the board does not have the policies that are helpful to the sportsmen. With the aim of training the young players, the board conducts training camps for the players outside the country. In this way, the board is spending $3000 per player to spend the upcoming tournaments outside the country. The board has created some new hopes in the country. Though the Taliban has responded to the public concerns about rights of women saying they will be respected, the women of today are extremely concerned about those rights that could be undermined under the terms of the agreement, particularly if the United States moves forward with the full withdrawal of all troops soon on the deal. However, they are not known about supporting the Islamic Emirate to re-dominant Afghanistan. The Taliban must give written commitment to respect women’s fundamental rights and women’s freedom while the administrations of Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, they had clear po- stures towards the rights of women; freedom and women’s freedom whilst during the administrations of President Richard M. Nixon. The US and Russia are not clear about not supporting the Islamic Emirate to re-dominant Afghanistan. Therefore, the US and Russia are not clear about supporting the Islamic Emirate to re-dominant Afghanistan.

**Mismanagement of Funds Will Lead the Afghan Cricket Board (ACB) to a Disaster**

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1) Ghani Sworn in on March 9, 2020,

Women form half of the society, they have also added many gains since the granting of the 1964 constitution. However, the struggle continues and needs to be continued, said analysts.

2) Coronavirus

The government of Afghanistan has urged for International Women’s Day urging for peace and as a call to end the war. The call has been made by Salma Sabat, a student at Kabul University, and Mohammad Motmaen, a political analyst.

3) Taliban Hopeful

The Taliban is hopeful that the US will sign a peace agreement with Afghanistan, said Ghani. He added that the Taliban has been able to negotiate with the US and that the Taliban is hopeful about the future.

4) Qatar

Intra-Afghan talks should be limited in number and that it should be noted that the Taliban is hopeful that the US will sign a peace agreement with Afghanistan, said Ghani. He added that the Taliban has been able to negotiate with the US and that the Taliban is hopeful about the future.

5) UK Retail

The disposal will further add to the group’s financial flexibility and improve its credit rating, said the company.

6) Sudan

President Al-Faraj has called for a national dialogue to discuss the current political crisis in the country.

7) Palestine

The PLO condemned the visit of the EU delegation to Jerusalem and said that it is a violation of international law.

8) Yemen

The Houthis have launched a attack on a Saudi military camp in Jizan, killing at least 10 soldiers.

9) Israel

The Israeli army has announced that it will begin evacuating settlement buildings in the occupied West Bank.

10) COVID-19

The number of cases of COVID-19 in the world has exceeded 100,000, with more than 2,000 deaths reported. The majority of cases are in China, but cases have been reported in other countries as well.

11) Sudan

The Sudanese government has announced that it will impose new economic sanctions on Egypt.

12) Palestine

The Palestinian Authority has condemned the opening of a new Israeli settlement in the West Bank.

13) Yemen

The Houthis have announced a new cluster of air strikes on Saudi Arabia.

14) UK

The government has announced that it will introduce new laws to tackle online hate speech.

15) Russia

The Russian government has announced that it will increase its military spending by 30% over the next five years.

16) US

The US has announced that it will withdraw its troops from Afghanistan by the end of May.
One Last Event Before Harry and Meghan Bow Out

LONDON - Prince Harry and his wife Meghan are retiring from royal life and moving to southern California. The couple made their final official appearance as working royals on Monday during Queen Elizabeth II's for an event in London before they set off on their own. The Duke and Duchess of Sussex will join other members of the royal family at a Commonwealth Day service at Westminster Abbey. It is their final official engagement before they step back from their roles as working royals in March, no longer representing any organization. They will be free from the constraints of being part of the royal family at a Commonwealth Day service in London before they step back from their roles as working royals in March. They have announced their decision to break with the British royal family and pursue a new, financially independent existence before they step back from their roles as working royals in March, no longer representing any organization. They will be free from the constraints of being part of the royal family at a Commonwealth Day service in London before they step back from their roles as working royals in March.

Killing crown prince ‘compliance within limits’ in 2017 in a unlawful coup, ruling Al Saud family.

The couple's unprecedented move to California, a private source with royal knowledge said, is a way that they wanted to break free from the constraints of being part of the royal family, according to a private source with royal knowledge. In a statement by the royal half-brother, he said, "The couple's unprecedented move to California, a private source with royal knowledge said, is a way that they wanted to break free from the constraints of being part of the royal family, according to a private source with royal knowledge. In a statement by the royal half-brother, he said, "The couple's unprecedented move to California, a private source with royal knowledge said, is a way that they wanted to break free from the constraints of being part of the royal family, according to a private source with royal knowledge. In a statement by the royal half-brother, he said, "The couple's unprecedented move to California, a private source with royal knowledge said, is a way that they wanted to break free from the constraints of being part of the royal family, according to a private source with royal knowledge.

Sudan’s Prime Minister Hamdok Survives Assassination Attempt in Khartoum – State Media

KHARTOUM - Sudanese Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has survived an assassination attempt targeting his convoy, state media said Monday.

A blast has rocked the Sudanese capital of Khartoum, the media has reported, adding that the attack was aimed at the prime minister. Hamdok survived the ordnance and was moved to a "Ministry of Foreign Affairs after the 2015 violent crisis."

This is one of the most important international partnerships we are going to build," Borell said Monday.

Detained Ronaldo ‘Did Not Know’ Passport Was Fake, Lawyer Says

BRASILIA - Brazil's football legend Ronaldo said Monday that he did not deliberately release a fake passport that could be released to Authorities by his lawyer. Ronaldo's lawyer, Sergio Queiroz, confirmed on Monday that there is a third night behind bars in case he did not know the capital. Ascension on Sunday after using forged travel documents to enter the country.

The dates for Esper’s visit have not been announced. According to his office, the General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, also told board members in Vienna that since January "an announcement it appears that the suspension would take effect on March 10. The government of the republic to leave behind these agreements, in order to be implemented for the 10th anniversary of the U.N.'s atomic watchkeeping day."

Trevor Phillips suspended from Labour Over Alleged Islamophobia

LONDON - The former head of Britain's equality watchdog has been suspended from Labour over claims of alleged Islamophobia and could be expelled from the main opposition party. The Times reported that Phillips was suspended from Labour. "We should tell the Electoral Commission to take notice of this report," said the report.

The report also said that even if Labour's board decided to dismiss the former equality watchdog, he could still be elected as a member of parliament. "We should tell the Electoral Commission to take notice of this report," said the report.

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Taliban Hopeful about Results of Intra-Afghan Talks

DOHA - Some members of the Taliban negotiating team have said that the intra-Afghan talks will be easier for them than their talks with the United States, which continued for 18 months and concluded with a signed deal on Feb. 29.

The Afghan government and the Taliban are expected to attend the intra-Afghan negotiations by March 10, according to terms in the US-Taliban deal, which says up to 5,000 Taliban prisoners should be released from the government’s custody by the same date.

Amer Khan Motaqai, a Taliban negotiator, who appeared with other members of the group in a video report on newsama - a pro-Taliban website - said he is almost sure that an agreement will be achieved by the intra-Afghan talks.

“We will reach a conclusion with Afghans in a better way - of course with Afghans who consider other Afghans’ interests and do not consider foreign interests,” Motaqai said.

Another senior member of the group, Asaa Haqqani, who was released from Bagram prison last November, called the release of 5,000 Taliban prisoners “important but criticized “uncertainty” around the formation of the negotiating team from Kabul.

“They (the government in Kabul) expressed their opposition to peace and about the prisoners’ release and now the people of Afghanistan should today for themselves,” Haqqani said.

The Presidential Palace has not provided details of the negotiating team. But President Ghani last week suggested that the delegation... (More on P4...\(4)\)

Coronavirus Disrupts Festive Season in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan - Paralyzed by an expanding novel coronavirus outbreak, mainly in neighboring Iran, watchful Afghans are avoiding festive spring parquets and breaking with the deep-rooted tradition of warm greetings.

With each passing day, shock-waves from the spread of the new virus known as COVID-19 are resonating even stronger in the war-ravaged country with its fragile healthcare system after confirming at least three positive cases and over 10 suspected cases - all linked to Iran.

Deserted sauna parlors normally, downtown Kabul’s pulsating western quarters are lively and full of young people heading to cafes, markets and more recently to sprawling sauna parlors to enjoy rare relaxed moments in steamy hamams [Turkish baths] and sparkling swimming pools. But for the past couple of weeks, there has been an evident drop in visitors. "Most of our clients are youth and educated people who are aware of news and current affairs and sensitive [about their health]."... (More on P4...6)