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انجمن تحقيقاتی صلح

Peace Research Society

In the Name of ALLAH, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate

Peace Jirga's Press Release

Kabul – Afghanistan

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Afghans have been the victims of the imposed wars over the past few decades. These wars have systematically stripped away the national, material and moral wealth of the people of Afghanistan. Despite the fact that with the end of the twentieth and the outset of the twenty first century, the rest of the world has largely benefited from [the unprecedented] progress and globalization, Afghanistan unfortunately still continues to be plagued by [an unending cycle of] conflict.

We are of the belief that every Afghan has a responsibility and duty to sincerely participate in the efforts aiming to take Afghanistan out of this miserable situation and put an end to killing each other, steer Afghanistan on a path towards prosperity and development as well as work wholeheartedly for a durable peace in our country in the light of the instructions of this verse of the Holy Quran: *Translation reads: Peace is in your best interest.*

It is for this reason that we as the founders, members and supporters of the Peace Jirga have made an unwavering commitment to making our voices heard for the purpose of establishing a durable peace and ending the misery we are all confronted with through an impartial mediation between the warring parties in form of a civil movement, with the help of God and considering the national interests of our country as well as based on the principle of making peace that shall observe and respect social justice. We call upon all the parties to work together for peace and security and stop this [never-ending] process of conflict and killing. We will continue our endeavors aimed at bringing about a lasting peace and further strengthening this Afghan-led movement.

Our objectives for establishing durable peace in our beloved country are as follows:

1. Listen to the demands of the parties involved. Analyze and evaluate these demands based on our National and Islamic values.
2. Do away with all the existing impediments to peace because it [the peace] is the desire of all Afghans;
3. Meet with warring parties from time to time and exchange their positive messages;
4. Given the importance of peace, urge the people and the warring factions to make peace a priority,
Work together, consult and encourage the warring parties' vis-à-vis peace as well as share our plans [about making peace happen.]

For Achieving the Aforementioned objectives the Peace Jirga is performing the following activities:

1. Collaborate with all national and international organizations that want peace in Afghanistan;
2. Organize national and international conferences on peace-making inside the country and abroad;
3. Work together with influential figures, [religious] scholars, the elderly and leading youth in order to further strengthen and expedite the peace-making process;
4. Take an active part in all national and international efforts in order to make peace happen in accordance with Afghanistan's national values;
5. Serve as a pressure tool and trust [bridge] for the parties to the conflict with the support of the people in order to root out conflict and transform Afghanistan into a peaceful and prosperous country wherein all our fellow citizens can live happily and in peace;

We are only committed to our own people. We are not associated with any party. We are working to protect Islamic values and bring about peace and progress in our beloved country.

[The closing text reads in Arabic:]

و ما علينا الا لبلاغ

ومن الله توفيق