

# Pakistan Shells Lalpura Distirct of Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Two children were wounded and several families displaced on Friday due to shelling of light and heavy weapons in the Lalpura district in eastern Nangarhar province bordering Pakistan, an official said. Governor Spokesman Attaullah Khogyani told Pajhwok Afghan News as many as 200 heavy weapons landed in the district so far this afternoon. He said it was not ascertained that the weapons



were fired by Pakistani military or any other group. He said around 150 families had been displaced due to the recent shelling. But according to other sources two children have been wounded in the shelling launched. Attacks on Lalpura district had been launched at a time when over 400 people were killed and wounded in terrorist attacks in Pakistan in the last couple of days. (Pajhwok)

## Closure of Torkham Cannot Halt Movement of Terrorists: Khattak

KABUL - Pakistani politician on Friday showed disagreement over the country's security establishment decision to close Torkham and Spinboldak crossing. Afrasiab Khattak, senior member of the Awami National Party (ANP), told Pajhwok Afghan News the closure of crossing points on Durand Line would further increase tension between the two countries. He said there were hundreds of crossing points along the Durand Line between Afghanistan and Pakistan, adding closing

of Torkham would not stop terrorist movement but would definitely raise tension between the two neighbours. The former Pakistani senator said Islamabad failed to implement the National Action Plane (NAP), a strategy formulated by all Pakistani political parties and military after the Army Public School carnage to chase the terrorist. He said Pakistan wanted to divert public anger from recent terrorist attacks to blame Afghanistan which was situated 1,000 Kilometres away ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

## Ghani Regrets Death of UAE Ambassador

KABUK - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani was deeply saddened over death of Juma Mohammed Abdullah al-Kaabi, UAE Ambassador to Afghanistan, a statement from Presidential Palace said on Thursday. The Ambassador and a number of UAE Diplomats who visited Kandahar last month to open Al-Nahyan Charitable Foundation were targeted in a terrorist attack as a result of which the Ambassador sustained severe injuries. The UAE envoy and his colleagues paid the highest sacrifices during a humanitarian mission for peace and development of Afghanistan, the statement said adding, the people of Afghanistan would never forget their sacrifices. "Deeply saddened over death of Emirati Ambassador to Afghanistan," the statement quoted the Ghani as saying. Since Afghanistan and the UAE had strong and enduring relations, the terrorist ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Kabul Rejects Pakistan Accusations over Shrine Attack

KABUL - The presidential palace on Friday rejected Pakistan's accusations that the recent suicide attack on the Lal Shahbaz Qalandar shrine in Pakistan was masterminded from Afghanistan soil. The Palace said in a statement Afghanistan has proven its honesty in fighting terrorism and now it is Pakistan's turn to destroy terrorist safe havens on its own soil. "Afghanistan has never allowed anyone to use its soil for terrorist activities



against regional countries or its neighbors. We also expect other countries not to let insurgent groups harbor safe havens on their soil," said Shah Husain Murtazawi, deputy spokesman of president. In reaction to the recent shrine attack Pakistan

closed the Torkham and Spin Boldak border ports and said the attack was masterminded in Afghanistan by supporters of foreign elements. Pakistan did not name the foreign elements. The Pakistani military also summoned the Afghan ambassador in Islamabad and submitted the names of 76 terrorists in Afghanistan and asked the Afghan government to target those elements. In reaction to Pakistan's ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## Pakistan Closes Torkham Crossing Due to Security Reasons

KABUL - Pakistan on Friday closed Torkham crossing in the aftermath of recent blast at the shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar in Sindh province in which 70 people were killed and over hundred wounded, a media report said on Friday. The government has decided to seal Torkham border crossing with Afghanistan for an indefinite period, Dawn News

reported. According to the officials of political administration, the Pak-Afghan border crossing at Torkham has been sealed for all kinds of communication due to security concerns. "The border crossing will stay closed till further notice and all kinds of trade and commercial activities will remain suspended," the officials said. Meanwhile, ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## Afghan Aviation Programme a Debacle: US Expert

WASHINGTON - A top US counter-terrorism expert told lawmakers the Afghan aviation, which could play an effective role in the fight against terrorism, was in a shambles. Bruce Hoffman, director at the Center for Security Studies at the Georgetown University, made the remarks at a time when Al Qaeda is trying to regain its strength in the Af-Pak border region. "I think the biggest failure, and I put myself in the box of failing, is our Afghan aviation pro-



gram. It is a complete debacle," he told members of the House Armed Services Committee at a hearing on terrorism and counter-terrorism strategies. "We have gotten arguments here in the

## 5 Dead, 25 Injured in Helmand Traffic Accident

LASHKARGAH - Five people, including women and children, were killed and 25 others wounded in a traffic accident in southern Helmand province on Friday, officials said. Governor spokesman Umar Zwak said, the ac-

cident happened before noon when a 303 type bus overturned on Herat-Helmand Highway in Washir district. He said the bus belonged to Ahmad Shah Abdali Transportation Company ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

## Belarus, Afghanistan Plan to Establish Joint Food Processing Ventures

MINSK - Belarus and Afghanistan plan to set up joint food processing ventures, BeTA learned from the press service of the Belarusian Agricul-

ture and Food Ministry. Belarus' Agriculture and Food Minister Leonid Zayats held talks with an official Afghan delegation ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

## IS Kills 17 Afghan Army Soldiers in East: Afghan Official

KABUL - The Islamic State group launched an attack on Afghan security posts killing 17 soldiers, an Afghan official said Friday. Ahmad Ali Hazrat, chief of the provincial council in the province, said the attack Thursday night took place in the Dih Bala district in eastern Nangarhar province. Hazrat said IS fighters attacked Army security posts from three directions and after several hours of heavy fighting, 17 army soldiers were dead. General Doulat Wa-



ziri, spokesman for the Ministry of Defense, said soldiers killed 21 IS fighters. Also on Friday, an Afghan provincial official said Taliban forces stormed several Afghan security posts in eastern Kunar province, killing five police officers. Provincial Gov. Waheedullah Kalimzai said the daring attacks lasted nearly two hours and ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

### Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

There's a certain thrill involved in facing your fears and once you tug on one thread, you want to unravel the whole tangle. The obsessive Scorpio Moon inhabits your 8th House of Transformation, motivating you to dig for the facts with no plans for stopping until you uncover the truth. The trouble is that these profound realizations often don't make for very good dinner conversation.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although you tend to be very patient with people, once you're on a roll it's hard to slow your momentum. A heart-to-heart conversation with a close friend or lover may seem like it could be a never-ending story if only you had the time. You're not happy cutting these meaningful exchanges short, but you know you must attend to work responsibilities which seem boring in comparison.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You usually work hard just to play harder, but today your priorities are reversed. You are so engrossed in your tasks that all else seems to fade away because you are determined to get everything right. Your curious mind can often find food for thought in any situation, but right now you're more focused on doing rather than thinking. This singular drive could be challenging to parse later when you realize you spent so much time and effort on one goal.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You really want to be heard today, but it's difficult to convey your feelings in a casual conversation. The moody Scorpio Moon urges you to express your angst, while rational Mercury prefers you keep it all locked up. This planetary conflict could create an inner battle that adds to the stress of the moment. Instead of pulling your hair out, try channeling your emotions through a different medium like art or music.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You're diving for pearls in your psychological ocean and one thing after another draws you further into your memories. The introspective Scorpio Moon combs through your 4th House of Foundations, reacquainting you with underlying character traits that are usually out of sight and out of mind.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Your mind seems to magnetically stick to things today. Whether you're wondering if something you said earlier came out wrong or what someone meant by an offhand comment, it's not easy to move on. Unfortunately, this cycle of doubt may slow you down until you realize you're behind schedule on even the most habitual daily tasks. It's challenging to think about your work when you're fixated on something else.

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your emotions are flowing so strongly now that you secretly wonder if you'll be able to contain them. However, the intense Scorpio Moon stirs your pot of desires while objective Mercury attempts to translate your passions into cold hard facts. You wish you could convey the depth and meaning you find in the things that matter most to you, but it's impossible to formulate the right words today.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You're even a mystery to yourself sometimes in the way you feel things so intensely. Others think you're brooding for no apparent reason, but to you the passion is real. You might attempt to explain your behavior to a family member who questions your intentions today.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

It seems like the truth is just out of reach, and you're growing moodier by the minute. Obviously, there's more to the story, but unfortunately, trying to use logic to figure out what's going on today probably won't work. The supernatural Scorpio Moon creeps through your 12th House of Mystery, where compasses go haywire and language gets jumbled. The only way to curb your craving for understanding is to let go of rationalization.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You feel like something might be fishy in your social circle, even if you're being told that everything is copacetic. Whether or not there are grounds for concern, you're likely to search out the reason for your uneasiness today. Unfortunately, you could create an awkward situation by sounding overly critical. Snap judgments may seem less reasonable later, so evaluate whether it's worth the drama to make your discomfort known at this time.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You're hyper-aware of how you appear to others as it feels like all eyes are on you today. It seems like it's necessary to explain your goals or prove your skills to the crowd. Ironically, the more you tell people about your accomplishments, the less it helps, causing the reverse reaction of what you were expecting. It could be less frustrating to channel your energy into your work now rather than trying to rationalize your behavior.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You're drawn to a faraway land where a change of scenery heals your soul. You may not have a private helicopter to set you down in the middle of some ancient ruins, but you can bring the magic of exotic cultures into your world with the help of books or on-line research. Sinking into a film or documentary could also satisfy your longing to immerse yourself in another landscape. The only true journey is the one within.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68 indicating starting points for clues.

Across: 1. Explosive devices, 6. Venician magstrate, 10. Head of hair, 14. A religion based on sorcery, 15. Desiccated, 16. Distinctive flair, 17. Tableware, 19. A box or chest, 20. Artist's workshop, 21. Tin, 22. Listen, 23. Stagers, 25. In a weak manner, 26. Pear variety, 30. Bodyguard, 32. Empower, 35. Rational, 39. Sweet wattle, 40. Gentle, 41. Sailing competition, 43. Roman household gods, 44. Therefrom, 46. Dregs, 47. Portion, 50. Gawks, 53. Timbuktu's land, 54. Precious stone, 55. A Native American tent, 60. Ear-related, 61. Primary, 63. Blue-green, 64. Novice, 65. Coarse edible red seaweed, 66. Being, 67. Anagram of "Cabs", 68. River muds.

Down: 1. Physiques, 2. Death notice, 3. List of options, 4. Musical group, 5. Arab chief, 6. Black bird, 7. Seer, 8. Fire opal, 9. Biblical garden, 10. Robotic, 11. Extraterrestrial, 12. Twangy, as a voice, 13. Vestibule, 18. Caviar, 24. Center of a storm, 25. Four-wheeled toy cart, 26. Grizzly, 27. A single time, 28. Male deer, 29. A small scar, 31. Style, 33. Church offering, 34. Tardy, 36. Give as an example, 37. Away from the wind, 38. Not more, 42. Cherubic, 43. Liveliness, 45. Photographic necessity, 47. Clobbered, 48. Despises, 49. Assumed name, 51. French for "Summer", 52. Dispatches, 54. Obtains, 56. Decorative case, 57. Gloomy at, mosphere, 58. At one time (archaic), 59. Visual organs, 62. Unruly crowd.

Yesterday's Solution: AMEN, SPIRE, BAIL, DOPE, PATIES, ELSE, GROWS, TIMES, OALLE, LED, ANTIME, PARES, ELEGIAC, RHEUM, METIS, SWIFT, SOB, EARLY, PRINT, STUB, SSE, FLUNG, CASTR, HEADLONG, TAG, CRYPT, DEMAGOG, BOHEA, BEGOLE, FACE, AREA, PROGLO, TYTE, TERM, ABRIE, ALES, TOYS, UDDER, BYTE.

about, assistant, begin, change, charm, create, development, donate, dote, educate, episode, event, fiction, figure, first, general, genre, happy, hear, heroes, leaf, lees, little, minute, nuts, pester, poise, print, research, series, site, special, tarn, under, Utah, viewer.

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