

# Drone Strikes Allegedly Kill 20 Civilians in Paktika

SHARAN - Public representatives and local residents on Thursday claimed 20 civilians including tribal elders had been killed in two drone strikes in southeastern Paktika province, but security officials said the slain individuals were militants. The victims were traveling in a pickup vehicle to Kakarza area from Banzo village in Gomal district to resolve a dispute there on Wednesday afternoon when came under attack from the drone, a resident of Banzo area, Mohammad Hanif, told



Pajhwok Afghan News. He said 15 people including tribal elders were killed and one more was injured in the incident. He said another drone strike took place the same day at around 5pm, killing five people on two motorcycles. He said the victims were civilians. Civilians were killed in both the attacks, the provincial council's deputy head, Naimatullah Babari, told Pajhwok Afghan News. He rejected if the slain persons had any links ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Gold, Flour and Sugar Prices Down in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of gold, flour and sugar declined but that of ghee increased during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Thursday. Fazel Rahman, head of food traders' union, told Pajhwok Afghan News a 49-kilogram sack of Kazakh flour was sold for 1,220afis against its last week's price of 1,230afis and the value of a 49-kg bag of Pakistani sugar bag declined to 1920afis from 2000afis. The rate of a 16-kg tin of Momin ghee increased from 960afis to 1000 afis and the rate of 25-kg sack of Pakistani rice remained stable at 1,650 afis. The price of one kilo of African black tea and Indonesian green tea remained steady at 240 afis and 220 afis respectively, a tea dealer in Kabul, Ihsanullah, said. But wholesale prices varied from retail rates in some parts of the city. Ahmad Javed, a shopkeeper in Dahn-i-Bagh locality, sold a 24-kg sack of rice for 1,800afis, a 49-kg bag of sugar for 2,000afis and a 50-kg sack of flour for ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

## Afghan Forces Kill 5 Militants in Ghazni

GHAZNI - Afghan security forces in crackdown against Taliban fighters have killed five militants and injured three others in Andar district of the eastern Ghazni province over the past 24 hours, an army spokesman in the province, Mohammad Hanif Rezae said Friday. According to Rezae the cleanup operation launched Thursday morning and would last for several days. A Taliban commander Mullah Tayeb is among those received injury in the operations, the official asserted.



No security personnel has been harmed in the operations, Rezae contended. Meantime, Taliban outfit in an online statement claimed destroying a police van and killing two police personnel outside Ghazni's provincial capital Ghazni city on Thursday. *(Xinhua)*

## Teacher Township Inaugurated in Paktika Capital

KABUL - The distribution of land plots to 1,500 teachers under a residential scheme was launched on Thursday in Sharan City, the capital of southern Paktika province, the governor's house said. In a statement received by Pajhwok Afghan News, the governor's house said Urban Development Minister Sayed Mansoor Naderi and Governor Aminullah Shariq inaugurated the township for teachers. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Naderi said he had been directed by the president to travel to Paktika and inaugurate the township that would have all necessary facilities. Governor Shariq also thanked the president for meeting his commitment and promises and said the distribution of residential plots to teachers was one of the president's promises. He said the township would be constructed in Sharan city on 500 acres of land and would contain 1,500 residential buildings for teachers. *(Pajhwok)*



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## NDS Seize 4 Suicide Vests, Explosives in Laghman

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) on Thursday claimed seizing four suicide vests in the eastern province of Laghman. The suicide jackets, which had been kept in a secret place, were recovered during a raid by intelligence operatives in the Ka Kas area of Qarghaye district. A statement from spy service said some explosives were also recovered during the operation. The seizure had foiled an insurgent plot to attack Mehtarlam, it added. *(Pajhwok)*

## Afghan Issued with Visa to Apply for Asylum in Lithuania

KABUL - Lithuanian authorities have granted a temporary visa to an Afghan interpreter, enabling him to apply for asylum in the Baltic country, media reports said on Thursday. After being issued with a five-day visa, Abdul Basir Yousofy landed in Vilnius late on Wednesday, according to the Associated Press. He worked for Lithuanian troops in Afghanistan. He flew to Vilnius from a migrant camp in Greece after his appeal to the Lithuanian president for help on Twitter drew a positive response. The 22-year-old worked for Lithuanian troops in Ghor province. At the airport, ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## 6 of a Family Stabbed to Death in Mazar-I-Sharif

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Unknown persons broke into a house and stabbed to death six members of a family in the capital of northern Balkh province, Mazar-i-Sharif, police said on Thursday. The incident took place on Wednesday afternoon in Baba Yadgar area in the jurisdiction of the fourth police district, Balkh police spokesman Sher Jan Durrani told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said the dead included three women, two children and one man. Durrani suspected the knife attack could be 'honour killings.' The Civil Hospital director, Dr. Noor Mohammad Faiz, said they were delivered the bodies ...*(More on P4)...(17)*



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## A Taliban District Chief Killed in Nuristan

KABUL - A Taliban Designated Chief for Noorgram District Was among 10 Insurgents Killed during an Operation In eastern Nursitan province, the Ministry of Defence said on Friday. Afghan ground and air forces have conducted a series of operations over the past 24 hours in different parts of the country, a statement from the ministry said. The Taliban chief for Noorgram district and his nine fighters were killed during the offensive in Nuristan, the statement stated. No security personnel have so far suffered casualties in the operations. Dozens of more rebels have been also killed in other parts of the country, the statement added. *(Pajhwok)*

## 3 Policemen, an Insurgent Killed in Samangan

AIBAK - Three policemen and a militants' commander were killed and four other insurgents wounded during a clash erupted as the militants attacked a police checkpoint in northern Samangan province, an official said on Friday. Three police officers were killed as rebels attacked their checkpoint at 1:30am in the Rabata area on the outskirts of Aibak, the provincial capital, the police spokesman, 2nd Lt. Munir Rahimi, told Pajhwok Afghan News. A group leader of the attackers was killed and his four other fighters were wounded in exchange of firings, he said adding the attackers took, five Kalashnikovs and two pistols with themselves. *(Pajhwok)*

## 503kg of Hashish, Weapons Recovered by Nangarhar Police

JALALABAD - Police waltold Pajhwok Afghan News. The detainee and the drugs were shown to media at the counter-narcotics police headquarters. The spokesman police were interrogating the trafficker. Separately, another man was detained with weapons and ammunition at the Samarkhel checkpoint in Behsud district. The man wanted to shift the arms from Kabul to Marko Bazaar. *(Pajhwok)*

### Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You feel lazy today, but you're still the one who can swing into action before considering the consequences. You often get away with overstepping limits, but your words have more influence than you expect now. Exaggerating the facts or overstating your position won't convince anyone that your ideas are sensible. Remember, you can't avoid reality for long.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Your need to keep life simple is your prime motivator now that the Moon is making her monthly sojourn through your sign. Fortunately, you can positively impact a complex situation by changing only a few basic variables. There's no reason to pretend you're a master of nuance. Even if you wish that everything was less complicated, focus on the big picture and let the rest fall into place on its own.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Sometimes you enjoy talking about almost anything that pops into your mind. However, even the most casual of comments can turn into a major disagreement today. It seems as if everything you say is blown out of proportion or completely misunderstood. Avoid the temptation to prove everyone else wrong; instead, concentrate on cooperating with others rather than competing with them.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You're not looking for any additional problems today, but trouble could find you anyhow when you least expect it. Although a stressful situation may demand your immediate attention at work, you're highly resistant to any form of change. Happily, your friends appreciate your ability to quickly grasp the subtleties of a complex situation. Step up to the plate and take charge.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You are caught between your confident thoughts and your tender feelings today. However, you will most likely end up sweeping your emotions under the rug given the chance. You might believe that rational plans are superior to irrational instincts now, but logic need not override your love. Turn your battle for control into a spiritual practice by opening communication channels while at the same time.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Talking your way around an obstacle might be impossible today, even if you think you're being outrageously clever. There is no escape; you must make a decision whether to continue on your current path or to consider a variety of alternatives that could ultimately change the course of your life. The time to hesitate is through; make up your mind by following your heart while you still have the courage.

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Creating a healthy balance in your relationships can seem like an intricate puzzle today. You may be simultaneously told yes and no every time you ask a simple question. You're willing to go to the edge in order to establish your limits, but it might be tough to follow any of the rules now. Pursuing art is one way of testing the reaction of the world around you. The situation is not as desperate as you may think.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



It's a lot easier to just show up and take control of the situation now than mull over the facts for weeks or months. Plot your course of action spontaneously today, rather than retreating to analyze your logical next step. Usually, you are the one who measures each and every strategy but you're currently eager to jump in before knowing if the pool is filled with water.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You can become so opinionated that you may inadvertently anger someone close to you. You're ready to share your feelings with everyone because you believe that it is just simpler to tell the truth. Ironically, you are a bit too evasive today when it comes time for a heartfelt emotional interaction. There's nothing wrong with your desire to keep your feelings hidden as long as you continue to maintain your integrity and respect the feelings of others.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You might not be able to escape the responsibilities being placed on your shoulders today. You may even grow frustrated in your struggle to keep up with all the moving pieces. However, you could suddenly shift the energy by simply agreeing to play according to the current rules of the game. Regain your power by acknowledging your limitations and stop taking on more than you can handle.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

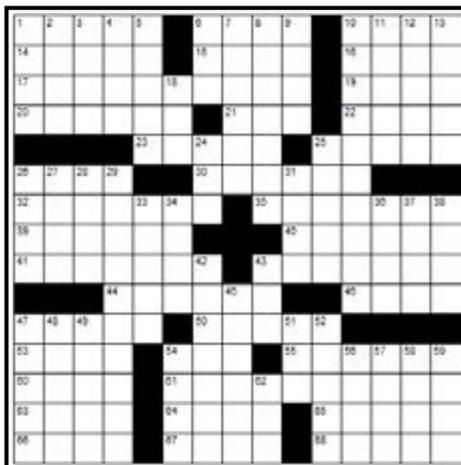


You may have to juggle your personal affairs today without anyone outside of your home knowing about your current challenges. Although there are logical reasons to keep secrets now, you're still tempted to share private information with an ally or acquaintance. It's wise to only broach a sensitive topic after careful consideration; but if you decide to disclose your dilemma.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You strive to be a kinder and gentler Fish today in an attempt to resist your growing sense of annoyance with a friend. You try to avoid unpleasant consequences by being thoughtful and considerate in all of your interactions. Nevertheless, your tone of voice could still be forceful enough to scare someone away. Moderation works in your favor now, so carefully understate whatever feelings you choose to share with others.



#### Across

1. Subsided, 6. Requests, 10. Felines, 14. A special loved one, 15. 53 in Roman numerals, 16. Monster, 17. A long artificial mound, 19. Found on a finger, 20. Queasiness, 21. South southeast, 22. Ampule, 23. An electronic musical instrument, 25. Loans, 26. Hairdo, 30. Seamster, 32. Submissive, 35. Have, 39. Dove, 40. Japanese hostess, 41. Austere, 43. Spray can, 44. A body of water, 46. Colorful salamander, 47. Flies alone, 50. Wood nymph, 53. Dogfish, 54. Muck, 55. 2nd largest country, 60. Sell, 61. Powered by electricity, 63. Curved molding, 64. Container weight, 65. Habituate, 66. South African monetary unit, 67. Backside, 68. Davenport.

#### Down

1. Biblical garden, 2. Chancel, 3. Hindu Mr., 4. Historical periods, 5. Units of force, 6. A high alpine meadow, 7. Afternoon nap, 8. Affinity, 9. Location, 10. A type of change, 11. Anon, 12. Threesome, 13. Trades, 18. K, 24. Greatest possible, 25. Unsuccessful person, 26. Vipers, 27. Gymnast's feat, 28. Indian music, 29. Filled to excess, 31. Balcony section, 33. Scintillas, 34. Catch, 36. Being, 37. Display, 38. Sodium chloride, 42. Having small rounded lumps, 43. One or more, 45. Commands, 47. Enjoy, 48. Alpha's opposite, 49. Flax fabric, 51. Play a role, 52. Acted presumptuously, 54. Of higher order, 56. Not a single one, 57. Rectum, 58. Dagger, 59. Air force heroes, 62. C.

#### Yesterday's Solution



adore, affection, again, broke, clear, commission, craze, delirium, embrace, erse, exploit, haggle, juggle, lead, mangle, model, opera, order, patent, plaza, please, rear, repeat, reveal, rinse, seep, seer, sheer, smear, spouse, starch, tangerine, tear.

