

Abdullah 'may quit Afghan poll'

Abdullah Abdullah, President Hamid Karzai's rival in the second round of Afghanistan's presidential election, is reportedly close to quitting the poll.

Mr Abdullah called for the resignation of key election officials, cabinet ministers and provincial governors as a way to mitigate fraud and corruption.

The deadline for those conditions to be met expires on Saturday.

A senior adviser said that in talks on Friday, Mr Abdullah's team decided he should not take part in the poll.

The BBC's Ian Pannell, in Kabul, says this does not mean he is officially withdrawing, although Mr Abdullah is expected to decide on his next step this weekend.

The former foreign minister may simply tell his supporters that he will not take part and that they should do likewise, our correspondent says

In a meeting with President Karzai

earlier this week, Mr Abdullah's demands for resignations were turned down.

But this election has been a protracted and murky affair, our correspondent says, and until an official announcement is made, the details of any final decision on whether he is standing won't be known.

'Nothing has changed'

Hundreds of thousands of votes were discounted from August's first round of voting.

The UN-backed Electoral Complaints Commission's (ECC) action meant Mr Karzai's total was reduced to below the 50% plus one vote threshold for outright victory, indicating a run-off poll was needed.

Among the "minimum conditions" Mr Abdullah has set for holding a relatively fair and free contest to be accepted, is sacking of the head of the country's Independent Election Commission (IEC), Azizullah Lodin.

Afghanistan, is also, one of the most neglected

On Monday, Mr Adbullah said Mr Lodin had "no credibility". Mr Lodin denies allegations that he favoured Mr Karzai.

One of Mr Abdullah's senior advisers, Ahmed Wali Massoud, said he was unhappy that nothing had been done to redress the electoral system's problems.

"The fact is that the infrastructure of this fraud is still there. Almost 1.5 million votes were rigged. Nothing has changed," he told the BBC.

"So if you go back and do the second round election, it means that it will happen again. So, therefore, I don't think that we would be willing to participate."

An announcement might come as early as Saturday but was more likely on Sunday, people close to Mr Abdullah told the Associated Press.

Earlier, the IEC announced that it planned to open 6,322 polling stations for the run-off - more than it did during the first round.

group in the country.

Rather than creating opportunities for these youngsters, they are even deprived of their basic rights.

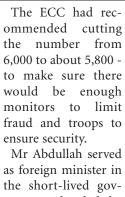
The Afghan Youth Movement weekly consists of young Afghans, who are intent on serving their country plus building a better future for themselves as well.

We hope that by using the Active youth Movement weekly as a milestone, we will be able to promote Islamic teachings plus Islamic law. By incorporating, the above mentioned in our lives, we can achieve satisfaction plus success in our lives.

Our goal is to encourage, following the holy prophet (P.B.U.O.H) as a role model for all youngsters also, the (A.Y.M) weekly will try to inform the government of the youth's troubles plus build a bond of trust between both the groups.

Also, our other sections including News, reports, marriage, introduction of active youth, economy, Islamic and sports will keep the readers up to date with the latest occurrences.

Here's to a better Afghanistan...



Our Vision

Many people looked confused when they heard

about the afghan youth movement (A.Y.M)

since this is a new name plus anew concept in

Afghanistan. This entire column is dedicated towards explaining what A.Y.M is plus what it aims to accomplish?

Ever since, the beginning of the war in Afghanistan, the country plus its people has been helpless and scattered. The country was

torn, many lives were taken the economydestroyed no one can say who suffered more, but

one thing is true, each time the youth of

They paid a high price for a war started by

From becoming an orphan to becoming a disable, each time the youth suffered, the youth

One would think now that the war is over

Today after 30 years of war the afghan youth is

The youth which is the future, the hope of

still suffering, some are illiterate, some jobless,

Afghanistan went through a lot.

things would change but a1000, No!

some, ended by others.

while some disabled.

as foreign minister in the short-lived government headed by the Northern Alliance, and continued as "foreign minister in exile" throughout the years of rule by the Taliban, which was ousted in 2001.

He continued in that role under the Karzai government that was formed after the fall of the Taliban, leaving the government in 2006.



