



Protesting Candidate Wants Allegations Cleared

KABUL - Fawzia Kofi, an incumbent lawmaker and a protesting candidate, whose name was dropped from the final lists of parliamentary candidates in August, says she wants the allegations against her cleared, otherwise those who have decided to reject this nomination should be punished. Kofi said she has lodged a complaint at the Attorney General's Office against Azizullah Aryaee, head of the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission (IECC) and two district governors in Badakhshan. "Yesterday, we officially lodged a complaint at the Attorney General's Office against those who were involved in this process. These individuals include the head of the electoral complaints commission, who accused me of what was not proved, or they could not prove against me," Kofi said. Kofi has appointed a defense attorney to her case, who is a foreign citizen and according to Kofi, has 10 years' experience working in this field in Afghanistan. "I think this case is extremely important to ensure that the rights of Miss Kofi, against whom an unjust decision has been made, are reserved," said Kofi's defense attorney. Meanwhile, the IECC chairman Aryaee said their decision is final and that judicial organizations are not allowed to interfere in this respect. "If there is a possibility that the decision of the independent commission is challenged, it can be referred to the court and you see that there are thousands of cases at the Supreme Court... therefore there is no logic in this matter," Aryaee said. *...(More on P4)...(12)*

High Advisory Board for Peace Met with Mixed Reaction

KABUL - The formation and authorities of the High Advisory Board for Peace, which encompasses incumbent and ex-government officials, political parties and some prominent politicians, was faced with mixed reactions on Thursday, as the political committee of the political parties called the formation of the new body unacceptable. The political parties have stepped up their separate efforts to negotiate with the Taliban, said the committee of the political parties. Meanwhile, officials from the High Peace Council (HPC) have criticized what they call defects in the structure of the new board. This comes after the Afghan government on Tuesday announced the establishment of the high advisory board for peace and a peace negotiating team of government members, aimed at creating a national consensus for brokering



purposeful peace talks with the Taliban. The peace advisory board encompasses at least 17 political and Jihadi personalities. But a difference of opinion among the political parties shows their views are not unanimous regarding the nature of the peace process with the Taliban. "The political parties do not have an effective role in these talks... By the way, when we asked, these gentlemen were not aware that their names had been put on the list," said Mohammad Natiqi, head of the political committee of the political parties. It seems that Gulbuddin Hekmatyared Hizb-e-Islami also has reservations about the structure and formation of the peace board. "The view of Hizb (Hizb-e-Islami group) is that this board should be a decision-making board. From the government's side, only the president and the chief executive officer should be there," *...(More on P4)...(9)*

Scores of Rebels, Security Personnel Killed in Clashes

KABUL - Forty-four Taliban fighters have been killed during operations in different parts of the country, the Ministry of Defence said on Friday. On the other hand, the insurgents claimed killing and wounding 50 security personnel in a string of clashes over the past 24 hours. The operations were conducted in Kunar, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Maidan Wardak, Khost, Paktia, Logar, Paktika, Kandahar, Zabul, Ghor, Balkh, Badghis, Samangan, Faryab and Helmand provinces.



In a brief statement, the ministry said that at least 10 fighters were wounded in the offensives conducted over the past 24 hours. (Pajhwok)

6 Months on, Ghazni-Paktika Highway Remains Closed

GHAZNI CITY - Passenger vehicles in southern Ghazni province have been using dirt roads to reach their destinations because the Taliban have closed the Ghazni-Paktika highway over the past six months. Six months ago, the Taliban waged a coordinated attack on Andar district and later closed the Ghazni-Paktika road against traffic. Naemullah, a resident of Andar district's Khani Baba area, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the Ghazni-Paktika had been closed by the Taliban and passenger vehicles used dusty roads as a result.

"Like in other parts, the Taliban can be seen in Arzo area near the (Ghazni) city. They order passengers to disembark and search them." A resident of Ghazni City, Rahmatullah, said other roads leading to districts also faced security threats. "People cannot travel fearlessly on any road, the Taliban are there on all routes," he said. A shopkeeper in Ghazni City, Noor Mohammad, said Paktika residents would arrive here to buy goods in the past, but now they could not travel due to security threats. *...(More on P4)...(10)*

'Technical Issues' Behind Helicopter Crash Incidents

KABUL - Figures by the Ministry of Defense show that 10 helicopters of the Afghan army have crashed in the past nine months - including the last incident in Faryab province where an army helicopter crashed "due to mechanical fault" on Wednesday evening. Many of the helicopters which have crashed are the soviet-era Mi-17 Russian helicopters. The Afghan government and US have signed an agreement with Czech Republic and Bulgaria - which are NATO members - on

repairing of the Russian helicopters. The helicopters will be sent to Czech and Bulgaria for this purpose, TOLONews learnt from Ministry of Defense of Afghanistan. The Ministry of Defense says the issue is mainly related to high load of flights and maintenance problems. "When a helicopter plans a flight, the time and other matters are checked, but sometimes mechanical issues occur and besides that, we are in an intense war," said Ghafoor Ahmad Jawed, a spokesman for Ministry of Defense. *...(More on P4)...(11)*



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries, this may prove a challenging day for you. You're used to being the sovereign surrounded by courtiers currying your favor. There's something trying to draw attention away from you, reminding you that there are other people on this planet besides you. An unexpected messenger may crop up to remind you that not everything revolves around your existence.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Take care of yourself and your needs, Taurus. There's an advantage to making sure your emotions are cared for and stable before you try to heal others. Your feelings are powerful and erratic today. You might find that other people try to oppose your beliefs. Stand up for yourself and be strong.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Take the unconventional approach today, Gemini. You're able to gain a great deal and establish a whole new perspective just by opening your lens wider in order to include what you normally shrug off. Your emotions may be on edge, and the slightest thing may set you off on a rampage. Try your best to keep your cool. Emotional stability is the key to maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Today is a day of opposites for you. You may jump from one thing to another, Cancer. Somehow nothing seems to sit right with you, and so your search intensifies. Try to be the active one in the situation as opposed to the one acted upon. There is the potential for you to get knocked about, but you can easily turn this around by striking the first blow.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Today is a terrific day for you, Leo, in which action spells reward. You can't go wrong by expressing your needs and how they fit with the collective agenda. Feel free to focus on you and be selfish about your passions. Be aware that unexpected events may crop up to remind you that number one is indeed important, but don't forget about numbers two, three, and so on.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Egos may rage out of control today, leaving you to wonder what all the fuss is about. Give other people their space, Virgo. If the conversation gets too boring, just smile and nod. There may be a great deal of tension among people who are fighting about how much they can get versus how much they give. Try to maintain a healthy balance. Don't get caught in other people's drama.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



As you try to express your opinions today, you may have the feeling that someone is kicking sand in your face, Libra. Like a kid on the beach, you have nothing but the raw elements to use to defend yourself. Use one of your greatest gifts - the power of your mind - to combat the opposing force. Your ability to outsmart others will be your most powerful tool.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Today is a powerful day for you, Libra. Your emotions may be stubborn, but realize the very thing you resist is the very thing you need the most. Consider making a major change that will help bring about a healthier balance between you and the people with whom you associate. It may be time for a whole new outlook on how you deal with your relationships.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Today could be an unusual one for you emotionally, Scorpio. Your usual easygoing, adaptable nature could be ruffled by people who try to take over projects that you are perfectly qualified to do. In such situations, you would normally retire gracefully to a quiet corner, but now you spread your beautiful wings and let it be known that you should not be overlooked.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



People may have an extra spark in their actions and an extra bite in their words today. You will find that you may be better off just walking away from any situation that doesn't feel right. You'd be wise to stay in the background and not worry about anything besides your immediate concerns and daily routine. Try not to rock the boat.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

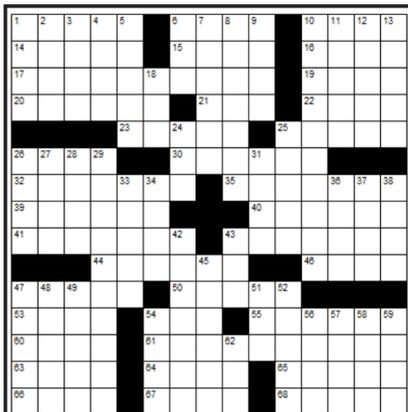


Express yourself to the fullest today, Aquarius. Feel free to take an unconventional approach when it comes to dealing with your emotions. Try not to let others cajole you into thinking you need to fit into an artificial construct of what you need to be and what you need to think. All you need to do is think for yourself. Fight the established norms and be your own person.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



It may be hard to deal with the opposing energies today, Pisces. Conflicting viewpoints and twisted perspectives clash within your world. Your emotions may pin you to one side of the issue, while a powerful force pulls you to believe in a more revolutionary approach. Try to maintain a balance in all situations, especially those that involve the sensitive emotions of others.



Across

1. Ink blemishes, 6. Wicked, 10. Happy, 14. Renegade, 15. Connects two points, 16. Adjutant, 17. Image breaker, 19. Shower, 20. A poor city district, 21. Passenger vehicle, 22. Angers, 23. Increase in size, 25. Put out, 26. Assist in crime, 30. Seek, 32. Remedy, 35. An arc of colored light, 39. Highway divider, 40. Record protector, 41. Improvised, 43. Pettifogger, 44. Lama pacos, 46. Arid, 47. A fencing sword, 50. Hostel, 53. Conspiracy, 54. Flee, 55. Captivate, 60. Decorative case, 61. Certainly, 63. Where the sun rises, 64. 8 in Roman numerals, 65. Provide, 66. To endure (archaic), 67. Against, 68. Relaxes,

Down

1. Naval jail, 2. Pervert, 3. Double-reed woodwind, 4. Canvas dwelling, 5. Small slits, 6. L, 7. Feasible, 8. Private, 9. Permits, 10. Flashiness, 11. Prevaricators, 12. French farewell, 13. Compacted, 18. Bovine, 24. S, 25. In a cold manner, 26. Not legs, 27. Red vegetable, 28. Cocoyam, 29. Three-party, 31. Impetuous, 33. American symbol, 34. Break, 36. Mend (archaic), 37. Not under, 38. Used to be, 42. Defender, 43. Unhappy, 45. Devote, 47. Velocity, 48. Communion table, 49. Haul with a tackle, 51. Obtain, 52. Go in, 54. Magma, 56. Heredity unit, 57. Contributes, 58. Oversupply, 59. Visual organs, 62. 3 in Roman numerals,

Yesterday's Solution



latex, lawyer, option pacts, paper, patent, person, place, queen reason, release, resolve shoot, spouse, suave swift, toward, vest, witch, women about, birth, black, cart, charm, cuffs damage, drink,

