

## Quote of the Day

There has never been but one question in all civilization-how to keep a few men from saying to many men: You work and earn bread and we will eat it.

Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

## Constitution

Proposal for budget and financial affairs are initiated only by the government.

Article 96

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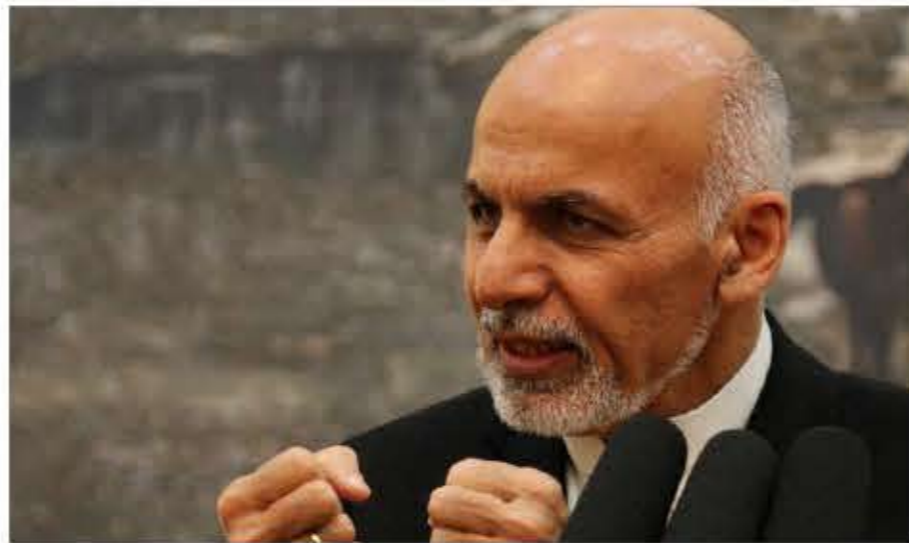
# Ghani Once Again Warns Against Proxy War

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has once again warned against proxy war in the country, saying no one would be allowed to turn Afghanistan into a center of proxy wars.

Addressing a graduation ceremony of over 500 military officers on Wednesday at Marshal Fahim National Defense University of Kabul, Ghani stated that war was imposed on the Afghans.

"I warn that no one should think this soil is the center for their proxy wars," Ghani renewed his warning. "If anyone thinks us a good mouthful, they will be destroyed by themselves."

Ghani urged the forces to keep obtaining the faith of people and avoid civil-



ian casualties and violation of people's rights.

"The army should only focus on their main duties," Ghani said, declaring that the army was not responsible to deal with the contracts.

Touching on the abduction of passengers from the highways, Ghani believed it a conspiracy against the unity of Afghan ethnicities.

"I am going to announce from here that the hostages are being held just for a conspiracy against the national unity," Ghani warned. "I ordered for a special operation and that 69 insurgents were killed."

Ghani, however, criticized repeated anti-insurgent...*(More on P4)...(1)*

## High-Ranking MoFA Officials Get Marching Orders



KABUL - At least six directors and high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have been removed from their positions, a government source revealed on Wednesday.

An official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confided to Pajhwok Afghan News the decision

on their sacking was taken today by Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani. Sameer Bidrod had been fired as human resource director, Najib Aqa Fahim as policy and strategy director and Shakib Mustaghni as spokesman, the source disclosed.

Fahim Ibrat, deputy...*(More on P4)...(2)*

## 21st TAPI Summit Starts Today

KABUL - The 21st summit of Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project is scheduled to be held in Kabul on Thursday (Today).

Shakib Mostaghni, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) says improvements have been made on the implementation of TAPI project and the implementation of this project will be discussed on its 21st summit in Kabul.

He says that representatives from the mines and petroleum ministries of Pakistan, India and Turkmenistan will be discussing the implementation of TAPI project with their Afghan counterparts in Kabul on Thursday.

Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project delivers Turkmenistan's gas to Afghanistan...*(More on P4)...(4)*

## Taliban Can Have Place in the Government: Noor



MAZAR-E-SHARF - If the Taliban renounce war and violence, they can become part of the government, says Atta Mohammad Noor of northern Balkh province in an unprecedented statement before the Nawroz festival.

In a press conference on Wednesday, the acting governor of Balkh stated that he had no problem if the Taliban were given seats in the government; however, he urged that the group needed to join peace and stop killing the Afghans.

"If the Taliban honestly join the peace process, and then if they are given a position, I am not against it," Noor said. "But this position should not be proven costly to our people and government." Supporting the government's initiatives to begin peace talks with the Taliban, Noor urged that the process should be...*(More on P4)...(5)*

## Dr. Abdullah

## Afghans Not Ready to Cut Deal on Peace

KABUL - Strongly condemning a suicide bombing in the capital of southern Helmand province, Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah said peace talks were possible only with those willing to renounce violence, killings and bloodshed.

The car suicide bombing killed seven people and injured 46 others in Lashkargah shortly after 11am, Helmand's deputy



governor Mohammad Jan Rassoulyar earlier told Pajhwok Afghan News. Abdullah strongly...*(More on P4)...(3)*

## Remaining Cabinet Picks to be Named by Saturday

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday assured lawmakers the remaining cabinet nominees would be announced next Saturday or Sunday. Wolesi Jirga Deputy Speaker Haji Zahir Qadir told the lower house that administrative board members and heads of 18 commissions...*(More on P4)...(6)*



## Japan Gives \$16.21m to Help IDPs, Afghan Refugees

ISLAMABAD - The government of Japan on Tuesday announced that it has disbursed \$16.21 million to the United Nations (UN) to support people who had fled their homes due to security operations in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Afghan refugees living in Pakistan.

Interim Charge d'Affaires of Japan to Pakistan, Takeshi Katae and UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, Dr Jacqueline Badcock made the announcement here at World Food Programme (WFP) office with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Director, Marc-Andre Franche, UN-Habitat Programme Manager, Bella...*(More on P4)...(7)*

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