

Center for Strategic & Regional Studies



Week analysis:

No: 45 (from 14-Sept to 21 Sept)

This Publication consists of significant incidents as per week which is provided and issued via Center for strategic and regional studies to analyze the political and economical status of Afghanistan, for the use of different organizations and institutions.

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Position of parties and different group's on upcoming Presidential Election of Afghanistan.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar: Hezb-e- Islami can give triumph to one of the candidates which they support.

Hezb-e- Islami plays a significant role in the upcoming election. Three Branches of this party is currently working actively in Kabul which of those the one led by Arghandiwal is the biggest. Branches led by waheedullah sabaawoon and Khalid Farooqi are the other ones.



In past recent years, Hezb-e-Islami was under support of President Karzai due to the past bloody conflicts and involvements with Jamiat-e-Islami and Shorai Nezar and due to this reason, in the past elections they supported Hamid karzai. This party which can convince people to participate in the elections throughout eastern and southern provinces, suffer the instable temper of their leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Sometimes the party members of Hezb-e-Islami who resides in Kabul are called self sold by Hekmatyar and sometimes they are told to allied and united.

Hekmatyar in an interview with the ALMEYADIN LEBNAN TV Network in the beginning of the current year, declared his position regarding the forthcoming presidential Elections of Afghanistan. This interview led to many different questions and it was clear that he was attempting to hide his inside words through playing with words and saying dim sentences. He faced much questions regarding this issue, and finally he was forced to give more explanations about his position in the elections.

He said: "our participation in the election is related to the full or partial withdrawal of the foreign troops from Afghanistan. If NATO forces fully withdraw from Afghanistan, then it is better for Hezb-e-Islami to have Direct Participation in Election, if they withdraw partially, we would continue our armed conflict, and meanwhile we would support a proper candidate. Currently inshallah our party (Hezb-e-Islami) is in a position that can give triumph to a candidate which it supports.

I deem our participation is essential and useful in either full withdrawal (which in my point of view has stronger possibility) or partial. It is better for us and soon the executive council of the party would decide about it, comparing our withdrawal from the election and the misuse of the name and prestige of the party by some people to gain some money or a governmental position."

This is more like a complaint of a guide from its disciples. But the important point is that currently very few previous members of the party is accompanying Hekmatyar. The parties' branch in Kabul worries about the empowering of their previous opponents mainly Jamiat-e-Islami, that is why they feel themselves secured having the support of Hamid karzai and it is possible they might support the candidate which is supported by Hamid karzai without caring about what their leader Hekmatyar says.

Taliban: Karzai's alternative is not elected in Afghanistan, but in Washington.

Taliban as a power that can disrupt the election through the use of force, are an important factor in the battle. Taliban says that Afghanistan is an occupied country and no election can be free and due to the will of the people. Karzai's alternative is elected in Washington, not in Afghanistan.

It is possible that Taliban might reject negotiations with the upcoming government as they rejected negotiations with Karzai's government, especially if the future president is elected from the present governing team which supports the persistence of the current situation.

Therefore Taliban would try best to prevent the elections, as a result instead of creating stability, the elections would bring bigger and further division between the upcoming victorious president and the defeated ones. At that time the upcoming government would have lesser Legitimacy than the present one.

Political opposition: The election must be held at any possible way.

The government's political opposition members consider the election as an essential and vital need and they believe that in case the election is not held in the country, any future government would face the lack of legitimacy.

According to their views, in case the election is not held in Afghanistan, not only executive power of the government but also the two other powers of the government which obtains their legitimacy from a democratic system, will also lose their legitimacy. So in this case the elections must be held at any possibilities.

The political opposition believes that the security organizations are responsible to provide security of the election and the government responsibility is to hold a transparent election.

in the session which was held at the foundation of Ahmad Shah Masoud couple time ago, one of the participants in the session told about the security challenges that: "even if the government can't provide security for the most parts of the country, it is enough for the legitimacy of the election by holding it in the capital of the big provinces of Afghanistan. Kabul with the population of 6 million people, Mazar-e-Sharif with 3 million, Herat with 4 million and the center of some other cities which makes the holding of election possible in it, is much enough and perfect for the legitimacy of the election and there is no need for the election to be held in the insecure parts of the country."

Elections and forthcoming challenges

16th Hamal of the year 1393 the time for the presidential and provincial counsels' election.



The greatest challenge for the elections is security. The independent election commission has formally declared that if security organizations will not get able to provide security for the voting centers, the possibility of transparent and nationwide elections would be difficult.



On the other hand, security authorities of the country have declared that it is difficult to provide security for the half of the voting centers throughout the country, and they have affirmed that amongst 6845 voting centers appointed by the election commission, just half of them have full security.

Mr. Mujtaba Patang the past Supervisor of the Ministry of interior affairs reported to the security council of the country that a number of 3435 election centers are located in the insecure parts of country which are divided into three categories of low threatening parts, average and high.

It is not fully clear which parts of the country face such threats but the extent of the insecurity in different provinces since the start of the year 2013 is as follow:

1. The provinces where armed opposition of the government have increased their activities are: Paktia, Paktika, Khost, Ghazni, Konarha, Kandahar, Helmand, Zabul, Logar, Maydan Wardak, Nooristan, Laghman and Ningarhar.
2. The provinces where the armed opposition of the government is averagely active are: Kabul, Kapisa, Nimroz, Jawzjan, Herat, Baghlan, Kunduz, Urzgan and Badakhshan.
3. The provinces where the armed oppositions of the government are less active are: Panjshir, Takhar, Sarpul, Balkh and Daikundi.

Certainly it is a cautious estimation, whereas some parts of Daikundi and Badakhshan are also facing security threats so it can be said that most parts of the country are currently under high and average security threats and the possibility of holding elections is very difficult.

Mr. Wahid Mozhdha While speaking regarding the security problems and pointing to the previous election, added:" in the previous presidential elections and in some parts of the country, number of votes given by women were more than votes by men, whereas in these parts of the country, traditionally women rarely get out of home.

Hamid Karzai becomes president in the model of Zalmay Rasool .

Hamid Karzai visited Viladimir Putin president of Russia in the sideline of Shanghai conference and informed about Zalmay Rasool getting candidate in the upcoming elections.

Putin is a president for a country which is a strong rival of the west.

Mr. Abdul Shaheed Saaqib an analyst for political issues says: Karzai's visit with Putin and the announcement of Zalmay Rasool as a candidate for the elections, can be a story of 180 degree rotation of the governing team in their foreign relations.

It seems as Karzai has not only decided to get orders and directions from Russia but to copy the model of their political system as well. I think Hamid Karzai is trying to implement the Vladimir Putin's Russian experiment in Afghanistan. Putin, at the time when he could not go to the third round of the presidential term due to legal obstacle, supported Medvedev who could not do anything without consulting Putin and was a person from his own team. Karzai is trying to use Zalmay Rasool as Afghanistan's Medvedev.

What confirms this fact is Karzai's interest to remain in power which he himself had expressed by saying "he is not going to leave the power". Meanwhile in these days he has appointed a team to request him to stay in power by setting up conferences and gatherings. As an example, some time ago a group of people through a conference in Kabul, requested the Afghan government to delay the elections until 2018.

If you let the Russian experience to be repeated in Afghanistan and Karzai becomes president for the third time in the model of Zalmay Rasool, there is no guarantee that he might not want to become the president for the fourth time.

Kabul-Washington argue regarding the security agreement

Monday in a press conference Mr. Jimz Dabenz special representative of US government for Afghanistan and Pakistan affairs expressed his hope that the security agreement between US and Afghanistan will get signed till October (Meezaan) month of the current year.

But president Karzai during the National Youth Conference in Kabul confirmed that we do not have any hurry to sign security agreement with the US government and he added that it is impossible for the US to have their permanent military bases in Afghanistan until the current war is not finished in Afghanistan.

Some of Analysts say the US hurry to sign the security agreement with Kabul is simultaneous with the security, political and economical problems of Afghanistan although the US forces and its allies have been present for the last twelve years in the country.

It seems that the Washington is misusing three factors or problems of Afghanistan and has decided to force Afghanistan to sign the mutual security agreement by putting more pressure. The three variable factors such as, dependence, threat of Taliban and poverty causes Kabul Authorities not to show proper reactions against the demands of the US government.