

Gunmen Kill Five Female Afghan Airport Staff in Kandahar

KANDAHAR - Five female Afghan guards working in the airport in southern Kandahar were killed by unknown gunmen as they were on their way to work, security officials said on Saturday, the latest in a string of attacks against women in Afghanistan. From bomb attacks to targeted or honor killings or domestic abuses, Afghan women have borne the brunt of the 15 years of conflicts during the Taliban-led insurgency as security has deteriorated and violence has increased in most parts of the country. Samim Khpulwak, spokesman for the governor of Kandahar, said the five women were in charge of searching female travelers at the Kandahar airport,



and had been hired by a private security company. "Two gunmen on motorbike followed their van and opened fire on them, killing the five and their driver this morning, said Samim. No group has claimed responsibility for Saturday's attack but the Taliban insurgents waging an insurgency to topple the foreign-backed government of President Ashraf Ghani oppose women working outside their homes. Although Afghan women had made hard-fought rights gains in education and work since the collapse of austere Taliban regime in 2001, there are growing fears that these could reverse with the deterioration of security and increase in violence. ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Sharbat Gula Case: NADRA Officials Freed on Bail

PESHAWAR - Two former officials of the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), accused of issuing the Pakistani Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) to National Geographic's famed 'Afghan Girl', Sharbat Gula, have been granted bail. Peshawar High Court judge Justice Yahya Afridi ordered the release of Emad Khan and Mohsin Ehsan on bail on Friday after hearing arguments from the defence counsel and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) lawyer. The pre-arrest bail of another ex-official of NADRA, Palwasha Afridi, has already been confirmed in the case. The petitioners' lawyer, Amir Javed, submitted his clients had played no role in verification of the documents that led to issuance of the CNIC to Sharbat Gula. Despite aversion from the FIA lawyer, the judge granted the petitioners. On October 20, the FIA had registered the case against the three former NADRA officials for issuing CNICs to Sharbat Gula and two other Afghans, shown as ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Zabul Policeman Hangs Himself

KABUL - Zabul police confirmed the incident and said the policeman, named Jamal, had been stationed at a check post in Naw Bahar district of Zabul. A policeman from Zabul province hanged himself on Friday evening, local officials said Saturday. Zabul police confirmed the incident and said the policeman, named Jamal, had been stationed at a check post in Naw Bahar district of Zabul. According to Zabul police, it is not clear why he hanged himself but police have started an investigation. (Tolonews)

Imam Detained Over Marrying 2 Sisters off to a Man

JALALABAD - A tribal elder and prayer leader, who conducted marriage between two sisters and a man, has been arrested in Khewa district of eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Saturday. Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told a press conference here that the girls and their family had accused 15 individuals of being involved in the forbidden act. The girl nicknamed Saima had told reporters at the Nangarhar Women's Affairs department on November 20 that her husband on the very first night of their marriage accused her of losing her virginity before the wedlock and the same night married her younger sister. Khogyani said the provincial administration was serious in investigating the matter and finding main reason behind the issue. All the perpetrators involved would be arrested soon. According to Khogyani, the Imam marrying the two sisters to one man, named Malak Ikram, also a tribal elder, was involved and had been recently detained by security forces. He assured the provincial administration would give the victim girls their rights and allow no one to violate their rights. However, the man's second wife - the younger sister - had ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

3 Killed in Gun Attack on NDS Building in Paghman

KABUL CITY - Three people, including an intelligence official and a woman, were killed and another two persons injured in a gun attack in Paghman district of central Kabul province on Saturday, an official said. Paghman district's police chief, Col. Amrullah, told Pajhwok Afghan News two gunmen opened fire at the National Directorate of Security or NDS compound in the district's bazaar at around 11am today. He said the dead included an NDS official and a woman, and the injured included a policeman and a woman who had been evacuated to hospital and their condition was said to be stable. He said the attackers had escaped and no group had taken responsibility for the gun attack. (Pajhwok)

Drone Attack Kills 16 IS Fighters

JALALABAD - A total of 16 militants affiliated with Islamic State (IS) group were killed after an unmanned plane targeted their hideouts in Achin district of the eastern Nangarhar province on Friday, provincial police chief Hazrat Hussain Mashriqwal said Saturday. The air raids, according to the official, were conducted in Abdulkhil village of Achin district Friday night during which a huge weapon cache of IS militants was also destroyed. Militants' loyal to IS are yet to make comments on the situation. Nangarhar province with



Jalalabad city as its capital, 120 km east of Kabul, has been the scene of IS outfit's violent incidents over the past nearly one year. Scores of IS fighters have reportedly been killed by air-strikes in the eastern Nangarhar province over the past couple of months. (Xinhua)

Afghan Forces Kill 19 Militants in Paktia

GARDEZ - Security forces have killed 19 militants over the past seven days in Zarmat district of the eastern Paktia province, district governor Kaptan Ekhlis said Saturday. "The operations were launched in Zarmat district one week ago and concluded last night; 19 rebels were killed and two others injured in the operations," Ekhlis told Xinhua. "The armed militants have fled the area and law and order have been retorted to



Zarmat district," the official asserted. However, he admitted that mine blasts by militants had claimed the lives of eight civilians, including women and children, during the operations. Meanwhile, Zabihullah Mahjidi, ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Girls' School Torched in Logar

PUL-I-ALAM - A girl's school has been torched by unknown people in the Mohammad Agha district of central Logar province, local officials said on Saturday. Logar Education Department spokesman Shapoor Arab told Pajhwok Afghan News the school 'Shaheed Shahsawar Secondary School for girls' was set ablaze in Kotabkhel village on Friday night. He said a group of unknown armed men entered the school, overpowered the guards and torched the building after pouring fuel on it. Arab said all



10 rooms, teaching documents, books, tables and chairs had been gutted. Some 550 girls were enrolled in the school. A resident of Kotab khel locality, Ajmal, said they realized during night time that the school ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Your current disposition consists of one part sheer determination, one part wild abandon and one part good cheer. The fiery vibe of the dramatic Leo Moon suits you perfectly today, and your game is on point. A harmonious Grand Trine between the playful Moon, rebellious Uranus, and responsible Saturn strikes just the right balance.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Your unflappable willpower to fulfill your obligations fuels your strong confidence in your abilities today. Although sudden changes might occur at the last minute, you're well-equipped to handle whatever is tossed your way now. The easy flow between responsibility and spontaneity allows you to respect authority without being held back by it.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You are blessed with a fountain of ideas today as colorful visions endlessly spill over in your mind's eye. The theatrical Leo Moon creates creative connections with rule-making Saturn and rule-breaking Uranus, giving you the rare opportunity to say exactly what you think to a receptive audience. This cosmic advantage offers you the chance to push the limits without crossing a line. Thankfully, there's no need to waste time in hours of analysis.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Take a moment while rushing to finish your errands to consider the values you're assigning to the material world around you. Of course, it's easy to get attached to the wrong things during the gifting season, but letting money or objects dominate your thinking isn't good for your soul. Luckily, the luxurious Leo Moon receives helpful trines from both pragmatic Saturn and progressive Uranus.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your light is shining brighter than the brightest star today. The generous Leo Moon occupies your 1st House of Personality, amplifying your charming qualities and making you nearly impossible to ignore. Fortunately, a set of favorable contacts with the polar opposites of lightning-like Uranus and rock-steady Saturn enable you to expertly balance loud with proud.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

It might appear like a normal even-keeled day on the outside, but you are experiencing a variety of feelings on the inside. The lively Leo Moon activates your 12th House of Spirituality, creating epiphanies and uncovering revelations no one knows about except you. Thankfully, you can stay emotionally grounded when exploring these brilliant ideas; trusting your instincts allows you to bring them into the light of reality when the time is right.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Immersing yourself in a group of people who share your beliefs is imperative for your personal growth now. The spirit of camaraderie makes you feel like you're all of one collective mind today, and that your little tribe can alter the course of the world. Although the passionate energy of the Leo Moon motivates you to aim high, brilliant connections from traditional Saturn and unconventional Uranus help you create waves.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your heightened desire to achieve the impossible has you champing at the bit today, ready to pave the way to progress. A thrilling Grand Fire Trine between the Moon, Saturn and Uranus highlights your ambitious goals and offers you plenty of inspirational ideas on how you can achieve them.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Big dreams and grand plans seem achievable today, even if they are beyond your current grasp. Thankfully, your passion is contagious while the dramatic Leo Moon unites with revolutionary Uranus and steadfast Saturn. Don't grow complacent and waste this powerful yet balanced cosmic configuration. Revitalize your most wonderful fantasies about the future, while you can also remain practical enough to see them through.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

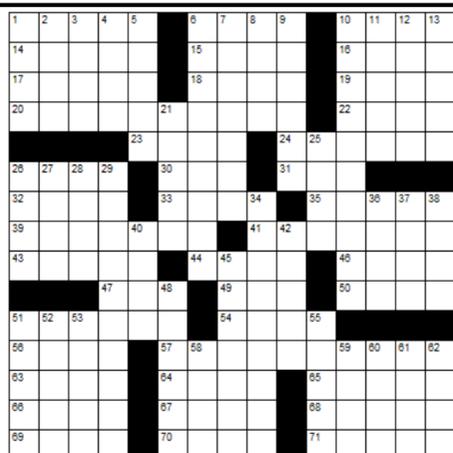
You know the rules are there for a reason, and you're generally inclined to follow them; in fact, you even like to draw the guidelines whenever possible. However, dynamic Uranus sparks an electric connection to the lively Leo Moon today, inspiring your inner fire to burn a little hotter. The planets are giving you a free pass to take a risk, offering you cosmic assurance that you will succeed as long as you have the sense to not stretch the envelope too far.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

The warmhearted energy from yesterday is carried forward today, but a round of planetary fireworks is tossed into the mix to shock you out of your comfort zone. The animated Leo Moon interacts with unpredictable Uranus, saturating the range of feelings you're experiencing now. There's no doubt that you are on a wild and crazy ride.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You take quiet pride in your work today because it's deeply gratifying to know how much you're needed. However, try not to get too attached to your routine since your schedule will inevitably shift more than once during this hectic season. Nevertheless, a conducive Grand Trine between the creative Leo Moon, industrious Saturn and brilliant Uranus energizes your workflow and removes obstacles in your path before you even need to struggle.



Across
 1. Tall structure, 6. Spheres, 10. Rodents, 14. Rink, 15. Vice President, 16. Notion, 17. Conducts, 18. If not, 19. Food from animals, 20. Sanctify, 22. Lack of difficulty, 23. Blowgun missile, 24. Selected, 26. Animal foot, 30. Compete, 31. Embrace, 32. Arab chieftain, 33. Countercurrent 35. Hoax, 39. Set free, 41. Forage plant, 43. Beginning, 44. Alike, 46. "___", and it's gone", 47. In what way, 49. Evil spirit, 50. Command (archaic), 51. Colorful wrap, 54. Dregs, 56. Greenish blue, 57. Distortion, 63. Dry, 64. Indian dress, 65. Carried, 66. Ascend, 67. Black, in poetry, 68. Construct, 69. Sow, 70. Breathing organ, 71. Thorny flowers.

Down
 1. After-bath powder, 2. Chocolate cookie, 3. Withdraw gradually, 4. Terminates, 5. Levelled, 6. Overrules, 7. Connected by kinship, 8. Finest, 9. Oration, 10. A rotary duplicator, 11. Anagram of "Aside", 12. Stop, 13. Consumed, 21. Caverns, 25. A state of irritation, 26. Protagonist, 27. Portent, 28. Anagram of "Silo", 29. Generous, 34. Whining, 36. Balm ingredient, 37. Flying saucers, 38. Wacky, 40. At the peak of, 42. Pariah, 45. Control surface on a plane, 48. Small carnivorous mammal, 51. Cicatrices, 52. Lofty nest, 53. Lift, 55. Cavalry weapon, 58. Hindu Mr., 59. Lawn mower brand, 60. Angers, 61. A single time, 62. Catches.

Yesterday's Solution
 SLEDS HEAT USED
 CUMIN OREO NAME
 ALIMENTARY EBON
 BUREAU BOSS SETS
 EGRESS SCREIF
 PAPA GROITTO
 ICEBERG LEARNED
 ENABLE ATTIRE
 RETRIEAT ARSENIC
 EGRESS DESIK
 GRAVY NEAPS
 RANI VAN INMOST
 IDEA INSATIABLE
 SALT STEW PIOUS
 TRIGLE GISSIE SLEET

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