

## Afghan Leader, Sworn In, Appeals for Unity

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KABUL, Afghanistan, Jan. 2 (Reuters) — Burhanuddin Rabbani, who was elected President this week in a vote boycotted by several factions, appealed to his opponents to support him today as he was sworn in to a two-year term.

Five of the nine Muslim factions on the country's divided leadership council boycotted the special assembly that elected him on Wednesday. They accused Mr. Rabbani, who has been Afghanistan's Acting President since June, of bribing some of the delegates so he could remain in power.

In a speech, President Rabbani described those drawing battle lines

against his Islamic Government as heretics but appealed to them to bow to what he called the "nation's will and decision."

The official Kabul Radio said the assembly that elected Mr. Rabbani had also approved the creation of a parliament, set up an army and ordered the television and radio to abide by Islamic tenets.

### Parliament to Be Formed

The assembly voted on Friday to form a parliament from the ranks of its 1,335 members, according to the radio report, which was monitored in Islamabad today. The assembly is made up

of scholars, clerics and representatives of clans and other communities across Afghanistan.

Mr. Rabbani seems to have obtained the backing of more groups over the last few days, including that of a powerful militia commander, Abdul Rashid Doestam, and that of the Hezb-i-Islami faction led by Mohammad Yunis Khalis

But the militarily powerful Hezb-i-Islami party that is led by the hard-line Muslim leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar has so far shown no sign of compromise. His forces, which have repeatedly skirmished with Government troops in recent months, are stationed outside

Kabul. Mr. Rabbani bid farewell today to his the Jamiat-i-Islami party, which he has led for the last two decades.

"From now on I do not belong to any party but to the people of Afghanistan," he said in his speech delivered in the Pashtu and Dari languages.

Jamiat is a main faction in the Muslim rebel coalition that overthrew the former Soviet-backed Government in April after 14 years of civil war. There was no immediate word of who would take over as leader of the faction.