

Civilians Suffer Casualties in Kapisa Clash: Official

MEHMOOD RAQI - One civilian was killed and six others wounded during a clash between security forces and Taliban militants in Tagab district of central Kapisa province on Friday, an official said. The governor's spokesman, Qais Qaderi, told Pajhwok Afghan News the early morning clash erupted after insurgents attacked Tarkhel and Korghal security posts in the district. The ensuing clash left one rebel attacker and one civilian dead and six more civilians injured, he said, adding the clash took place on the road between Tagab and Alasai districts. But a local resident, Shaheen, said two civilians were killed after bullets fired during the clash hit their homes. Another eight civilians were injured, he said. (Pajhwok)



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Taliban Claims Responsibility for Attack on Tourists

HERAT - The Taliban has claimed responsibility for an attack on foreign tourists traveling in Herat province. In a text message to journalists, Taliban spokesman Qari Yousuf Ahmadi claimed responsibility for the attack saying, "the foreigners had come to Herat for a mysterious aim." The six tourists were injured when a rocket struck the vans they were traveling in Thursday, according to Afghan Army spokesman Najibullah Najibi. An Afghan driver was also wounded in the attack. Jilani Farhad, a spokesman for Herat's governor, said the tourists were from the United States, Ireland, Britain and Germany. The injured were among a party of 11 tourists riding in two vans when

the rocket struck. They were traveling through Herat's Chest-e-Sharif district, district chief Farhad Khademi told CNN. The convoy was accompanied by Afghan Security Force vehicles, he added. "We are providing assistance to British nationals involved in the attack in Herat and are in close contact with the local authorities," Britain's foreign office said in a statement. The group was around 25 km (16 miles) from the province's administrative center when the rocket struck around 11 a.m. local time (2:30 a.m. ET). The tourists began their journey in central Bamyan province and traveled through Ghor province, before entering Herat. Many countries, ... (More on P4)... (20)

Explosion Rocks Mehtarlam City, Provincial Council Chief Wounded

MEHTARLAM CITY - A relatively heavy explosion rocked Mehtarlam city the provincial capital of eastern Laghman province of Afghanistan earlier today. The blast targeted the provincial council chief who was wounded in the attack along with several others. Provincial governor's spokesman Sarhadi Zwak confirmed one person was killed and nine others were wounded in the explosion. He said the incident took place after the vehicle of the provincial council chief Tawos Adil hit an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). Zwak further added a bodyguard of Mr. Adil lost his life in the explosion and nine others including the provincial council chief was wounded. No group including the Taliban militants has so far claimed responsibility behind the incident. (KP)



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Baby Boy Rescued from Being Sold in Balkh

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - The Independent Human Rights Commission (IHRC) in Balkh province on Thursday said it had rescued a one-year-old baby boy from being sold by his parents. IHRC head for Balkh, Sayed Mohammad Saami, told Pajhwok Afghan News the impoverished family was selling the child against 5,000 afghani in Chaghadak area of Mazar-i-Sharif city due to poverty. The father, Abdul Karim, said he married three years ago and his son was their first child. He said his son was a heart patient and they could not afford his treatment and wanted to sell him so that he had a good life ahead. Saami said when they were informed about the matter, they went to the area and prevented the family from selling the baby. He said their investigation proved the family faced serious... (More on P4)... (21)

11 Daesh Militants Killed, 6 Injured in Nangarhar Raids

JALALABAD - Nearly a dozen Islamic State or Daesh militants have been killed and six others wounded during security operations in various districts of eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Friday. Six Daesh militants were killed and as many wounded during a ground and air offensive in the limits of Achin district, the governor spokesman told Pajhwok Afghan News. Attaullah Khogyani said areas from Tarili mountain to Mamond valley had been cleared of Daesh



militants as a result of the operation in Achin. Elsewhere in Kot district, five Daesh fighters were killed in an airstrike in Ilyas Baba area, according to Khogyani, who said the dead included two residents of Bajaur tribal region of Pakistan and three of Orakzai agency. He said security forces and civilians had so far suffered no casualties during the ongoing operation against the Islamic State. (Pajhwok)

Airstrike Kill 5 ISIS Militants in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - At least 5 Pakistani militants were killed in an airstrike in eastern Nangarhar province late on Thursday night, local security authorities said. The provincial police commandment in a statement said the airstrike was carried out by the Afghan forces in Kot district. The statement further added that the 5 militants were fighting for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group and were targeted in Elyas Baba area. Two of the militants hailed from Bajaur Agency and three others hailed from Orakzai Agency in the tribal regions of Pakistan, the statement. The loyalists of the terror group have not commented regarding the report so far. The ISIS loyalists are actively operating in a number of the remote districts of eastern Nangarhar province including the restive Kot and Achin districts. The Afghan... (More on P4)... (22)

French Police Arrest Afghan Refugee Who May Planned "Imminent Attack"

PARIS - French police on Friday arrested an Afghan asylum seeker who may planned "an imminent terrorist attack," according to local state-run radio. The refugee had been in France for the past two months and "was getting ready to take action in the coming hours or days," France info radio reported. Earlier this week, police was on alert for the man suspected of plotting an attack. His photos have been circulated and helped to arrest him earlier on Friday in 18 districts of the French capital, it added. Last month, two at-



tacks claimed by the Islamic State (IS) rocked France, which has been already on high terror alert since Nov. 2015 after gunmen killed 130 people in Paris in the country's deadliest terrorist assault. (Xinhua)

Fire Sweeps through Major Commercial Market in Kabul

KABUL - A huge fire swept through a major commercial market in Kabul earlier Thursday leaving one person dead and around four others wounded. The incident has taken place in Zadrán Market which is one of the main shop centers located in the West of Kabul city. According to the footage and photographs of the business center circulated online the two top floors of the market have caught fire. The main reason behind the incident has not been ascertained so far with the security officials yet to



comment regarding the incident. Sources have confirmed that one person lost his life in the incident and around four others sustained injuries in the incident. This is the second major fire incident in the capital city in less than a month which comes as a massive fire swept through a key diplomatic area in mid-July. The majority of the fire... (More on P4)... (23)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Office politics can impede your progress today. Although you are prepared to do whatever it takes to fulfill your professional obligations, it's still a struggle to overcome the resistance of your coworkers. It might seem as if an authority figure is working against you now, but it's your choice as to whether or not to buy into anyone else's negativity.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You have a green thumb and make beauty bloom on many forms. Blissful Venus enters earthy Virgo and your 5th House of Self-Expression today, helping you create a garden of joy. You give off the air of being able to manifest flowers in the desert and bring happiness to those you love. However, graceful Venus also forms a tricky aspect to resourceful Pluto.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You are living life boldly these days yet anticipate a change as you step back from the hectic pace. Nevertheless, your creativity is in the spotlight as artistic Venus dances in your 4th House of Roots. But her difficult aspect with unforgiving Pluto can obstruct your self-expression until you deal with unfinished business on the home front. Taking care of those you love first frees you to pursue your dreams later.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

While it's challenging to see a situation from someone else's point of view, it's crucial to do so if you want the relationship to grow. Processing your emotions will bring you the confidence to express your own opinions more effectively while still remaining open to those of others. You're appreciated for your willingness to discuss complex issues now.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You may desperately try to maintain a practical perspective on your finances today, but difficulties arise from your tendency to indulge your extravagant tastes. Even if you intend to limit your desires to those things that are the most valuable, your practical perspective might not last.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You are facing important decisions now, especially in financial matters. If you've been wavering, this is the right time to tune into your gut feelings and take decisive action. It helps if your choices are rooted in self-confidence, which, thankfully, receives a boost when attractive Venus enters your sign today. Your charming personality and sense of style turns heads in your direction during this alluring transit

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Set aside your pursuit of passing pleasures today so you can be clear about which desires matter the most. You are in a serious frame of mind and want to narrow your options as sensual Venus enters discriminating Virgo. It makes sense to simplify your relationships and eliminate distractions in preparation for the changes ahead. Given a choice, forgo immediate gratification in the name of long-term emotional satisfaction.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You are eager to solidify a relationship now, but may not know how to reach your goal. However, old issues bubble to the surface and show you where you might have gone wrong. But go easy on the self-criticism, since the point is to improve your capacity for love and pleasure, rather than dishing out punishment.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You're more concerned with your career path now than anything else. Diplomatic Venus camps out in your 10th House of Career through the end of the month, enhancing your reputation and attracting lucrative opportunities. Nevertheless, your familiar struggle between freedom and responsibility may return to haunt you. Find ways to meet your obligations while still allocating enough free time for play.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Communicating your intentions about the next phase of your life is essential today. Magnetic Venus attracts you to exotic people in faraway places when she joins the planetary pack in your 9th House of Travel. However, her presence in earthy Virgo keeps your feet on the ground. Your pragmatic approach to living provides a strong foundation for facing the rising tide of feelings that can wash reason away now.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

A never-ending string of little issues require your attention now, but it's wise to save some of your time to reassess your long-term goals. Caution is stressed as modest Venus steps into meticulous Virgo and your 8th House of Intimacy, but the presence of mental Mercury, the evocative Moon and bombastic Jupiter keeps you busy with more complex emotional dynamics.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

It may be time to repair a damaged partnership, but it's nearly impossible to bring passion into a conversation without experiencing some loss of control. Fortunately, you're more captivating while alluring Venus visits your 7th House of Relationships. Stating your needs clearly is a good idea now, especially since speaking up becomes more difficult in the days ahead. A magical connection can stir romantic feelings.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 68 indicating starting positions for words.

Across: 1. Sleeveless garments, 6. Colored part of an eye, 10. A jaunty rhythm, 14. Aware, 15. Gave temporarily, 16. Wingly, 17. Light teasing, 19. Give as an example, 20. Homestead, 21. Morning moisture, 22. Laugh, 23. Not quite a teenager, 25. Cambered, 26. A female domestic, 30. Bad-tempered, 32. Experience, 35. Designate, 39. Burgled, 40. Make less severe, 41. Spiral, 43. Contemplative, 44. French for "Boat", 46. Lack of difficulty, 47. Someone unpleasantly strange, 50. Monastery head, 53. Lion sound, 54. To and __, 55. Ring around the nipple, 60. Tropical American wildcat, 61. Untouched, 63. Kiln-dried grain, 64. Arid, 65. Startled, 66. If not, 67. Countercurrent, 68. Hosiery. Down: 1. Hats, 2. Away from the wind, 3. Flippant, 4. At one time (archaic), 5. Supporting column, 6. Sick, 7. A literate person, 8. An artless innocent young girl, 9. Goulash, 10. Sorrowful, 11. Of a pelvic bone, 12. Wood shaping machine, 13. Step, 18. Not many, 24. Conceit, 25. A cook might wear one, 26. Pulp, 27. Initial wager, 28. False god, 29. Careful, 31. Man, 33. Summary, 34. Annoying insect, 36. Largest continent, 37. Guns on an engine, 38. Leg joint, 42. Acquired the knowledge, 43. Tavern, 45. On the train, 47. Cream (cooking term), 48. Imperial, 49. Noblemen, 51. Buffoon, 52. Amount of hair, 54. Circuit breaker, 56. Reflected sound, 57. Ear-related, 58. Scallion, 59. Contributes, 62. Effeminate.

Yesterday's Solution: ORBS, GODDER, BURL, KILLO, ZIRGA, EPELE, APOTHECARY, ORAG, PEW, ARETTE, BLIPS, INNARDS, GALAS, FRO, TIRAMISU, INLA, POOCH, INOR, SPO, SHINUS, OGRE, IDA, FLOGS, PASTA, SENSUOUS, LOT, WOMB, COWSLIP, AFOR, NATIVE, ODE, GARB, TENDER, LOITN, HIDE, ASTER, ANON, ERST, USERS, BYTE.

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