

Attack on AUAF Against Islamic Values: Clerics

KABUL - Prominent Afghan religious scholars on Thursday strongly denounced Wednesday night's attack on the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) that claimed the lives of 16 people. The clerics said the attack against the institution was an attack on Islamic principles and human values. "Conducting such heinous attacks on academic and scientific institutions is an unlawful act according to Islamic principles," said religious scholar Abdul Hadi Hedayat. Highlighting the importance of academic institutions in the country, the clerics said



that educational institutions are national assets and by targeting these institutions terrorists are revealing their anti-academic views and ideologies. "Islamic laws have defined severe punishment to criminals plotting such attacks and perpetrators should be brought to justice," another scholar Baz Mohammad Rahimi said. "Academic institutions and universities are the place where people come to learn, to get an education, they must be respected in society; the attack on the campus was brutal, the attack is in complete contradiction to Islamic..." (More on P4)...(14)

Prices of Fuel & Gas up, Sugar Down in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of fuel and gas increased while that of sugar dipped during the outgoing week in the capital Kabul, market sources said on Thursday. Abdul Hadi, a fuel station worker in Wazirabad locality, said the price of one litre of petrol increased from 40 afghanis to 41 afghanis and the same quantity of diesel from 36 to 37af. Mohammad Sharif, a dealer in Taimani locality, said the price of a kilogram of liquefied gas jumped from 45af to 50af. Food Traders Union head, Fazal Rahman, said the price of a 49-kilogram bag of Pakistani sugar decreased from 2,500af to 2,450af. But he added a 16-litre bucket of Shaista ghee cost 1,050af, a 24.5kg sack of Pakistani rice 1,550af and a 49kg bag of Kazakh flour 1,280af. These rates stayed unchanged. A shopkeeper in Kabul Market, Haji Rahmatullah, sold one kilogram of African black tea accounted for 260af and the same amount of Madina... (More on P4)...(15)

Takhar Clashes Leaves 14 Rebels Dead, 5 Security

TALOQAN - Fourteen militants have been killed and five security personnel wounded during clashes in the Khwaja Ghar district of northern Takhar province, an official said on Friday. Sunatullah Timor, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the clashes were triggered by Taliban's capture of security checkpoints in Chughtai and Qarlaq areas. Security posts had been strengthened in the embattled areas. A resident



of the district, Nader, said the Taliban had closed in on Khwaja Ghar, but security forces pushed them back. The Takhar governor had recently said the Taliban

sneaked into Khwaja Ghar from the Dasht-i-Archi district of neighbouring Kunduz province. He had also called for purging Dasht-i-Archi of rebels. (Pajhwok)

Afghan National Detained with Heroin at Indian Airport

KABUL - An Afghan citizen has been arrested with heroin worth more than Rs4 million at an airport in New Delhi, The Times of India reported on Friday. The man, who had concealed capsules containing heroin powder in his undergarments, was intercepted at the "green channel" after his arrival from Kabul on Wednesday. During a search, heroin-filled capsules were found in his undergarments and the man was arrested by Customs Department personnel. The heroine's market value is estimated more than Rs40 lakh, according to the paper, which said the detainee was being interrogated to find out details of the receiver. (Pajhwok)

Explosion Targets Lawmaker in Balkh, 4 Killed, 14 Wounded

BALKH - At least four people were killed and fourteen others were wounded in an explosion in northern Balkh province of Afghanistan earlier today. Provincial police chief Abdul Razaq Qaderi said the incident took place after an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was detonated on a roadside in Khulm district. He said the target of the attack was lawmaker Asadullah Sharifi as he was crossing the area but there are no reports regarding his fate in the explosion. No group including the Taliban militants has so far



claimed responsibility behind the incident. Balkh is among the relatively peaceful provinces in northern Afghanistan but the anti-government armed militant groups have recently increased to their insurgency activities. Militants belonging to the Taliban group and other insurgent groups are active in a number of the remote districts of Balkh province. (KP)

Devastated Family Buries their Hardworking Son

KABUL - Samiullah Sarwari was a graduate from the Afghanistan National Music Institute but was killed in the attack on the American University of Afghanistan on Wednesday night - just a few days after he started at the university. Sarwari came from a poor family, but he was a bright young man who had won a scholarship to study economics at the university. Sarwari's sudden death has devastated his family - including his two brothers, his sister and parents. "Sami had not done anything wrong, he was always advising us not to hurt people," said Mohammad Hanif, Sarwari's cousin. "Five days had passed since he started his lessons at the American University of Afghanistan, he was studying economics and wanted to become an..." (More on P4)...(16)

Balkh Students Denounce Attack on University

MAZAR SHARIF - A number of students, activists and members of provincial council of Balkh on Friday condemned the attack on American University of Afghanistan, calling it a coward act and against progress in the country. They said the organizers of the deadly attack should be found and punished and that they will help government in this respect. "It was a coward and unforgivable act. The terrorists targeted an academic center. They opened fire on students," said Gulpari Azizi, a university student in Balkh. Meanwhile, Balkh activists



said attack on education centers means enmity with the Afghan people. "This attack indicated that terrorists are the enemy of the system and the people. They are against education," said Najib Paikan, a civil society activist in Balkh. Balkh provincial council members also termed the attack unforgivable and urged government to prevent such attacks in the future. "Government should prevent insurgents' activities. The terrorists by attacking schools and..." (More on P4)...(17)

30 Taliban Militants Killed in Nangarhar Air And Ground

NANGARHAR - At least 30 Taliban insurgents were killed in a series of air and ground raids in eastern Nangarhar province of Afghanistan. The provincial police commandment in a statement said Thursday that the operations were conducted in the restive Haska Meena district jointly by the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF). The statement further added that the dead bodies of at least 5 Taliban insurgents were left in the area and the Afghan forces confiscated a PK machine gun and 4 Ak-47 assault rifles belonging to the militants. The Taliban militants group has not commented regarding the report so far. Nangarhar is among the relatively volatile provinces in eastern Afghani-



stan where the Taliban insurgents and militants belonging to Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group are actively operating in a number of its remote districts. The joint raids against the Taliban militants in Haska Meena came as the group launched a coordinated attack on security posts in..." (More on P4)...(18)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

A realistic approach to your unfulfilled dreams prevents you from quitting your job and sailing off into the sunset. However, action-hero Mars is stepping away from Saturn's stern grasp in your 9th House of Big Ideas and your mind churns with every imaginable possibility. Your fantasies are like a runaway train now and mystical Neptune's presence tempts you to throw caution to the wind.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Your boundaries are being stretched beyond the regular limits today, yet it's better to take a calculated risk of your own choosing than to react to a challenge thrust upon you. But it's difficult to fully comprehend the bigger picture now as nebulous Neptune squares Mars in your 8th House of Transformation, distorting your perception of change.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You have something to say to nearly everyone today, but not everyone has something to say to you. Although you're normally quick to interact with others, the Moon in your curious sign causes you to think so fast you misread people's signals. Unfortunately, a deceptive Mars-Neptune square indicates that your incorrect interpretation sets you up to chase an illusion.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You might be grappling with the fine line between fact and fantasy as your serious nature snaps you back from the realms of imagination today. But just as you accept the limitation of your daily work duties, a surreal Mars-Neptune square urges you all over again to believe in the possibility of your wildest dreams. Red-hot Mars fuels your enthusiasm, which feeds your professional ambitions.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Confusing messages about love make it tricky to know how to react now. While expressive Mars energizes your 5th House of Romance, its dynamic square to magical Neptune stimulates your imagination. Thrill-seeking is a wonderful distraction unless your impulsive actions are slightly off target.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You want to be appreciated for your authenticity, but your actions don't seem to communicate your real intentions. Avoiding negative thinking is a real challenge today, especially if you feel like others aren't seeing you in your true light. Unfortunately, you might overcompensate for your apparent invisibility by telling stories or exaggerating the facts while delusional Neptune squares defensive Mars in inspirational Sagittarius.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You can be quite decisive about your goals today, but uncertainty at work makes it difficult to execute your plan. Clinging to your original agenda brings frustration as your destination grows further and further away. Thankfully, freeing yourself from an impossible situation is as simple as altering your approach. Instead of waiting for clarification from your coworkers.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Although you may have already drawn a line in the sand, your solid grasp of the facts seems to be slowly slipping away. Optimism is a positive motivating factor, but when blind it can prompt you to overstep sensible limits in your quest for emotional satisfaction. Exercising extra caution is advisable now so you don't act on a foolish impulse.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

It might seem like you stood up tall to one challenge after another and are now, finally, ready to fly. Warrior Mars in your sign is enthusiastically wired to push ahead on all fronts. However, Mars forms a debilitating square to fantasy-prone Neptune, muddying the waters and making it more complicated to take on an adversary or just go for the gold. Ultimately, you may find your toughest competition is staring right back at you in the mirror.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You are not enthused about sharing your ideas with your colleagues now because you're afraid they won't approve of your radical methods. After all, you're more ambitious than others; sometimes you even need to cool your jets if you get too far ahead of the pack. Underestimating the size of a job can mean big trouble down the road while a blurry Mars-Neptune square distorts your 3rd House of Information.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You're eager to wage battle for a cause today, but you could flounder if you don't have all your facts in order and your ducks in a row. Thankfully, you can be very successful if you're willing to accept the assistance of your allies now that action-packed Mars is visiting your 11th House of Networking. Nevertheless, as noble as it is to fight for something important.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Words flow off your tongue today, enabling you to charm your way into someone's heart or mind. Thankfully, you possess the gift of gab while the Moon is visiting witty Gemini. Nevertheless, you might be fighting with ghosts while courageous Mars squares phantasmagorical Neptune in your sign. Focusing your energy on practical goals may be an uphill battle now if you're too busy talking up a storm.

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Across

1. Type of antelope, 6. Wings, 10. Smack, 14. Double-reed instruments, 15. Whacks, 16. Tibetan monk, 17. Reporter, 19. False god, 20. Interference, 21. South southeast, 22. Damson, 23. A Biblical measure, 25. Utilizers, 26. Does something, 30. Yield, 32. Turmeric, 35. Estrogenic hormone, 39. Funeral vehicle, 40. Reddish brown, 41. Take up the cause, 43. Connected by kinship, 44. Finally, 46. Nonvascular plant, 47. Pro crastinate, 50. Scoundrels, 53. Expresses relief, 54. Petrol, 55. Revile, 60. Therefore, 61. Unfit, 63. French for "Black", 64. Enemies, 65. Birdlike, 66. Writing table, 67. Run away, 68. Relaxes.

Down

1. Male offspring, 2. Foment, 3. Hawkeye State, 4. A feat, 5. Savory jelly, 6. Arive (abbrev.), 7. Famous dog, 8. An ardent early supporter, 9. Feudal worker, 10. Backwash, 11. Soup server, 12. French for "Love", 13. Inner surface of hands, 18. Euro forerunner, 24. Brassiere, 25. Up to, 26. Throb, 27. Prompts, 28. Snare, 29. Fancy designs in wood, 31. Being, 33. Normal, 34. Untidiness, 36. Within, 37. 1 1 1, 38. Boys, 42. C2H5OH, 43. Type of whiskey, 45. Renter, 47. Go on a buying spree, 48. Spasm, 49. Auspices, 51. 56 in Roman numerals, 52. Indian instrument, 54. Backtalk, 56. Wash, 57. Nile bird, 58. Level, 59. Cravings, 62. Utilize.

Yesterday's Solution

S	P	E	C	R	E	T	A	F	R	O	
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J	O	D	I	E	S	A	C	K	T	I	E
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E	E	L	S	N	I	G	L	E	S		
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H	O	B	O	B	O	U	O	C	H		
I	L	L	T	O	W	N	S				
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SCORE EBR PLATE

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C O A O E A D D E R A A N

T L T R K E R L I O R I C

S I H T K O P H B O F D E

S C E C C P T Z J D A E F

H E I E A G R A P E C X I

A W R E L I M I N A T E R

M E A N I N G L E S S T S

E S H A R E X F I E L D T