

# New Mayor Vows to Change Maimana Complexion in A Year

**MAIMANA** - The newly appointed mayor for Maimana, the capital of northwestern Faryab province, on Wednesday pledged to change the city's complexion in a year. Ahmad Javid Kiwan promised to utilising municipality revenue to enhance urban services. He claimed having plans for development, improving economy, capacity building, increasing green belts and cleanliness of the city. Faryab Governor Sayed Anwar Sadat, while introducing the mayor to provincial officials, said that the national unity government set store by appointing qualified individuals to high positions to ensure better



governance. Samiullah Khairkhwā, a provincial council member, Abdul Qudus Qalij, head of Faryab Elders' Council and Ehsanullah Qawanich, the Youths Council head, pledged all-out cooperation with the new mayor. They said the mayor should struggle more for providing better services for Faryab residents. Eng. Kiwan, who previously served as urban development director, is the youngest mayor at 31 years in the northern region of the country.(Pajhwok)

## 3 Soldiers, 2 Civilians Wounded in Explosion

**HERAT CITY** - At least three soldiers of the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces and two civilians were wounded in an explosion in Herat city located in western part of Afghanistan. According to the local officials, the incident took place in Chawk-e-Gulha area of the city late on Tuesday afternoon. The officials further added that a magnetic bomb planted in an army vehicle was detonated in the area, leaving 3 soldiers and two civilians wounded. An official in the provincial hospital confirmed they received 3 soldiers and 2 civilians including a young boy from the site of the blast. He said the health condition of the wounded soldiers and civilians is satisfactory and are undergoing treatment in the hospital. No group including the Taliban militants has so far claimed responsibility behind the incident. Herat is among the relatively peaceful provinces in...(More on P4)...(16)

## Taliban's Intelligence Official Arrested in Balkh

**KABUL** - A Taliban's deputy intelligence agent for northern Balkh province has been arrested by National Directorate of Security (NDS) personnel, the spy service said on Wednesday. A statement from NDS said the detainee, Mirwais alias Rahbar, was arrested red-handed collecting information about activities and movement of Afghan security forces. Rahbar was arrested in Shirabad area of Dihdadi district during a special operation, the statement said, accusing Rahbar of his involvement in destructive activities. The Taliban have said nothing so far about the arrest of their intelligence official in Balkh.(Pajhwok)



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## 10 Civilian Injured in Asadabad Blast

**ASADABAD** - Ten civilian were wounded in an explosion in Asadabad City, the capital of eastern Kunar province on Wednesday, an official said. Provincial Police Chief, Brig. Gen. Abdul Habib Sayedkhel, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the incident took place at around 10:30am in the second storey of a market building. The explosives placed in front of a tailoring shop left 10 people wounded, he said, adding the injured were evacuated to local hospitals by police and local residents. He said investigation into the incident was underway. Head of Asadabad Civil Hospital, Dr. Mohammad Farooq confirmed receiving 10 injured civilians and said the health condition of two of them was critical. Saifullah, an eyewitness said, a number of shops were damaged in the blast. No any groups so far claimed responsibility for the incident.(Pajhwok)

## Taliban's District Chief, 3 Police Among 12 Killed in Southeast

**GARDEZ/SHARANA** - Taliban's chief for the Orgun district of southeastern Paktika province was among nine insurgents killed in a clash with security forces, officials said on Wednesday. Nabiullah Pirkhel, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the gunbattles erupted in Salemanzai area of Shakin district and Mohammadkhel area of Barmal district on Tuesday night. The Taliban's shadow district chief for Orgun was identified as Mullah Anas.



The official said seven others militants, including another Taliban commander - Mullah Saifullah - were wounded. A resident of Shakin district, Noorullah, told Pajhwok: "A fierce firefight happened between security forces and rebel in our area." He said both sides had suffered casualties, but he had no specific figures. Elsewhere in the troubled southeast, three ... (More on P4)...(17)

## Helmand Traffic Accident Leaves 2 Dead, 4 Injured

**LASHKARGAH** - Two passengers were killed and four others wounded in a traffic accident in the Greshk district of southern Helmand province, an official said on Wednesday. Transport Director Abdul Ghafoor Tokhi told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident occurred when a passenger bus flipped over in the Yakhchal area of the district early Wednesday morning. He said: "The 303-model passenger bus of the Ahmad Shah Abdali Transport Company overturned because of high speed." Two passengers were killed and another four wounded. The injured were evacuated to hospital. Omar Zwak, the governor's spokesman, confirmed the accident and said that one man was killed and seven others were wounded. Most of traffic accidents occur due to reckless driving. (Pajhwok)

## 7 Rebels Killed As IS Recruitment Centre Hit in Nangarhar

**JALALABAD** - Many areas in the Haska Mena district of eastern Nangarhar province have been cleared of Daesh militants during an operation codenamed 'Qahar Selab', local officials said on Wednesday. The Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News the clearing operation had led to purging Shabai, Tangi and Gorgorai of the Islamic State (IS) presence. He said during the Qahar Selab offensive, a Daesh recruitment centre was also destroyed. Seven militants were killed and another nine



ov was recovered and four anti-vehicle landmines were seized and defused. Also known as Daesh, the group is yet to comment on the operation and its casualties ... (More on P4)...(18)

## Airport Officials Seize 16kg of Heroin in Past Month

**KABUL** - The commander of Hamid Karzai International Airport Wednesday reported that customs police at the airport have foiled several drug smuggling attempts over the past month, adding that at least 38 suspected smugglers were arrested. He said many of them had swallowed capsules containing heroin. Among those arrested were four women. Police reportedly seized almost 16kg in total of heroin during this time. Among those arrested was a 27-year-old Afghan computer science student



who was detained during a failed attempt to smuggle drugs. He had drugs concealed in his stomach and had been en-route to India. Financial hardships and the high cost of weddings in Afghanistan are reportedly the driving factor behind such attempts by Afghans. Fawad is currently in police custody after being caught trying to smuggle 1kg of heroin to India for ... (More on P4)...(19)

### Outlook Horoscope

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

Your heart is focusing on such a big prize now that people may ridicule you and accuse you of wasting your energy. Nevertheless, you could have the last laugh when you make your fantasy come true. Although you might be operating with an optimistic outlook on life now, holding a vision in your mind's eye reinforces the image in your brain.

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

You typically prefer to keep your feelings to yourself, but are inexplicably compelled to express them now. You realize that your desires may lose their power once you share them with someone else. Nevertheless, your logic isn't strong enough today to overcome your irrational need to receive approval from others.

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

Everything seems to be slightly out of focus today as you explore a variety of approaches to rein in the energy. However, the more you try to regain control, the more daunting the task appears. Instead of looking at your world and seeing it as an obstacle course to be conquered, imagine that it's a dance to music you've never heard before. You must let go of your need to make intellectual sense of the events and just operate directly from the longing in your heart.

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

You have big ideas about what you want to accomplish today and are not interested in reconsidering your goals. Unfortunately, your self-esteem could suffer if you just assume that everything will work out as you imagine. Coworkers might resist your plans, thinking theirs are better. Nevertheless, you have an excellent chance of reaching your goals.

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

Giving up is tricky business, especially if you're so close to tasting success. Nevertheless, you might feel as if your choices are limited if you're not making any apparent progress. However, what you see is not what you get; there's a whole wide world of action that is sitting behind the veils of illusion.

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

You appear to be an armchair general today, issuing commands from the safety of your own castle. Nevertheless, your goal might be nothing short of world domination. However, mysterious forces are working behind the scenes to ensure a positive outcome, even to your misdirected intentions. Rather than trying to control everything in order to hide how little you understand the cosmic forces at work, open yourself to the spiritual lessons at hand.

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

You might feel as if you're bumping up against walls, but every time you lean against a structure, it disappears into thin air. Your key planet Venus forms an otherworldly aspect with the keeper of the three-dimensional world, Saturn, informing you that this is not another typical day at the office. You must choose your battles wisely because you do not possess the energy to fight them all.

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

You have your mind set on a fixed goal today and will not rest easy until your work is done. You intuitively realize that you have run out of discretionary time. Your clocks have suddenly been reset and are now ticking in a parallel universe where time can flow in many different directions simultaneously.

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

You are willing to take on anyone or anything that stands in your way. Mars and Saturn, the bad boys of astrology, are camped out in your 1st House of Personality now, giving you an irrepresible drive that is fueled by unrelenting determination. However, it's a smart idea to check your bearings one more time before you head off in the wrong direction. You can manifest real magic today as long as there's a sensible method behind your madness.

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

Sharing your feelings isn't enough today; you need to be overly dramatic to keep everyone's interest. Unfortunately, this conversation is less about a colorful presentation than it is about a heartfelt interaction. One-way communication feels empty; you might as well be talking to a wall. It's all about the feedback you receive that helps you clarify the fuzzy edges of your perceptions.

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

You might surround yourself with people who are very enthusiastic today, but this doesn't give you permission to take the day off. In fact, you have an important role to play by assuming a responsible place within your community. You can keep your opinions cool, calm and collected for now, but will forfeit your objectivity over the next few days. Swinging into action too soon disperses your creative energy.

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

You're either working extra hard today or you might just be putting on a show to impress everyone with your current role of authority. However, it can be lonely at the top and you could isolate yourself from those you love while establishing your position. It's challenging for you to see how other people perceive your energy; nevertheless, considering another person's perspective is a useful exercise to help you gain self-awareness.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-62 indicating starting points for clues.

Across clues: 1. Spheres, 5. More peculiar, 10. Singer Ives, 14. Prefix meaning 1000, 15. Light wispy precipitation, 16. Type of sword, 17. Chemist, 19. Haul, 20. Church bench, 21. Mountain crest, 22. Radar signals, 23. Viscera, 25. Celebrations, 27. To and, 28. An Italian desert, 31. Dental filling, 34. Doggy, 35. Neither, 36. Rude person, 37. Nasal passage, 38. Monster, 39. Actress Lupino, 40. Whips, 41. Noodles, 42. Taking delight in beauty, 44. A parcel of land, 45. Uteri, 46. Early spring flower, 50. Ere, 52. Unsophisticated, 54. Lyric poem, 55. Anagram of "Crab", 56. A certain cut of meat, 58. Conceal, 59. Daisylike bloom, 60. Nameless, 61. At one time (archaic), 62. Utilizers, 63. 8 bits of data.

Down clues: 1. Relative of a giraffe, 2. Mature, 3. Moved by the wind, 4. Drunkard, 5. Exaggerate, 6. Cuts into cubes, 7. "Damn!", 8. Flagrant, 9. Beam, 10. Mass confusion, 11. Revolts, 12. Harvest, 13. Lower limbs, 18. Beset, 22. Ho-hum, 24. At a distance, 26. Circle fragments, 28. Forceps, 29. Classify, 30. Urine component, 31. Nile bird, 32. Connecting point, 33. Words from other languages, 34. Piety, 37. Untidy one, 38. Horse feed, 40. Be furious, 41. Might, 43. Cold dessert, 44. Admirers, 46. Made from apple juice, 47. Bonkers, 48. Dimwit, 49. Tubular pasta, 50. Dull pain, 51. Reasonable, 53. Blind (poker), 56. Letter after sigma, 57. Chemist's workplace.

Yesterday's Solution: CASH, STEAD, LIST, AMIA, NELLO, ACME, MALI, RELAKA, TION, SHORLEN, SYRINGE, CAW, ANGST, GROUNDWATER, BUS, YURTS, OPERA, RAPE, RIBS, COPRA, RAPE, ENS, RADAR, FELON, ENSLAVEMENT, NECKS, ATE, TARA, RIFELIA, SIBU, APES, UNION, EROS, LESS, DUVET, RENT.

braid, catch, crane, daffy, eraser, esteem, feuds, gabs ground, heed, irate, knock, leers, madness, manager, pastor, personality, plate, pouch, radical, rare, resolute, right, rinse, runt, season, seduce, seed, slide, staid, steal, stuff, tabby, teams, tiled, treeless, wall.

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