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## Protest against US security pact turn violent in Western Afghanistan

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Violent protests were reported in western Ghor province of Afghanistan after dozens of local residents on Friday protested against the proposed bilateral security agreement between Kabul and Washington.

The demonstration turned to violence after Afghan national police forces interfered to stop the protest in Cheghcharan city.

Provincial council chief for Ghor province Syed Fazal-ul-Haq Ehsan said dozens of youths and residents of Ghor province started demonstrations against the Kabul-Washington bilateral security agreement and shortly turned to violence.

Mr. Ehsan further added that the protesters were throwing stones towards the Ghor provincial government compound, and burnt three camps at the entrance gate of Ghor provincial reconstruction team led by Lithuanian forces.

He said at least three people were injured after Afghan police forces opened fire on angry protesters.

In the meantime local officials in Ghor province blame militant groups for organizing the protest, and accused the militants for encouraging the youths to protest against the bilateral security agreement during Friday prayers.

The Lithuanian defense ministry also confirmed the report and said around 200 people protested against a planned bilateral treaty between Afghanistan and the United States, threw stones in the camp's direction and tried to storm in.