

US Citizen Wins Civil Case in Afghan Apex Court

KABUL - The Afghan apex court has ruled in favor of Omnia in the ongoing three-year-old legal battle between the company and the Q Kabul Hotel, owned by the Qasemi family, consistent with the unanimous rulings handed down by both the primary and appellate courts before on the matter.

Earlier, Omnia sued the hotel owners for two separate breaches of contract, gross negligence and criminal intent to do bodily harm, coercion, corruption, retaliation and oppression.

Omnia was hired by the Qasemi family to retrofit their building into an expatriate hotel, now called the Q Kabul Hotel, and manage



the business. Omnia's initial contract with the owners was only for 60-days to handle all the marketing, admin, internal works and advise on all renovations and conversion works, security measures and engineering.

The actual construction works were carried out by the Qasemi's. When the hotel owners fell 30-days behind schedule, Omnia extended the initial contract by 30-days at no additional charge, signing a second 5-year contract to manage the hotel during that timeframe...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Rocket Attack on Civilian Vehicle Kills 3



PUL-E-KHUMRI - At least three civilians have been confirmed dead and four others injured as a rocket fired by Taliban militants struck a vehicle in the northern Baghlan province on Wednesday, police said. According to police spokesman Jawed Basharat, the incident occurred outside provincial capital Pul-e-Khumri...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Many War Widows in Farah Forced into Begging

FARAH CITY - War widows in western Farah province are mired in caught in penury, with some forced to beg on roads and streets. The exact number of such women is not clear, but it runs into thousands.

They can be seen on roads, in streets, mosques and other areas. Farah residents say that most of the begging women have lost their husbands to the conflict over the past three decades, particularly during the last 14 years.

Razia, 18, is one of the widows from the Kansak village from the provincial capital. Begging in the Shuhada Square of Farah



City, she told Pajhwok Afghan News her husband -- a farmer -- was killed during a clash between Afghan forces and Taliban three years ago. Her spouse and father-in-law were killed when a rocket hit their...*(More on P4)...(17)*

8 Afghan Nationals Detained in Sargodha Operation

PESHAWAR - Eight Afghan citizens have been detained in Pakistan's central Punjab province, a police spokesman said on Wednesday.

The arrests were made in Sargodha district under the National Action Plan (NAP), an initiative aimed at reining in militants and terrorists across the country.

District Police Officer (DPO) Captain Sohail Chaudhry ordered police to conduct raids along with other security agencies in Factory Area, Hameed Town, Istaqlalabad and adjoining areas. Separate cases were registered against the detainees, who had been shifted to undisclosed places for interrogations, the police spokesman said. *(Pajhwok)*

Taliban Deputy Shadow District Governor Killed in Kunduz

KUNDUZ CITY - Abdul Rahman, the Taliban's deputy shadow district governor and 13 other insurgents were killed in a military operation in northern Kunduz province, Kunduz police said on Wednesday.

In addition, 21 other insurgents were injured. The operation was conducted in Imam Sahib district of the province. The Afghan air force also supported the troops on



the ground, according to police. Two security soldiers were also killed and three others were injured. However, the police did not provide more details about the operation. *(Tolonews)*

Kunduz Intelligence Chief Wounded in Taliban Ambush

KUNDUZ CITY - The intelligence chief for northern Kunduz province was wounded in a Taliban ambush on Wednesday, a security official said.

The National Directorate of Security (NDS) director, Gen. Mohammad Jassim Anwari, came under attack on his way to the airport in the provincial capital.

Senior police officer Brig. Gen. Aziz Kamawal told Pajhwok Afghan News the NDS director had been wounded in the legs. However, he is said to be in stable condition. Meanwhile, another police officer, who did not want to be named, said Gen. Anwari had been evacuated to a hospital of German forces in Mazar-i-Sharif for medical care.

With the Taliban yet to comment on the ambush, security officials said no one else was harmed in the incident. *(Pajhwok)*

21 IS Rebels Dead Dozen Hurt in Nangarhar Offensive

JALALABAD - At least 21 insurgents of Islamic State (IS) or in its Arabic acronym Daesh were killed and 12 others wounded during security forces operation in the Achin district of eastern Nangarhar province on Wednesday, an official said.

Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News security forces engaged in a clash with Daesh rebels in Momandara locality early in the morning. He said the IS assailants planned attack on security forces but was foiled and scores of insurgents were killed and wounded in coun-



ter attack and airstrikes. Bodies of IS rebels and weapons were captured after the clash, he said, adding civilians and security officials suffered no casualties in the clash. Large scale offensive against militants was underway in Achin district, according to Khogyani. Daesh has not yet commented about the clash. *(Pajhwok)*

Victim of Domestic Violence Finally Laid to Rest

KABUL - The Afghan teenager, Zahra, who was set on fire by her husband's family in Ghor province last month was finally buried in Kabul on Wednesday - 24 days after the event.

Fourteen-year-old Zahra's brutal murder drew a strong reaction from the Afghan public and rights groups who have accused government of negligence in serving justice against perpetrators of domestic violence again women.

Kabul's forensic department released the body to Zahra's family for burial on Wednesday. This came after they initially refused to bury her until her hus-



band, who they accuse of being the main culprit, was arrested.

She was laid to rest in Bibi Mahro Hill in Kabul. Meanwhile, civil society activists who carried out a sit-in protest in tents in Kabul over the issue have once again called on the Afghan legal and judicial institutions to take steps to arrest Zahra's husband.

"If government does not take action against those who committed the crime, this will lead to more criticisms over government's action, therefore we suggest...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You have the proper words at your disposal today to describe those feelings that are typically not easy to talk about. Fortunately, you won't be deterred from speaking your piece while persuasive Mercury teams up with relentless Pluto, empowering you to press your point until you convince others that your position is a wise one.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Someone's response to your actions might feel like an attack on your judgment. However, it may be that your thin-skinned reaction turns constructive criticism into a personal affront. Thankfully, clear thinking and strategic planning smooth out ruffled feathers with stabilizing aspects from Mercury to Pluto. Instead of escalating an unnecessary conflict by over-personalizing everything you hear today.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Mixed signals at work could prompt you to think you lost your way today, yet wallowing in self-doubt won't accomplish anything. However, you are motivated to clear the air in order to improve the current communication dynamics. Thankfully, you can quickly develop a diplomatic strategy to resolve the tension while interactive Mercury trines evolutionary Pluto.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Your sensitivity to the plights of others is one of your greatest gifts, but it could be the source of deeply rooted angst today. You might be slightly overwhelmed because of the magnitude of trouble you see in the world or in the suffering of those around you. But instead of withdrawing to nurse your pain, you have a chance to help people by participating in meaningful dialogue.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You seem to be at odds with the world today, but in your heart of hearts you know you're right. Unfortunately, everyone is so entrenched in their own positions that there's no resolution to be found. Tempers might flare at first, but Mercury's trine to Pluto allows you to bring the conversation back to the real issues.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

There are many voices in your head fighting for your attention, and it is a challenge to choose which one to listen to now. You may struggle at first if you pretend to have a plan in place, yet admitting you don't have an answer for every question reveals your vulnerable side. Mercury's creative trine with surgical Pluto helps you cut through the clutter, dig down to the heart of the matter and communicate with conviction.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your values might clash with those of your friends while the Moon in your 2nd House of Core Beliefs dynamically squares the Sun in your 11th House of Community, bringing you to the edge of verbal combat. You know what you want, you express it and you're willing to show that you mean it. Fortunately, Mercury creates an agreeable trine with evolutionary Pluto.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your emotional reaction is swift and strong today yet you must fight for recognition every step of the way. It's as if everything feels more complicated than it is. People aren't confident in your ability to keep your love light shining now. Mercury's favorable trine to penetrating Pluto is ideal for addressing a delicate issue requiring careful communication.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You prefer to conceal your emotions today because you don't want them to interfere with your professional activities. Your thinking is clear and deep now; your communication is concise and compelling. But working to bring your hidden feelings out into the open is only the first step to connecting with others. Ultimately, directing your attention to where it will do the greatest good is your smartest strategy.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

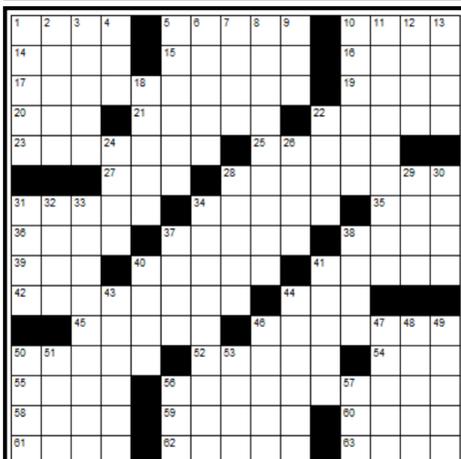
You may feel underappreciated by someone close to you today. Nevertheless, you have a clear understanding of your desires, so concentrated efforts can produce dramatic results in a short amount of time. Cerebral Mercury's creative trine with incisive Pluto deepens your insights and sharpens your words to help you encourage coworkers and friends.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You can't help but bring your emotions to work with you now, even if you wish you could conveniently leave them at home. Fortunately, you can create some distance between you and your desires without denying your feelings. But you must be brave and push past your resistance to establish a deeper connection with your colleagues while Mercury forms a harmonious trine with secretive Pluto.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Everyone seems so practical today that it appears like you have nowhere to fit in and call home. Your emotions are so strong that you might feel a sense of alienation from those closest to you. Nevertheless, you possess plenty of perfect answers, if only you could figure out a way to get your message across. But be careful what you say when Mercury receives a passionate blast from potent Pluto, giving your words tremendous power.



Across
 1. Magma, 5. Anagram of "Space", 10. Invited, 14. Nile bird, 15. Santa's helpers, 16. Largest continent, 17. Restriction, 19. Russian emperor, 20. Old World vine, 21. Meanders, 22. Scoundrels, 23. Producing a strong effect, 25. Notions, 27. In song, the loneliest number, 28. Utilized to often, 31. Wrinkled fruit, 34. Spawn, 35. Frozen, 36. Telephoned, 37. Kingdom, 38. Ancient Peruvian, 39. Autonomic nervous system, 40. A wheeled platform, 41. Nosed (out), 42. Unrefined metals, 44. To and ___, 45. A long-legged S. American bird, 46. Adulteress, 50. Scatter, 52. Pandemonium, 54. Nigerian tribesman, 55. Website addresses, 56. Dealer in books, 58. Weight loss plan, 59. A small island, 60. Flower holder, 61. Fizzy drink, 62. Little, 63. Frosts.

Down
 1. Allowed, 2. Not below, 3. A type of plastic, 4. Donkey, 5. Calm, 6. A loud resonant noise, 7. Keen, 8. In a thoughtful manner, 9. Eastern Standard Time, 10. French for "Boat", 11. Evaluating, 12. Found on rotary phones, 13. Hearing organs, 18. String, 22. Group of cattle, 24. Not short, 26. Consider, 28. Not written exams, 29. Behold, in old Rome, 30. Twosome, 31. Baby buggy, 32. Hindu princess, 33. Disentangled, 34. Combative, 37. Wander, 38. False god, 40. Sketch, 41. Jagged, 43. Excrements, 44. Frigid, 46. Captured, 47. Light purple, 48. Overweight, 49. Stomata, 50. Lather, 51. Three-some, 53. Puncture, 56. Smidgen, 57. 56 in Roman numerals.

Yesterday's Solution
 MOCHA SLEW ALPS
 UNHILP TEGH FARO
 SCALP AERO TRIP
 KETTLEDRUM EGOS
 ALE ERROR
 CILIUM CAVES
 HOUNG CATECHISM
 ANITS PALLO AREA
 PSEUDONYM AVIAN
 LATEX DRESSY
 SWAMIT FIT
 SPAT VOLUMINOUS
 HIFF EBON SEINNA
 OREO LOAD TOTAL
 TERN YENS SNOT

about, absorb, argue, assure, believe, best, binge, burp, cable, crook, devil, dirt, door, drop, educational, enough, event, fleet, fluctuate, focus, gamble, glimmer, gore, gusto, helm, herbal, honest, humans, liver, medical, normal, read, recommend.

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