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Ashgabat varsity confers honorary doctorate on Ghani

Nov 28, 2016



Turkmenistan President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow has conferred an honorary doctorate on his Afghan counterpart Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, the Presidential Palace said here on Monday.

Ghani received the degree at the Ashgabat International Oil and Gas University, whose head was quoted as saying: “Your presence here is matter of pride for us and shows the value you attach to education.

“You have played an important role in strengthening bilateral relations between the two nations. Similarly, your efforts for promoting peace and stability are also worth praising,” the university chancellor said.

While praising the university administration, the resident said: “Durable bilateral friendship is an important part of our politics. Every Afghan is happy over our friendship with Turkmenistan...” Ghani remarked.

He commended Turkmenistan’s successful holding of the Global Conference on Sustainable Transport, in Ashgabat under the United Nations aegis. Transport, transit and logistic systems in the Central Asian and Caspian regions are part of the process.

The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Tajikistan railroad will become the part of Asian international transport corridor, which will stretch to railroad network of China and farther to markets of the Asian Pacific region.

“In the past two years, Turkmenistan has been leading the implementation of international transport strategies. The progress it has made since the Ashgabat Declaration is commendable,” the president remarked.

He said Turkmenistan, whose bountiful natural resources could pave the ground for future generations’ prosperity, had emerged as a regional intersection. He also welcomed Ashgabat’s continued support to Afghan students.

About the TAPI pipeline, Ghani said: “It’s not just a project; it’s an idea to connect regional states. It will concurrently carry 500 volts of power to Pakistan via Afghanistan.”

He also visited the Ashgabat Olympic City, which is scheduled to host the 5th Asian Olympic Games in 2017. The president informed the hosts that athletes from Afghanistan would attend the event.

Ghani director his transport and public health ministers to explore avenues of bilateral cooperation. He was briefed on transport services, particularly efforts to enhance capacity building of officials in logistic, communications, export and import areas.