

## People to be provided with job countrywide, Hanafi

KABUL: The Deputy Prime Minister for Administrative Affairs, Mawlawi Abdul Salam Hanafi, during a meeting on Saturday, with a number of religious scholars and elders of the country's northern province of Balkh, said the Islamic Emirate is committed to provide the people with job opportunities across the country. Hanafi added that the Islamic Emirate as a government is committed and considers its responsibility to provide complete security in the country and to protect people's wealth, honor, citizenship and Sharia rights, according to a statement from Arg Saturday.

Meanwhile, Alam Khan Azadi spoke on behalf of others and said after four decades of continued war, now the people of Afghanistan have freedom and independence, according to the statement.



Announcing full support to the Islamic system, Alam Khan asked the government to provide the people with job opportuni-

ties in Balkh province, the statement added.

Also, Mawlawi Hanafi said the Islamic Emirate is committed

to provide the people with job and necessary facilities and will not spare any effort in the ground.

The Kabul Times

## Kazakhstan removes sanctions, steps towards positive interaction with IEA, ambassador

KABUL: Kazakhstan's Ambassador to Afghanistan, Alim Khan Yasin Galdiev, in a meeting, with the Acting Foreign Minister Mullah Amir Khan Muttaqi, said that his country's Supreme Court has removed the Islamic Emirate from its list of sanctions.

Expressing his country's long positive relations with Afghanistan, Yasin Galdiev added that Kazakhstan wants to further expand its trade, transit and political relations with Afghanistan, according to a statement from the ministry Saturday.

Meanwhile, Mullah Muttaqi called the relations between Afghanistan and Kazakhstan positive and praised that government's move for taking practical measures to eliminate existing obstacles between the two countries, the statement added.

"The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA) has always been committed to have positive and constructive relations with the regional and world countries," the statement quoted Muttaqi as saying.

Muttaqi further added Kazakhstan and Afghanistan should continue cooperation in various fields and pave the way for better trade and transit between the two friend countries.

The Kabul Times



## Everyone should work for country's development, Mawlawi Kabir



KABUL: The Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs of the Islamic Emirate, during a meeting, with dozens of scholars, elders and youths of Nan-

garhar and Panjshir provinces of the country, said everyone should work towards the country's development.

Mawlawi Kabir said that

after the resumption of power by the Islamic Emirate overall security has been ensured and lots of development projects have been implemented coun-

trywide, according to a statement from Arg Saturday.

Praising the IEA's considerable achievements, the elders said that the Islamic Emirate has done lots of fundamental works in various sectors in a short period of time and supporting the current system is the main responsibility of every Afghan, according to the statement. Mawlawi Kabir said that Afghanistan is the common home of all Afghans and the Islamic Emirate values all ethnic groups without ethnic, linguistic, or religious discrimination. He also assured the elders and scholars that their problems would be solved with the coordination of the relevant departments in the near future. **Azizullah Faizi**

## Hundreds of cadets graduate from Police Training Academy in Herat

KABUL: A total of 635 police cadets after receiving religious

and professional training, in an official ceremony, have graduated

from the Police Training Academy in the country's western prov-

ince of Herat, the Ministry of Interior Affairs said in a statement Saturday.

The ceremony was attended by several provincial officials, scholars and elders, the statement said.

Congratulating the graduates, General Shaikh Nazar Mohammad Shinwari, the Deputy Military of the Administrative Department of the ministry said that all of you should be polite against your suffering people and provide them with sure security wherever you are deployed, according to the statement.

A few days ago, hundreds of police cadets had been graduated from training centers in various provinces of the country.

The Kabul Times



## No system other than Islam in Afghanistan, Haqqani

KABUL: The Acting Minister of Refugees and Repatriates Khalilurrahman Haqqani, while speaking in a graduation ceremo-

ny at a religious seminary, in the country's eastern province of Pakhtia, said that except the Islamic system, other systems are not acceptable in Afghanistan.



The graduation ceremony which was held in the Pirbagh locality of Gardez, attended by dozens of local officials, elders and religious officials, the ministry said in a statement Saturday.

Referring to some propagan-

da against the Islamic system, Haqqani said that those campaigning against the current system through social media, spying or

any other means deserve to be murdered.

Haqqani reaffirmed that without the Islamic system, no other system would be allowed to establish in Afghanistan, adding that they would support this system till the end and would stand against those who conspire against the Islamic system.

Eng. Abdul Baqi Haqyar

## Components of unmanned aircraft discovered, 4 arrested in Helmand

KABUL: Components of unmanned aircraft and a quantity of ammunition have been discovered by the security personnel of the 215th Azm Army Corps in the country's southern province of Helmand, the Ministry of National Defense said in a statement Saturday.

"During an intelligence operation by the security personnel of the army corps, components of unmanned aircraft and a quantity of ammunitions have been discovered and seized in Musa Qala district of the province," the statement said, adding four individuals also have been arrested in connection with the case.

The seized components and ammunition include 5 wings of unmanned aircraft, 9 rocket projectiles and 8 grenades, the statement added.

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Address: Ministry of Information and Culture, opposite  
to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**Food for thought***Today's generation guarantees our  
bright future***Afghanistan should be acknowledged  
a legal inclusive country**

On Friday, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution. The resolution was adopted to find a path to reintegrate Afghanistan into the international community.

In the resolution, "the UNSC reaffirmed its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, as well as its continued support for the people of Afghanistan."

The resolution "also urged support for a peaceful, stable, prosperous and inclusive Afghanistan and reiterated the need to address the challenges faced by Afghanistan including religious and ethnic minorities, security and terrorism, narcotics, development, economic and social challenges, dialogue, governance and the rule of law."

Other issues, the resolution focused on, was a request from the UN Secretary-General to appoint a Special Envoy for Afghanistan in consultation with members of the Security Council, relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders, including relevant authorities, Afghan women and civil society, as well as the region and the wider international community.

According to the resolution, the UNSC members also stressed "the critical importance of a continued presence of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and other United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes across Afghanistan, and reiterates its full support to the mandate and the work of UNAMA and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General."

This is undeniable that Afghanistan is an independent, sovereign and self-determined country that should be respected by the whole world countries, particularly the region and the neighbors.

Afghanistan, under the Islamic system, has now the right to have its representative in the gatherings and conferences, particularly the grand ones, the UN or other world major organizations hold about the country.

The meeting, which was held by the UNSC members, was not the latest one decided on Afghanistan, with no participation from the Islamic Emirate's representative, other conferences, hosted in the country, have also been empty of the Islamic Emirate's representatives and this is why they remained unfruitful.

Likewise, the new Afghanistan, with a legal Islamic system should be respected as an inclusive government and recognized by the international community, particularly the Islamic countries and our neighbors, as holding such meetings and issuing resolutions about Afghanistan, without its representation, can solve no problem and cure no pain of the Afghan people.

# Kazakhstan removes IEA from sanctions list

*The Supreme Court of Kazakhstan has officially removed the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan from the list of groups whose activities are prohibited within its territory and aims to expand its relations with Afghanistan in the areas of trade and politics, the statement said.*



The ambassador of Kazakhstan to Afghanistan, Alim Khan Yasin Galdiev, stated in a meeting with Amir Khan Muttaqi that the Supreme Court of his country has removed the Islamic Emirate from its list of sanctions.

According to the deputy spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hafiz Zia Ahmad Takal, the Kazakh ambassador, added in this meeting that Astana intends to expand its trade and political relations with Kabul.

The Supreme Court of Kazakhstan has officially removed the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan from the list of groups whose activities are prohibited within its territory and aims to expand its relations with Afghanistan in the areas of trade and politics, the statement said.

According to the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs statement, Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi described the current state of relations between Afghanistan and Kazakhstan as positive and beneficial for both countries.

Meanwhile, Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi appreciated Kazakhstan's practical steps to overcome existing obstacles between the two countries.

Acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi expressed satisfaction with Kazakhstan's decision, stating that it would be beneficial for both countries, and Mr. Muttaqi is eager for increased cooperation between the two nations.

According to experts, one of the regional countries that has genuinely stood by the people of Afghanistan and made the most effort to guide Afghanistan towards growth and development is Kazakhstan.

stan.

"Governments worldwide make decisions based on their national interests. The national interests of Kazakhstan require that there be no threat to itself and its neighboring countries from Afghanistan. Even the Taliban need legitimacy," stated Shaker Hayat, a political analyst.

However, some traders believe that facilities need to be introduced in contracts and banking constraints lifted to facilitate trade growth between Afghanistan and Kazakhstan.

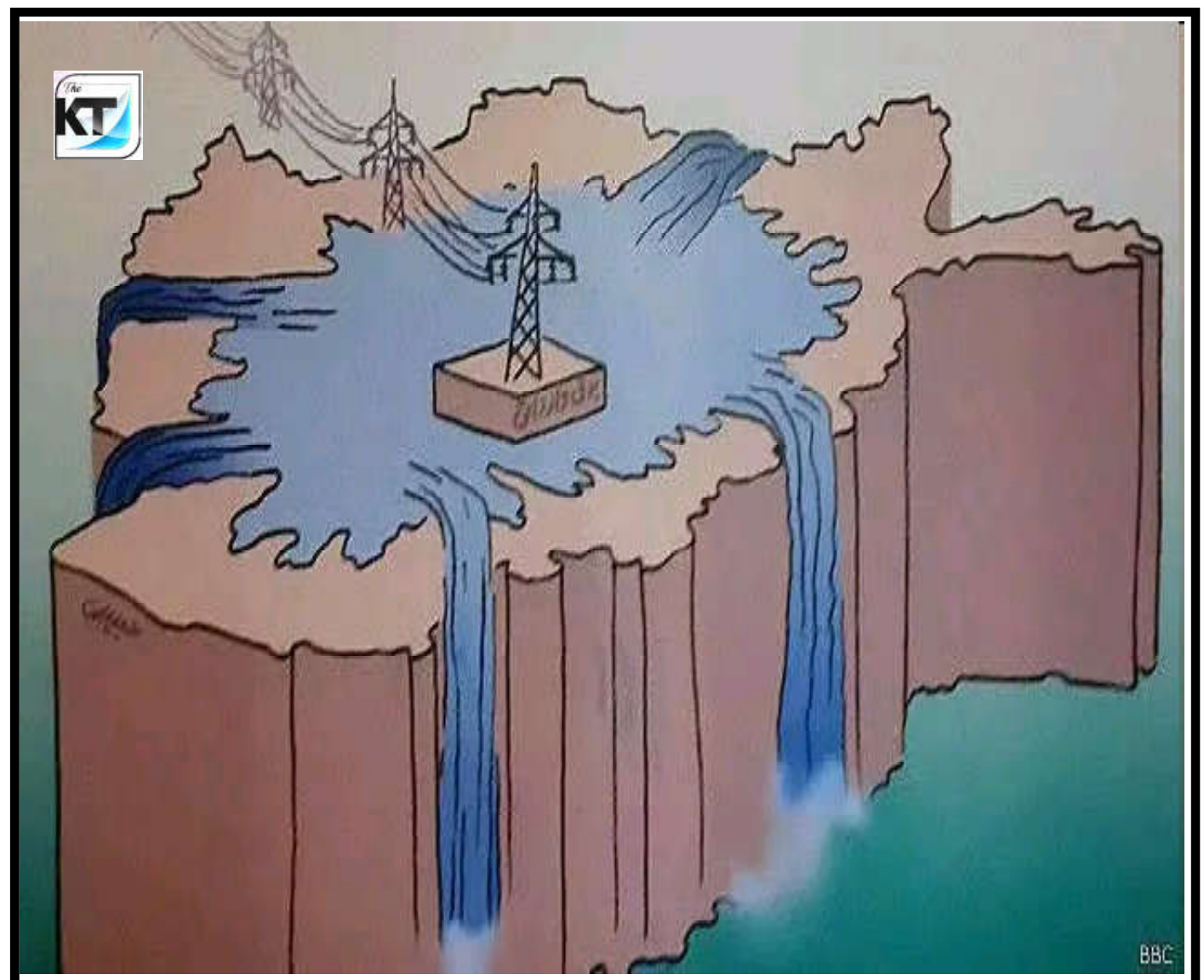
"Establishing a common market between the two countries should be part of fundamental discussions to increase economic relations and enhance political ties between the two countries, and this should be discussed," said Mohammad Mohabbatullah, a trader.

The Chamber of Commerce

and Investment says efforts are being made to connect Afghanistan to China through Kazakhstan.

Mohammad Younis Momen, the acting head of the Chamber of Commerce and Investment, believes that the creation of a joint trade chamber between Afghanistan and Kazakhstan can be beneficial in improving trade relations.

Kazakhstan has consistently tried to help Afghanistan overcome its problems, playing the role of a stable and secure country in the region and the world. It has continuously fulfilled its economic, political, and cultural assistance to Afghanistan from the past to the present. Every year, the Republic of Kazakhstan has assisted in Afghanistan for various reasons, including natural disasters and challenging social conditions. **Mashal Noori**





# Focus on youth education; blending contemporary science and Islamic knowledge for Afghan students



Every country is entitled to enjoy freedom and sovereignty, residing in a space marked by dignity and grandeur. Thankfully, the Afghan populace is one of those nations that have consistently experienced life in freedom, rejecting any form of colonialism or global dominance. The resistance against major powers such as Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States stands as a vivid testament to the Afghan nation's unwavering dedication to freedom and opposition to imperialism.

Reflecting on both historical and contemporary struggles, the world today has witnessed the resilience of the Afghan people, resulting in the defeat of formidable invaders in Afghanistan.

Emperors and conquerors have consistently strived to establish their dominance in the world, attempting to swallow up small and vulnerable nations and consign them to the dustbin of

history.

Despite being geographically small and having a population, Afghanistan has defeated the world's most significant powers and enemies on the battlefield with determined faith and courage.

It has humbled those powers' arrogant and proud heads, bringing them to the dust of humiliation.

All this bravery and resilience stem from the blessings of this nation's religiosity and freedom-loving spirit, and Islam has bestowed upon them the gem of freedom and dignity.

Muslim and freedom-loving fathers and mothers of Afghanistan have raised their sons with the milk of zeal from infancy, acquainted them with the sword of jihad, and taught the lessons of courage, like lions and falcons, in the fields, valleys and mountains of this land to their children.

Twenty-two years ago, following, the United States and its

allies launched a military attack on Afghanistan with a flawed strategy and the encouragement of Western-trained individuals, opportunistic fighters, and turncoats. They occupied Afghanistan with advanced weaponry, long-range missiles, and modern aircraft.

However, it didn't take long for American strategists to confess with shame and regret that the Afghanistan military attack was a strategic mistake. They acknowledged that U.S. and NATO forces couldn't engage in a lasting battle against the Afghan mujahideen.

When America prepared for the military occupation of Afghanistan, all military analysts worldwide believed that Afghanistan would be occupied indefinitely, and the Afghan mujahideen would melt away and perish in the battle against America and in the fire of America and NATO's modern weaponry.

But these analyses were re-

versed entirely, thanks to the victory of the Almighty Allah and the effects of the heroics and sacrifices of the Afghan mujahideen. Ultimately, America, NATO, and their local puppets faced a historic defeat against the valiant Afghan mujahideen. It was consumed in the fire of the righteous anger of the heroic Afghan nation.

The demonic and arrogant global powers should know that freedom is the innate right of a society and a nation, and they must take it seriously and refrain from interfering in countries' affairs.

Unfortunately, Afghanistan has been subjected to direct and indirect interventions and even military attacks by colonial powers and global forces for many years. However, each time, the mujahideen nation and the enemy defeaters from the heart of this geography have emerged, cutting off the hands of invasion and occupation.

From this, it is understood that Afghanistan's Islamic, freedom-loving, justice-seeking, and nationally rightful movement is unstoppable, and the fire of their resentment and anger against occupiers never goes out by any means.

Therefore, the world and global powers must refrain from interference and allow Afghanistan to be self-determined and united without external intervention.

Let this heroic nation take its measures and decisions, and let Islamic laws and divine ordinances, ingrained in the Afghan people's spirit and psyche, be implemented in practice.

It is also a severe necessity for the honorable Afghan people to equip their sons and the new generation, alongside Islamic studies, with the weaponry of knowledge and science of the era.

**See P4**

# Increasing the value of Afghani against foreign currencies during 2023

In the last two years, one of the serious debates following the great political change in the country has been the stability of the country's currency against foreign currencies, especially against the US dollar, and the neighboring countries' currencies that have

jecting in the market for collecting and incinerating old banknotes as the key achievements of Da Afghanistan Bank during 2023.

In general, monetary and fiscal policies refer to the two most widely recognized tools used to influence a nation's economic ac-

bank will control and guide the economy at the macro level. In fact, the central bank is responsible for controlling and managing the money supply and interest rate and executing monetary policies in this way.

The statistics and figures of



continually lost their values against US dollar during 2023.

According to the officials of Da Afghanistan Bank, the country's central bank, the value of the country's currency has increased by 26 percent during the year of 2023. The bank has considered implementing monetary policies, the circulation of Afghanis, prevention of foreign currency smuggling, restrictions on the transfer of cash abroad, prevention of unnecessary expenses within the government institutions, increasing exports, transparency as well as launching some national and international projects as the main reasons for the continued appreciation of the Afghani (AFG) during the year.

In the meantime, the Acting Governor of Da Afghanistan Bank, Hedayatullah Badri has termed that appreciation of Afghani against other currencies, reducing inflation to a desirable level, improvement in the performance of the banking sector, promotion of Islamic banking, development of payment and information technology systems, printing new Afghani banknotes and in-

tivity. Monetary policy is primarily concerned with the management of interest rates and the total supply of money in circulation and is generally carried out by central banks. The two policies are different from each other but important to each other. Fiscal policy is a collective term for the taxing and spending actions of governments.

In short, central banks typically use monetary policy to either stimulate an economy or to check its growth. By incentivizing individuals and businesses to borrow and spend, the monetary policy aims to spur economic activity. Conversely, by restricting spending and incentivizing savings, monetary policy can act as a brake on inflation and other issues associated with an overheated economy. The relationship between the interest rate in the economy and the money supply is called monetary policy. The monetary policy has specific tools that can be used to influence inflation, growth and unemployment and it has less impact on the real economy. In order to implement such policies, the central

major organizations such as the World Food Organization (WFP) and the World Bank also show that the value of Afghani has been stable against foreign currencies. In the meantime, the country's central bank has also said that the country's currency has been among the nine most stable currencies in the world in the last year.

It is worth mentioning that continued counter-corruption, prevention of trafficking the US dollar from Afghanistan's neighboring countries and banning the use of the US dollar in transactions are considered as the main reasons that help the Afghani keep its stability against foreign currencies. Besides the above three reasons, execution of the monetary policies, increasing domestic products, reduction in imports, balance in imports and exports level, launching some major projects in the country, good governance and necessary steps taken by the country's central bank in the auction of the US dollar are considered other reasons for protection of the value of afghani against foreign currencies. **Musqet**

# Afghan refugees still facing dire situations in neighboring countries

In the past few months, thousands of Afghan refugees have been forcibly deported from Pakistan to Afghanistan without any possessions. The forced deportation of Afghan refugees from the neighboring countries is still ongoing.

Thousands of Afghan refugees have experienced forced deportation with no possessions to transfer to Afghanistan. Those who have been faced with forcibly deportation have expressed sorrow over leaving with minimal belongings, underscoring the uncertainty that lies ahead.

In a significant move in regional immigration policies, Pakistan's interim government initiated the deportation of over 1.7 million undocumented Afghan immigrants in November. The United Nations and the International Rescue Committee said that nearly half a million Afghans have been forcibly returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan in the past two months alone.

Deputy Prime Minister of the Islamic Emirate, Abdul Salam Hanafi, has highlighted the staggering figure of 8,00,000 Afghan refugees deported by Pakistan and Iran. In the meantime, in his recent remarks, Sirajuddin Haqqani, the Acting Minister of Interior of the Islamic Emirate urged for international standard treatment of Afghan immigrants, particularly emphasizing the difficulties during the harsh winter months.

Despite calls from various international organizations and the

Islamic Emirate urging Pakistan to halt the forced deportations, the Pakistan government persists in its policy, disregarding the appeals. In response to the unfolding crisis, organizations such as the World Food Program and Afghanistan's respective administrations have announced aid initiatives for returning refugees, seeking to alleviate the challenges faced by those forcibly repatriated.

The intention of expulsion and forced deportation of Afghan refugees from Pakistan has faced Afghans with an uncertain future, which is unjustified and will result in deprivation, if not starvation, for many of them.

Apart from being inhumane, this expulsion is also contrary to the ties of brotherhood that Pakistan claims binds the Afghans with its own people. The Islamic Emirate's response in providing all necessary facilities for returnees is appreciable. For example, the IEA has announced full support and assistance to those who are forcibly deported by Pakistan as various ministries are working to take care of their accommodation and food and finding ways for their permanent resettlement of the returnees. As the people of Afghanistan are facing with poor economic situation and most of them are suffering from poverty, hun-

ger, and even some do not have shelter to live in; therefore, they cannot bear the pressure of the cold season of winter. On the other hand, those Afghan refugees who are facing forced deportation from Pakistan and Iran and returning to their home country will also be facing new problems in the winter season.

Thus, it is necessary for the Islamic Emirate to take more serious measures to prevent winter problems, assess the challenges that arise in the winter season, and make efforts to provide needy families with more winter facilities.

**Mukhtar Safi**



# Country's exports, imports surpassed 365,120 tons in a month



KABUL: A rough amount of 365,120 tons of commodities have been traded via the country's railways in the past month, the Afghanistan Railway Authority (ARA) said in a statement Saturday.

"Around 258,975 metric tons of exports and imports have been made via Hairatan-Mazar-i-Sharif railway, 80,072 metric tons of commodities have been made via Torgundi railway and the rest has been made via Aqina and Khawaf railways," the statement said.

The imported commodities include oil and foodstuffs that have been imported into the country in the past week, the statement further said.

Also, the exported commodities which mostly include dried fruit and pomegranate juice, have been exported to the outside of the country in the past week, the statement added.

The Afghanistan Railway Authority is making efforts to provide traders with the necessary facilities and resolve the challenges facing them.

**Javed Husain**





	USD		GBP		INR		PKR		EUR		IRR		AED
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AFN		AFN		AFN		AFN		AFN		AFN		AFN	
70.20		89.43		839		241		77.50		01.42		19.20	

## Ukraine war: Missile and drone attack launched against Russia

Russia says it has destroyed dozens of missiles and drones fired at its territory from Ukraine. Local officials reported two people, including a child, were killed in the attack.

The Russian defence ministry said 13 missiles and 32 drones were shot down over several Rus-

city to 16.

He described Friday's attacks as the deadliest for civilians in the capital, declaring a day of mourning would be held in Kyiv on Monday.

An initial statement from the Russian defence ministry said 13 missiles were destroyed over Bel-

tary targets were attacked, according to sources from Ukraine's intelligence services.

The reports say explosions were heard in regions including Moscow, Belgorod, Tula and Tver, while in Bryansk a group of drones successfully hit an electronic factory used to make Russian



sian regions.

A child was reported killed in Bryansk region, while a man in Belgorod region was also said to have died.

The attacks follow strikes on Ukraine which killed at least 37 people. More than 160 people were injured as Russia hit cities with missiles and drone strikes across the country on Friday - including the capital Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipro, Kharkiv and Lviv.

In an update on Saturday, Mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko said seven more bodies had been pulled from the rubble of a warehouse that had been hit - taking the total number of killed in the

gorod overnight. Later, it said 32 drones had been shot down overnight in the Bryansk, Oryol, Kursk and Moscow regions.

The governor of Bryansk region, Alexander Bogomaz, said two villages were targeted and a child, born in 2014, had been killed.

A man was killed in Belgorod after a house was hit, regional Governor Vyacheslav Gladkov said. He added that four people were being treated for injuries and the water supply in the city of Belgorod was disrupted.

Ukrainian media is reporting that more than 70 drones were used in the strikes and only mili-

tary equipment like long-range missiles and anti-aircraft systems.

The attacks come after what Kyiv described as Russia's biggest missile bombardment of the war so far against Ukraine.

Belgorod city is 80km (50 miles) north of the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv, which came under heavy fire by Russian forces on Friday morning as part of the wide-ranging strikes.

On Friday evening, an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council overwhelmingly condemned Russia's renewed mass-bombing campaign in Ukraine and said attacks must stop "immediately". **bbc**

## Thousands of Afghans returned from Iran, Pakistan in a week

KABUL: Over 5,000 Afghans have returned or expelled from Pakistan and Iran in the past one week, the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) said in a statement the other day.

"These people accounted for

5,057 had returned or expelled from the neighboring countries from December 21 till 2," the statement said, adding the returning people, 1,411 people accounted for 267 families had been expelled from Pakistan via Torkham

and Spin Boldak crossings.

In addition, 3,646 people have returned on their own choice from Iran via Herat's Islam Qala crossing. This comes that Mawlawi Abdul Salaam Hanafi, the acting prime minister's administrative

affairs aide, said neighboring countries have expelled 800,000 Afghans refugees who are welcomed in Afghanistan and the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan provided them necessary services and facilities. **The Kabul Times**



## Turkey Super Cup final in Saudi Arabia called off amid Ataturk T-shirt row

The Turkish Super Cup final between Galatasaray and Fenerbahce scheduled to be played in Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh was called off over an apparent disagreement about the players' jerseys.

The Turkish Football Federation (TFF) and the two teams - who returned to Istanbul on Saturday after Friday's postponed match - said the decision was made because of "some problems" in the event's organisation.

Haberturk television and other Turkish media said players from both Istanbul football teams wanted to wear T-shirts that featured an image of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the revered founder of the modern Turkish republic, during a prematch warm-up, but were not authorised to do so by Saudi organisers.

Turkish media also reported that Saudi authorities did not al-

low banners featuring political slogans and Ataturk T-shirts to be displayed ahead of the match, including those with Ataturk's "peace at home, peace in the world" slogan.

The clubs refused to play in the final at the King Saud University venue, which is also known as Al-Awwal Park stadium.

The organisers said that the cancellation was the result of the teams not adhering to match regulations.

"We had been looking forward to holding the match on time in accordance with the international football rules and regulations which require presenting the sport without any slogans outside its scope, especially since this was discussed with the Turkish [Football] Federation in the framework of the preparatory meetings for the match," the statement said.

"Despite this consensus, it

was unfortunate that the two teams did not adhere to what had been agreed upon, which led to the match not being held," it added.

The organisers also said that it had been agreed that Turkey's national anthem would be played in the stadium and its national flag displayed in the stands.

There has been no announcement yet on where or when the final will be held.

A joint statement by the TFF and the clubs posted on X said: "The 2023 Super Cup ... has been postponed to a later date as a result of a joint decision we made with our clubs, due to some problems in its organisation."

It also expressed "gratitude to the football federation of the host country and the relevant institutions for their efforts in organising" the event.

**aljazeera**



## Brazil urges calm as Venezuela-Guyana border tension rises over Essequibo

Brazil has called for "restraint" as tensions flared in a territorial dispute between Venezuela and Guyana, with Caracas launching a major military exercise near the contested, oil-rich Essequibo region.

"The Brazilian government is following the latest developments in the dispute surrounding the Essequibo region with concern," said a statement from the foreign ministry on Friday.

"The Brazilian government believes military demonstrations of support to either party should be avoided so that the ongoing dialogue process can produce results."

A British warship, the HMS Trent, also arrived in Guyana on Friday afternoon amid rising tensions, for open sea defence exercises in its former colony.

The UK's defence ministry has said that the ship is visiting Guyana as part of a series of engagements in the region and that the vessel will conduct training exercises with Guyana's military.

On its X account, the ship posted photos of sailors welcoming Britain's ambassador to Guyana and the chief of staff of Guyana's Defence Force, Brigadier General Omar Khan. They were also hosted at a formal lunch and provided with a tour of the ship's capabilities.

The HMS Trent's visit, however, led Venezuela to begin military exercises a day earlier in the eastern Caribbean near its border with Guyana as the Venezuelan government presses its claim to a huge swath of its smaller neighbour.

**aljazeera**

## Israel impedes access to Al-Aqsa Mosque, Friday prayers held on Jerusalem streets

Dozens of Palestinian Muslims performed Friday prayers in the streets near the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, as Israel maintained a heavy security presence.

According to some worship-

ers, since the first Friday after the deadly October 7 attacks in Israel, police were only permitting certain older men, women, and children to enter the compound for prayers.

The mosque sits in a hilltop



compound sacred to both Jews and Muslims, and conflicting claims over it have spilled into violence before.

Al-Aqsa Mosque is the third-holiest site in Islam and stands in a spot known to Jews as the Temple Mount, which is the holiest site in Judaism.

The Israel-Hamas war erupted after the Hamas militant group raided southern Israel on October 7, killing about 1200 people and taking some 240 hostages.

Israel has vowed to dismantle Hamas - which is still putting up stiff resistance - and bring back more than 100 hostages still being held by the militants.

The war has already killed over 20,000 Palestinians and driven around 85 percent of the population of 2.3 million from their homes.

**alarabiya**

## Focus on youth education; blending contemporary...

From P3

They should resort to religious and contemporary knowledge for the progress and development of the country and illuminate the future of Afghanistan with the light of these very sciences.

On the other hand, it is also essential for our Islamic system to further facilitate the educational and learning environment within the boundaries of the pristine teachings of Mohammad's Sharia.

The nation's children should be nurtured in the light of the Quran and Hadith, Islamic sciences, and contemporary knowledge. They should contribute significantly to the prosperity and blossoming of our beloved country and play a crucial role. **S. Raqib**