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## Afghans oppose permanent US bases

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Afghan religious and political figures have voiced strong opposition to US plans to set up long-term or permanent military bases in the war-torn country

At a conference in Kabul, Afghan figures rejected Washington's decision to set up permanent bases in Afghanistan.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai earlier confirmed that the White House has demanded the establishment of permanent military bases on Afghan soil to occupy the war-torn country beyond the 2014 deadline.

He said the future of permanent US bases depended on the Afghans and the concerns of the neighboring countries.

This comes as Washington has failed to achieve its goals after 10 year of war in Afghanistan, many parts of the country still remain insecure despite the presence of nearly 150,000 US-led foreign forces in the war-torn Asian nation.

Experts believe Washington's new strategy of establishing long-term military bases will only serve to raise anti-US sentiment among Afghans and neighboring countries.

Afghan people are against the plan, dismissing it as a ploy for indefinite neo-colonial occupation.