

# *Violent attacks in Afghanistan kill hundreds as U.S.-Taliban peace talks get underway*

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Kabul, July 2 (RHC)-- In Afghanistan, a bomb explosion near a Defense Ministry building killed at least 40 people, and injured at least 1,000 others, including dozens of children. The bomb in the capital Kabul on Monday comes after a weekend of violence across the country.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the bombing, which was followed by a gun battle with Afghan security forces.

Around 300 people, mostly fighters from both government and Taliban forces, were reported killed over multiple attacks over the weekend. Eight election workers were among those killed in a Taliban attack on a government compound in Kandahar province Sunday.

Afghanistan is currently gearing up for a presidential election at the end of September.

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