

# 30 IS Militants Killed in past 24 Hours: Government

JALALABAD - At least 30 militants of Islamic State (IS) group were killed during fresh clashes and airstrikes in Nangarhar province, local authorities said on Wednesday. "Over the past 24 hours, 30 Daesh (Arabic acronym for IS) militants were killed as a result of airstrikes and clashes with security forces during an ongoing offensive in Heska Mina and Achin districts," the provincial government said in a statement. A local IS commander named



Hamza was among the killed and five militants were wounded within the same period, the statement added. The security forces also destroyed a militants' vehicle and a heavy machine gun besides clearing several villages from the militants' presence in the above districts, the statement noted. On Tuesday evening, three militants were killed after an Improvised Explosive ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

## Foundation Stone of Paktika Cricket Stadium Laid



SHARAN - Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) representatives and local officials on Wednesday laid the foundation stone of a stadium in southeastern Paktika province. ACB Chairman Atif Mashal, during the inaugural ceremony in Sharan, the capital of Paktika, told Pajhwok Afghan News the stadium would be constructed at a cost of \$1.2 million. He said the game had a large number of fans in Paktika province and the step to construct the stadium was taken at the request of the local people. The ceremony was attended by former and current cricketers, including Nawroz Mangal, Mirwais Ashraf and Nawaz Khan, ACB officials, Governor ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## Afghan Taekwondo Squad Likely to Tour Pakistan in March

KARACHI - Afghanistan's taekwondo squad is expected to tour Pakistan in the middle of March for a series of competitions against the hosts in Islamabad. Pakistan Taekwondo Federation (PTF) wants its players to fine tune their skills for the Islamic Games. "The government has agreed and hopefully the NOC and other formalities will be done in time," the PTF president Col Wasim told 'The News' in an interview. "I hope the tour of the Afghans will take place. We want to see them here in mid-March," he added. "Afghanistan is very strong in the game and their visit to Pakistan would help our players prepare well for the Islamic Games," Wasim said. Rohullah Nikpai of Afghanistan created history when he won bronze medal in the flyweight category of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

## Theatre Girls Perform Ways out of Insecurity

KABUL - A number of girls of the country's national theatre have performed a play showing ways of tackling insecurity and ending the activities of insurgents in the country. The girls showed that ensuring peace and stability is impossible without the cooperation of people with security forces. They said their goal is to improve theater in the country.



The show named "How this country could be a nation without us". Mohammad Ahangaran, CEO of a youth association said: "People in our country believe that ensuring their safety is only the duty of the security forces. The insurgent ac-

tivities will not end unless people participate in and contribute to ensuring security and the city's order." Setara, a young theater actress, said she played the role of a girl who is not allowed by her fiancé and her family to join the police lines. A number of spectators at the show said they were happy to see such shows happening in the country. ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

## 4 Policemen Killed, 5 Wounded in Uruzgan Clashes

TRINKOT - At least four policemen have been killed and five others wounded in Trinkot, the capital city of central Uruzgan province, an official said on Wednesday. Uruzgan police chief, Brig. Gen. Gulam Farooq Sangari, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the incident took place when a group of militants stormed police security posts in Shah Mansoor locality of Trinkot, the capital city of Uruzgan province on Tuesday night. He said four policemen were killed and five others wounded during the



attack. Fresh troops have been deployed to the troubled areas but they could not reach to their target due to obstacles, he said. Sangari added 10 mili-

## Taliban Shoot Dead 2 Ex-Police in Baghlan

PUL-E-KHUMRI - Taliban militants shot dead two former policemen in the northern Afghan province of Baghlan on Wednesday, police spokesman Mahfozullah Akbari confirmed. According to the official,

## 4 People Dead, Over 20 Hurt in Paktika Blast

SHARAN - Four people were killed and over 20 wounded in a blast in the Janikhel district of southeastern Paktika province on Wednesday, an official said. Raz Mohammad Mukhles, administrative chief of Khairkot district, confirmed to Pajhwok Afghan News the casualties and said most of the victims were shopkeepers. But, deputy police chief Col. Abdul Rauf Masud said two people were killed and eight others wounded in the blast which occurred today noon. He feared the



number of casualties may surge. Malak Zahir Khan, the resident of locality, said the blast was carried out through an explosive-rigged motorcycle. Earlier, 13 civilians were killed and three others wounded in a roadside explosion in the Urgan district. (Pajhwok)

### Outlook Horoscope

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

You're poised to conquer the world no matter what comes your way. You're emboldened to seize what you desire without stopping to ask while warrior Mars calls your 1st House of Self his stronghold. Your unshakeable confidence is sure to raise eyebrows, so don't expect to take the field without encountering a contender or two. Although you can expect to face challenges from authority figures or power players today.

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

Although you Bulls are known for your stoic nature, everyone's fuse runs out at some point. Your patience is quite short today as little irritations pile up until you're sure the next one will be the final straw. The sooner you become aware of your growing anger, the better you can manage it. It's amazing how much you can accomplish.

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

The pressure builds deep within you and it's difficult to pinpoint exactly what is causing your sense of apprehension. You might even bow out of work early to contemplate your feelings now that the cautious Capricorn Moon meets domineering Pluto in your 8th House of Transformation. Feeling lost in your direction is disorienting, but you can look beneath your fear to see an opportunity for a greater shift.

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

It's hard to find your place before someone else makes their move, like an endless game of duck-duck-goose. Between your past experiences and your future aspirations, a compression takes place that seems to be funneled into your relationships. You may be projecting your stress onto the ones closest to you today, causing needless tension and unwelcome drama.

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

Your long-term goals seem far off in the distance today, but that only makes you want to run faster to reach them. You're ready to do whatever it takes to bridge the gap between you and your future, but the mightiest tools for success may be right under your nose.

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

Your natural propensity for serving others has made you very familiar with the feeling of being spread too thin. But things are different now, because it seems like you're nearly at an emotional tipping point. You're bound to become aware of how little energy is leftover after you spend the day giving to others when ardent Mars in your 8th House of Deep Sharing confronts passionate Pluto.

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

Although you normally walk the path of compromise, you feel you must boldly assert yourself to be taken seriously today. A tense interaction with someone close to you may call your fundamental beliefs into question, initiating a major evaluation of the whys behind your behaviors. A weighty Moon-Pluto conjunction in your 4th House of Foundations is like an anchor sinking into the depths of your mind.

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

It's not that any one event tipped the scales, but rather an accumulation of small occurrences that prompts you to feel like something has to give. You're ready to kick a habit that is holding you back, but that's quite a task when your immediate environment has shaped itself around it.

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

A little risk never hurt anyone, or so you say when others question your latest strategy for an exorbitant escapade. On a normal day you would stand by your plan, but today's events may lead you to a very different place. Your hunt for gratifying ways to express your creativity has profound implications when seen in the context of buried self-worth issues. And no matter how hard you try to deny them now, your insecurities are likely to haunt you.

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

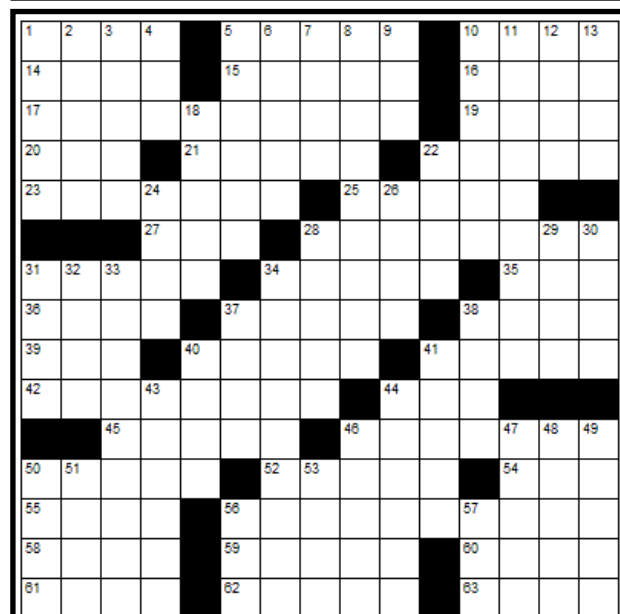
The ground beneath your feet seems more like a volcanic zone, and you feel the heat rising up through your shoes. Handling professional concerns is easy enough on its own but when domestic issues start getting in the way, you want to put out the fire before it spreads. Snapping at anyone who dares to oppose you only makes matters worse. Examine your attitude and follow it back to the source.

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

You're so passionate about a topic that you can't gobble up information fast enough. However, the verve with which you grasp for more knowledge may be an overcompensation. The somber Capricorn Moon joins mysterious Pluto in your 12th House of Dreams, unearthing aspects of yourself you intentionally buried. Once you remember your secrets, there's no erasing them.

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

You can sense that the emotional atmosphere is turbulent from the start, and you may feel the need to barricade your defenses. Although you believe in authenticity, you might have to remake yourself to fit into the societal slot you've found yourself in as possessive Pluto squares off with pushy Mars. Your group of friends seemed like a perfect choice at first; but if you feel intimidated or forced to be something you're not.



**Across**  
1. Creative work, 5. Garden tool, 10. Prank, 14. Purges, 15. Lascivious looks, 16. Biblical garden, 17. Improper, 19. Boyfriend, 20. Barely manage, 21. Growing old, 22. Marriage announcement, 23. Melodious, 25. Begin, 27. Indian bread, 28. Offensively malodorous, 31. Ancient Athenian philosopher, 34. Crucifixes, 35. Loving murmur, 36. Vagabond, 37. Style, 38. Tardy, 39. N N N N, 40. Wampum, 41. Metalwares, 42. Marshes, 44. Type of snake, 45. Threadbare, 46. Lush, 50. Sudden burst, 52. Posts, 54. Ghost's cry, 55. Rate, 56. Jungle, 58. The products of human creativity, 59. Viper, 60. Away from the wind, 61. A musical pause, 62. Abounding in noxious plants, 63. A short strap of leather.

**Down**  
1. Bay window, 2. Smallest finger, 3. Mammary gland of bovines, 4. South southeast, 5. Motto, 6. Risk, 7. Many millennia, 8. Pharmacy, 9. S, 10. Go ashore, 11. The same, 12. University administrator, 13. Burden, 18. Chococate source, 22. Prohibits, 24. Within, 26. It ebbs and flows, 28. Melodies, 29. Memo, 30. "Comes and \_\_\_\_\_", 31. Expresses relief, 32. Solitary, 33. Synopses, 34. Commercially produced, 37. Lady's escort, 38. Weight to be borne, 40. Head, 41. Body, 43. Most recent, 44. A bell tower, 46. Covered with vines, 47. Poplar tree, 48. Snouts, 49. Carries, 50. Box, 51. Cut back, 53. Assistant, 56. Uncooked, 57. British rule in India.

**Yesterday's Solution**  
BEARS, GULM, SCOW, ADMIT, ARTA, URGE, SEISSA, GELL, COLLE, UNDERSTATE, COED, CPT, MIENS, MARSHY, BAUDS, UNITE, PANITAST, JED, TALE, BATTIE, FORA, ELEPHANTS, AUTOS, LONGS, SPLASH, FREAAPS, FOP, RAITD, OVEN, ATMED, FOLD, LLTTERATE, ANTE, NINE, SLING, USER, SITS, ELATE

adroit, amaze, appoint, azure, baloney, bleak, bulls, candidate, casual, clean, dare, disease, drape, drivle, error, folly, fudge, graduation, grape, irritation, label, locker, minority, mystify, pens, please, puzzle, recess, retreat, ridiculous, roar, rode, seep, stole, unique.

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