

Rebels Block Dara-I-Sawf-Balkh Road

AIBAK - Officials of northern Samangan province said that militants on Friday blocked the road, connecting Dara-i-Sawf Paen district with Balkh province.

A member of provincial council, Mohammad Qadir Baseej, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Taliban insurgents blocked the road in Dara-i-Khushkak area of the district on Friday morning. A policeman was killed as a result of a clash between the militants and security personnel in the area, he said. The road, connecting the Dara-



i-SawfBala and Dara-i-SawfPaen districts with Aibak, the provincial capital of Samangan, has been closed by militants over the past one year, but this morning the alternative route was also blocked, he said. More than 300 militants from different provinces attacked the district, he said adding the district would be collapsed to Taliban, if fresh troops were not sent for support. The district chief of Dara-i-SawfPaen, FakhruddinMubarez, confirmed the closure...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Farmers Forced to Grow Poppies for Living

KANDAHAR - "Growing poppies and selling opium is the only way to earn a living and support my family," Assadullah, 65, a farmer, told Xinhua on his poppy plantation in a southern province of the city recently.

Working on his poppy field on the outskirts of Kandahar's provincial capital, about 450 km south of Kabul, and slicing off the heads of the flowers to reveal the seed pods and release the opaque, milky sap used for the drug, the elderly farmer said that the low price of wheat, poverty and unemployment had forced him to replace wheat for poppy seeds. "To be frank, I hate growing poppies," the elderly man said, explaining, "It is poison that kills people. Producing and using heroin and other illegal drugs is forbidden by Islamic law."

War-stricken Afghanistan is among the major opium poppy producing nations and reportedly supplies around 90 percent of the raw materials used...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Attacker Admits Killing Americans in Kabul

KABUL - A former Afghan police officer has admitted killing two American advisers inside the interior ministry in the capital, Kabul, in 2011. Abdul Saboor was arrested this week in his hometown of Salang north of Kabul. Presented to the media, he said he had no regrets and was "proud" of his actions. "I don't care if I die for it," he said. He said that he had shot the advisers from close range using an official pistol. The incident was among several at the time in which security force members turned their arms on coalition forces.

Abdul Saboor said he was angry at the time over reports that copies of the Koran had been desecrated by US troops. "When I heard that they had set fire to the Koran, I couldn't control myself," he said. "Since coalition forces have come to my country, what good have they done - could you show me?" In 2012, Abdul Saboor was an employee at the control centre for CCTV inside the interior ministry. After shooting the advisers he managed to escape. But interior ministry spokesman SeddiqSeddiqi said the fugitive was arrested on Tuesday. A BBC investigation in 2012 revealed that a catalogue of security blunders had led to the shootings and his escape, resulting in a significant lowering of trust between coalition forces and Afghan security and military officials. Interior ministry documents showed that Abdul Saboor was sacked twice by the police - on one occasion getting into a scuffle with his colleagues and another time displaying violent behaviour. But he was still able to get security clearance when he was rehired by police for a third time to work as an interior ministry driver. (BBC)

JALALABAD - Six Taliban and four Islamic State militants were killed on Thursday in two separate airstrikes in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said. The six Taliban, including their commander named Saad, were killed in Ghanikhel district, the governor's spokesman, AttaullahKhogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said the airstrike took place at around 11am in the 27th Wyala area.

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10 Militants Killed in Nangarhar Airstrikes

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killed on Thursday morning in Achin district of the province. (Pajhwok)

Afghan Special Force Kills 3 Civilians in Khost

KHOST CITY - Afghan special force shot dead three civilians and arrested eight others as a result of overnight raid in the Sabari district of southeastern Khost province, officials said on Friday.

During the Thursday night operation, the Special Forces killed a girl and her parents in Noorai village of Sabari district and arrested eight residents of the village, the Sabari district chief, Agha Jan, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

Recently, the fear of robbery has been increased among the people in the district, he said adding as the forces wanted to raid the village, the people...*(More on P4)...(22)*

2 Children Dead, 1 Wounded in Faryab Landslide

MAIMANA - Two children have been killed and a third injured in a landslide in Maimana, the capital of northwestern Faryab province, an official said on Thursday.

Provincial police spokesman, 2nd Lt. Mohammad Karim Yuresh, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place in the BibiAyena area of the eighth police district.

He said the children - aged between 10 and 15 - were playing close to the hill, whose foot had been dug up by residents, Yuresh added. Public Health Director Dr. Maruf confirmed receiving one dead and two injured children. One of the injured succumbed to his wounds later on, he said. The third child is said to be in stable condition. (Pajhwok)

Militants Execute Man on Spy Charge in Tagab

MAHMUD RAQI - Militants killed a civilian on the charge of spying for Afghan government in the Tagab district of central Kapisa province, officials and people said on Friday.

Insurgents killed a civilian on Thursday in the Miyakhel area of Tagab district, a resident of the district, Mohammada Jan, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

There are some families from other districts, living in Tagab, when they travel to their own areas, militants are thinking they spy for the government, another resident of the district, Faisal said.

Asad Agha Safi, the Tagab local police commander, said that the slain person, TilaGul had affiliation with Taliban, but recently Taliban suspected him whether he was spying for government forces. However, a...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Ghee up, Diesel Down: Most Eatables' Rates Stay Stable

KABUL - The price of ghee increased while diesel's rate dipped during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Thursday.

Abdul Hadi, a fuel station worker, told Pajhwok Afghan News the price of one litre of diesel fell from 34afs to 32afs, petrol remained unchanged at 41afs per litre.

Mohammad Sharif, a liquefied gas seller in Taimani, said gas prices remained unchanged during the week at 40 afs



per kg. In food items, the price of ghee increased, said Traders' Union headFazal Rahman. The price of 16-litre cane of Momin ghee rose from 980afs to 1,020afs. He linked the hike to international market trends.

He said a 49kg bag of Kazakh flour cost 1,230afs, the same amount of Pakistani sugar 1,920afs and 25kg rice 1,650afs, the same prices as last week's. Shopkeeper Ihsanullahsaid a kilogram...*(More on P4)...(20)*

5 Local Policemen Dead in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Five Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel were killed, four wounded and five others went missing as a result of insurgent attack on a checkpoint in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said on Friday.

Taliban fighters attacked ALP checkpoint at around 3am in Waziro area of Khogyani district, killing five policemen and injuring four others, a security official who wanted to be unnamed, said. Five other policemen went missing as a result of the predawn attack, the source said. Governor's spokesman AtaullahKhogyani confirmed the incident but had no further details.

However, a resident of the area, Abdullah Barakzai, said that all the policemen in the checkpoint were eliminated during the gun battle that lasted for few hours. (Pajhwok)

2 Killed, 4 Injured in Kunar

KABUL - Two police or community police, in 2010 to protect villages and districts where army and police have limited presence. He blamed the Taliban militant group for the attack in the mountainous province bordering Pakistan.

The Taliban militants, which ruled the country before they were ousted in late 2001, renewed armed...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



In theory, interpersonal dynamics should be quite simple, but in practice everything is more complicated than you prefer. Today's Scorpio Full Moon floods your 8th House of Deep Sharing, requiring you to acknowledge facts and feelings that you previously swept under the rug. However, you can't rest until you have stirred up the complexity you secretly want.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You may feel as if someone is testing you today as the Scorpio Full Moon stresses your 7th House of Partners. Thankfully, the current shift of energy helps to settle the relationship dynamics back down into a more manageable state of affairs. But first you must loosen your grip on all preconceived ideas and willingly move outside of your comfort zone.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



New responsibilities are piling up so fast that you might reach a breaking point today. Perhaps your daily routine has become more challenging to manage and you're just not willing to put up with the chaos any longer. The Scorpio Full Moon activates your 6th House of Work, indicating an unexpected change that could clear the air of frustration. Nevertheless, letting others know what you need is a good start.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Glorifying your past won't help you solve your current problems now. Though your life may seem highly complicated these days, changing your schedule won't make any difference; instead, just show up with integrity in the present moment. It's your turn to acknowledge your eccentricity while the Scorpio Full Moon shakes up the energy of your 5th House of Self-Expression.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You might think you're stretched emotionally as far as you can go now. Unfortunately, a quick resolution to the current tension isn't likely if professional and personal needs are pulling from opposite directions. Thankfully, profound change is in the mix as today's Scorpio Full Moon destabilizes your 4th House of Foundations. Riding out this sudden tidal shift successfully is more likely.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Recognizing that change is on the horizon is easy. However, you cannot tell how your current plans will be affected -- and this makes you slightly uncomfortable. Falling back on your daily routines doesn't take enough pressure off the current situation now that the potent Scorpio Full Moon charges your 3rd House of Immediate Environment. You might need to bring up a sensitive subject.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Although Libras are sometimes known for their wishy-washy demeanor, you won't have a lot of trouble making up your mind today. You can't afford to buy into this weak generalization about your ambivalence. The incisive Scorpio Full Moon sheds light on your 2nd House of Personal Values, so take a position based upon what is important to you.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Embracing your feelings can be overwhelming today, but it's easier if you cultivate your awareness to observe your emotional process. Pay attention to your reactions so you can learn from what's going on, rather than being blown around by the winds of circumstance. The Full Moon lights up your sign, heightening your sensitivity to the tumultuous push-pull of cosmic forces.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You may not fully comprehend everything that's happening now, but something wonderful is ready to unfold in your life. However, emotional and spiritual growth is often painful, especially with the unforgiving Scorpio Full Moon overwhelming your 12th House of Destiny. Unconscious motivations push you towards destinations that aren't yet obvious to you.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



So many individual choices seem up in the air today and there doesn't appear to be anything you can do to bring them back down to Earth. You want to take responsibility for your future dreams with the Scorpio Full Moon revitalizing your 11th House of Long-Term Goals. However, struggling with basic issues now is not a sign of failure. In fact, letting go at the right time could be an act of grace.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



People seem overly dependent on you today, even if you don't fully accept that you can depend on yourself. It's not that you lack confidence; it's just that you think you're in over your head now and the pressure of putting things right can be emotionally debilitating. Thankfully, the relentless Scorpio Full Moon highlights your 10th House of Responsibility, urging you to be clear about your limits of time and resources.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Paradoxically, your imagination helps you see things others miss, yet this intuitive process can be a burden because it isn't always easy to explain. However, you must be painstakingly clear while describing your insights now so everyone understands the message -- even if your extrasensory perceptions are more colorful than the facts. The Scorpio Full Moon is like a beacon that guides your 9th House of Higher Truth.

1. Fogs, 6. Arithmetic, 10. Figure (out), 14. Fool, 15. Beige, 16. Salt Lake state, 17. In-born, 19. Storage cylinder, 20. Acid neutralizer, 21. Writing liquid, 22. ___ du jour = Meal of the day, 23. Community spirit, 25. Pays attention to, 26. Historical periods, 30. Occurring together, 32. Raptor, 35. A small kitchen appliance, 39. Ancient ascetic, 40. American songbird, 41. Celebrated, 43. Approve of, 44. Make inconspicuous, 46. Require, 47. Emissary, 50. Americans, 53. Violent disturbance, 54. Play a role, 55. Not the youngest, 60. Unique, 61. Controllable, 63. Bottomless, 64. By mouth, 65. Mistake, 66. Being, 67. Yachting cap, 68. Famous.

Across

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Down

1. Flexible mineral, 2. False god, 3. Drop down, 4. Roman robe, 5. Inscribed pillar, 6. Japanese apricot, 7. Deed, 8. A surveying instrument, 9. A very large person, 10. A type of bridge, 11. Practical, 12. A dish of tomatoes and greens, 13. Immunizations, 18. Louse-to-be, 24. Color, 25. Stockpile, 26. Nights before, 27. Iron oxide, 28. As well, 29. Mental representation, 31. Any day now, 33. Bring together, 34. Coral barrier, 36. Ripped, 37. If not, 38. Marsh plant, 42. Childcare, 43. Poetic dusk, 45. Short sleep, 47. Wear away, 48. 9 9 9 9, 49. Field mice, 51. Beer barrel, 52. Streamlined, 54. Out of control, 56. "Phooey!", 57. River of Spain, 58. Not fast, 59. Small slender gull, 62. Former boxing champ.

Yesterday's Solution

assess, boars, bound, bread, copy, crack, dream, enlist, entry, equal, focus, hence, history, honest, image, intellect, italic, ladies, lens, liberty, literature, meat, minion, morgue, patient, permit, poise, portrait, prevaricate, ransom, rows, sate, shed, substance.

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