

# District Mayor Detained on Corruption Charges

PUL-I-KHUMRI - The district mayor for Baghlan-I-Markazi district of northern Baghlan province has been detained on charges of corruption, an official said Sunday.

Acting Baghlan Governor Abdul Qadim Niazaei told Pajhwok Afghan News the district Mayor Sayed Ahmad Safi was arrested by the National Directorate of Security (NDS) on charges of bribery. Safi was being interrogated, he added. But Khayber Mohmand, a municipality officer for the district, said the mayor was accused of taking 100,000 afghanis from



market owners of the district bazaar.

Najibullah Mubariz, owner of a wheat market, alleged the district municipality was involved in corruption and the taxes were collected illegally from the business community.

The tax paid by the market owners and shopkeepers has no official record with the municipality, he said, adding that municipality officers getting money from truck drivers without any official record.

"I have repeatedly complained... (More on P4)... (15)

## Taliban Torch Health Clinic in Laghman: Official

MEHTARLAM - The militants in Alingar district of eastern Laghman province have set a health clinic on fire, officials said on Sunday.

Sarhadi Zwak, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the clinic in Kanda Gul



locality was torched on Saturday night and was completely damaged.

He said four units of the clinic with all its medical equipments had been burned. He claimed a Taliban commander Turab was behind the torching. Dr. Abdul Latif Qayyumi, director public health, said nearly 7,500 persons of the locality were left without access to immediate health facility after the incident. (Pajhwok)

## Taliban Bodyguard Allowed to Stay in Britain on Human Rights Grounds



LONDON - The immigration courts in United Kingdom allowed a Taliban henchman to stay in Britain on human rights grounds.

The 32-year-old man was reportedly serving as bodyguard with the Taliban group whose father was commanding a group of 65 insurgents.

The man was identified only by the initials SAKA after his name was kept secret by the courts and his case was previously rejected by the Home Secretary Theresa May.

SAKA fled the country and made his way to Britain after he was accused of killing a provincial governor's son and spent four years in jail in Kandahar province before managing to escape from the jail.

SAKA also added that his father had been forced to join the Taliban as a commander and he agreed to work as a Taliban bodyguard because he was concerned about his father's safety.

The court papers in the case carried in a report by The Telegraph said "During his time with the Taliban he saw a leader... behead a man because he believed him to be a spy. After this incident his father decided to leave the Taliban."

The papers went on "Whilst crossing the desert the appellant and his father were arrested and placed in detention. "The appellant was accused of killing MK, the son of the governor of Herat. The appellant claims he then spent four years in Sarpoza prison in Kandahar and was never formally convicted or tried. He claimed he was tortured and his head was covered and he was beaten."

"He managed to escape from the prison and went with a fellow Taliban member to his home in Kunduz where he remained with him for six months in hiding," the court papers added.

It was also conceded that SAKA was a "low level member of the Taliban" with the courts paper showing that "The case had been placed before the war crimes tribunal and they had chosen not to take the matter further." Deputy Upper tribunal Judge... (More on P4)... (16)

## 3 Dead in Badakhshan Traffic Accident

FAIZABAD - Three people were killed and seven others wounded in a traffic accident in northeastern Badakhshan province on Sunday, an official said.

The mishap took place in the afternoon when a car skidded off the road and fell into Kokcha River on Khisham-Tishkan road, the governor's spokesman said. Naveed Ahmad Farotan said ten people were traveling in the car toward Tishkan from Khisham district. He said the driver lost control over the car and plunged into the river. Security forces pulled out the dead and wounded where the injured were said to be in critical condition. Residents of locality said the passengers were members of a same family who were on their way to attend a wedding ceremony. (Pajhwok)

## Two Civilians Injured in Kandahar Blast

KANDAHAR - At least two civilians were injured in a blast in southern Kandahar province early Sunday, local officials said.

The incident took place in fourth district Kandahar City after a mine, operated by remote control, was detonated, Provincial Police Chief, Gen. Abdul Razaq said. He said that no arrests have yet been made but police are investigating the incident. No group including the Taliban has claimed responsibility for the incident. (Tolonews)

## 2 Al-Qaeda Leaders Dead in Drone Strike

KABUL - A spokesman for al-Qaeda's new Indian branch says US drone strikes in Pakistan have killed two of its leaders, media reports on Sunday.

The Dawn.com quoted an audio message released Sunday, said that Osama Mahmood identified the dead as deputy chief Ahmed Farooq and Qari Imran, in charge of the group's Afghan affairs. Mahmood says a Jan. 5 drone strike in North



Waziristan killed Imran, while a later drone strike killed Farooq.

Al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahri announced the creation of

al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent in September.

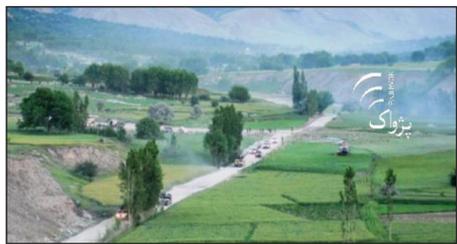
The terror group increasingly finds itself overshadowed inter-

nationally by the self-styled Islamic State group, which holds a third of Iraq and Syria in its self-declared caliphate. (Pajhwok)

## Security Forces Reopen Key Nari District Road

ASADABAD - A key road that connects Narri-Ghazabad districts in eastern Kunar province was reopened after it was blocked by militants for traffic for several days, provincial police chief said on Sunday.

Brig. Gen. Abdul Habib Sayedkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News the key road was connecting the two districts with Asadabad, the provincial capital. He said that Taliban had closed the road at the Dab Broor locality of Asmar



district and it was impossible for commuters to travel on the road. The residents and tribal elders had worked on their own to remove blockades and heavy stones from the road. Hayyadin, a

resident of Ghaziabad district who arrived in the provincial capital, said the road had now been opened for traffic. However, militants have not commented on the incident so far. (Pajhwok)

## Commander among 3 Taliban Killed



ASADABAD - At least three Taliban insurgents including their commander were killed in a drone strike by foreign troops in eastern Kunar province early Sunday, local officials said.

The strike took place about 6:00am local time after a drone targeted

the Taliban insurgents who were hidden in Dara-e-Pech district of the province, Provincial Police Chief, Abdul Habib Sayedkhilli said. There were no civilian casualties in the strike, he said.

The Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. (Tolonews)

## Outlook Horoscope

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

It doesn't matter how altruistic your intentions are today; you may be so preoccupied with your own needs that you hurt someone's feelings without even realizing it. Just because your agenda makes logical sense to you doesn't mean that anyone else will share your perspective. Reconsider your options before doing something that you might quickly regret.

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

Even if you are extremely cautious about expressing your desires, you still could set common sense aside and, in a flash, tell someone exactly what you want. Unfortunately, your disclosure may be a case of sharing too much information too quickly. Your agreeable nature is challenged now by unconventional Uranus' anxious connection to creative Venus.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You might be out to have some innocent fun today, but others may see your behavior as unnecessarily contrary to the group mind. Your unique expression of individuality makes you appear argumentative now, but you can't worry about the reactions of others, especially if they seem to take offense with nearly everything you do. Consider the consequences before you cross the line of good taste.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Nearly everyone seems to be busy enjoying the day, yet you're challenged with a familiar dilemma. You're being asked to choose between taking a conservative path into the future or making radical changes that can turn your life upside down. Although you are eager to find an original solution, it's not easy to let go of your current emotional security.

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

Acting with moderation isn't always the easiest course of action for you. Your unrelenting desire for drama could unleash more emotional instability than you prefer today. You simply can't comprehend why you need to curtail your desire for fun and you're eager to involve others in your plans. Unfortunately, more is not always better.

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

Sharing every feeling may not be the smartest thing to do today because you could shock and awe others with your true desires. Surprising someone by asking for what you want isn't the worst thing in the world, but your intentions could certainly be misunderstood. Oddly enough, even your warm smile might be misinterpreted as too flirtatious.

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

Unexpected opportunities for pleasure seem to appear out of nowhere, but they may destabilize your relationships now that electrical Uranus is zapping your personal life. You can't be sure what to expect today because people aren't following your script. Nevertheless, it could be an exciting adventure to go on a ride when you don't know where it will take you.

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

You speak with the power of your convictions behind everything you say now. Your unique originality may be a lot more persuasive than you realize, so make sure you know when to ease up with your demands. If you sound too insistent today, you could ruin your chances for success. However, practicing flexibility and patience enables you to make the progress you desire.

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

Your hopes loom so large now that you might believe you can reach out and touch your dreams. However, nearly everything seems exaggerated these days, making it difficult to gauge the relative importance of your goals. Your current enthusiasm distorts your objectivity and clouds your common sense. If something looks extremely enticing today, wait a day or two before making any final decisions.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

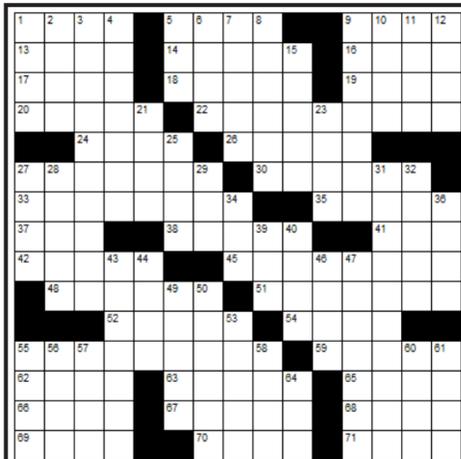
Your eyes grow wide with excitement as you imagine the fun-filled activities before you. However, you may have trouble letting your guard down because you can see that life will soon be serious again. You want to cut loose but you can't shake the annoying feeling that you should be doing something more to get ready for the demands ahead.

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

A sudden turn of events could brighten your day in a way that's totally unexpected. Nevertheless, your future will be decided by your response to this surprising twist of fate. Your adaptability reduces the complexity while an overly rigid attitude only complicates your journey ahead. Sweet Venus anxiously aligns with independent Uranus today, turning up the volume on your desires.

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

You are tempted to head off toward the horizon today before you even know your destination. Sexy Venus is currently flirting with wild Uranus, giving you green lights everywhere you look. Unfortunately, circumstances could change instantaneously if you don't stay aware of your immediate surroundings. Avoid any unpleasant surprises by focusing on the present moment throughout the entire day, instead of drifting off into dreams of the future.



### Across

- Actors in a show, 5. Region, 9. Cain's brother, 13. Double-reed woodwind, 14. Buddhist religious leaders, 16. Unusual, 17. Trudge, 18. Habituate, 19. Journey, 20. Abominable snowmen, 22. Showiest, 24. Puncture, 26. Threesomes, 27. Mollify, 30. An illicit sexual relationship, 33. Chasten, 35. Lacking leadership, 37. Fodder, 38. Secret agent (slang), 41. 52 in Roman numerals, 42. Swelling under the skin, 45. Cursing, 48. Found at the end of a pencil, 51. Emisaries, 52. Vetoes, 54. Connecting point, 55. Rejected, 59. Circumference, 62. Diva's solo, 63. Cubic meter, 65. Concern, 66. Airhead, 67. Paperlike cloths, 68. «Smallest» particle, 69. Initial wager, 70. An acute inflammatory disease, 71. Permits,

### Down

- Replicate, 2. Competent, 3. Seer, 4. Boring, 5. How old you are, 6. Flows, 7. Blow up, 8. Dawn goddess, 9. Craftsperson, 10. Exposed, 11. Goddess of discord, 12. Past tense of Leap, 15. Anagram of «Fires», 21. Thin strip, 23. Curdled soybean milk, 25. Aspices, 27. Dull pain, 28. Tint, 29. Clairvoyant's gift, 31. Unable to read, 32. French for «Queen», 34. Dawn goddess, 36. Excavates, 39. A wise bird, 40. Avid, 43. Order, 44. Largest continent, 46. All excited, 47. Revolutionary, 49. Be, 50. Available to lease, 53. Leaky, 55. Early 20th-century art movement, 56. Weightlifters pump this, 57. Sediment, 58. Apothecary's weight, 60. Gait faster than a walk, 61. Skirt lines, 64. East southeast

### Yesterday's Solution

S	P	A	R	S	A	G	E	D	W	A	R	N
L	A	N	A	I	D	A	R	E	A	G	U	E
O	P	T	I	C	U	L	N	A	T	A	N	S
P	A	L	I	N	K	I	N	G	E	M	I	T
L	A	G	E	P	E	W	Y	E	W			
O	R	I	X	U	R	I	S	A	A	H	E	A
D	E	I	P	T	E	E	T	S	E	A	S	E
E	A	T	E	N	R	I	M	S	E	V	I	L
R	N	A	N	I	L	L	E	A	L			
R	E	M	I	S	P	R	E	E	A	T	I	O
A	L	U	M	T	L	E	A	T	I	O	N	A
C	U	T	E	H	E	R	B	A	T	O	N	E
E	D	E	N	M	A	I	L	T	E	N	O	N
R	E	S	T	A	R	M	Y					

- compensate, defense, editor, enough, farm, final, flee, frame, group, honesty, legally, loose, moderation, mold, monument, mouse, nothing, pause, period, phone, predict, read, refuge, relieve, round, service, slaves, stale, start

S L A V E S E R V I C E P  
P A U S E V W E E K S U R  
C S T Y L E E V V E O O M  
O M R A F G E H N R T E R  
M O V U U I S O G I L P M  
P D O F L P H N D A E R O  
E E E E O P I E T Y G E N  
N R R O M H S S F S A D U  
S A R I T O M T R T L I M  
A T S O O I U Y A O L C E  
T I N L U D R S M R Y T N  
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