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Afghan MP condemns US-led airstrikes

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In a press conference in the Afghan capital, Kabul on Tuesday, Fawzia Koofi called on the US-led forces and Taliban militants to avoid killing civilians.

She also urged American forces to change their war tactics that usually result in civilian casualties.

Koofi described as a "big tragedy" the recent US airstrike on a village in the eastern province of Kunar, which killed 17 civilians including a dozen children and four women.

The April 6 airstrike once again provoked anti-American sentiment in the war-torn Afghanistan.

On Monday, Afghan protesters held an anti-US demonstration in the eastern city of Jalalabad to condemn the deadly assault.

Shouting anti-US slogans, the protesters, including hundreds of university students, carried an effigy of US President Barack Obama and burnt an American flag during the demonstration.

The Afghan Defense Ministry also said in a Monday statement that the foreign forces should stop airstrikes on residential areas, which are conducted under the pretext of targeting militants, since such assaults cause "more civilian deaths."

Afghan President Hamid Karzai said on April 13 that Washington violated international human rights when the US military carried out the deadly airstrike in Kunar.

Many civilians have lost their lives in US-led operations in various parts of Afghanistan over the past decade, with Afghans becoming increasingly outraged at the seemingly endless number of the deadly assaults.

Washington claims that its airstrikes target militants, but local sources say civilians have been the main victims of the attacks.

The United States and its allies invaded Afghanistan in October 2001 as part of Washington's so-called war on terror. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but insecurity remains across the country, despite the presence of thousands of US-led troops.