

Logar Police Severely Beat Residents after Blast



PUL-I-ALAM - Police 'ruthlessly' thrashed a number of residents in this capital city of central Logar province after an explosion. Residents of Jumma Kala, Ali Khan Kala, Bucha Kala, Muhajir, Khwaja Mohammad and Akbar Kala areas of Pul-i-Alam visited the Provincial Council

office to complain against the police behavior. Bismillah, 50, a resident of Jumma Kala area, talking on behalf of others, told the public representatives that a police vehicle struck a roadside bomb in their village on Sunday. After the explosion, Afghan Local Police and Pub-

lic Order Police forces entered the village and beat up many people, he said. "They began hitting me with the butts of their guns and sticks in front of our women and children, throwing the turban away from my head, they used abusive ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

China Building Military Base on Afghan-Tajik Border

KABUL - China is building a military base for the Afghan armed forces in the province of Badakhshan, a senior Afghan military official has said. The plan, if it is realized, promises a deeper Chinese military involvement in Tajikistan, which is necessary as a supply corridor to Badakhshan.

The plans for the new base were worked out during a visit last month by an Afghan defense delegation to Beijing, the official, General Dawlat Waziri, told the news site Fergana News.



At that meeting, the two sides announced their intention to "deepen pragmatic cooperation in various fields including anti-terrorism operations, and push forward the state and military relations between the two countries." China will supply everything the base needs, Waziri said, including "weapons, uniforms for soldiers, military equipment and everything else needed for its [the base's] functioning," Fergana reported.

This is the latest move in Beijing's steadily increasing involvement in security issues on its western border.

"China worries that Chinese Uighurs among the terrorists' ranks can cross into Chinese territory through Afghanistan and become a headache for the Chinese authorities," one Afghan security official told Fergana on condition of anonymity.

For Central Asia, this has important implications because Tajikistan appears to be an integral part of Chinese-Afghan military cooperation. Badakhshan shares a short (76-kilometer) border with China, but in a region impassable by vehicles.

Badakhshan is most easily reached from China via Tajikistan's Pamir region, and some media have reported that Chinese military vehicles were using Tajikistan territory to transit to Badakhshan for military patrols. (A western diplomat in Central Asia has told The Bug Pit that those reports were credible.)

China, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Pakistan (which also borders Badakhshan) are all members of a new Beijing-led security grouping, the Quadrilateral Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism, rolled out in 2016, to Russia's consternation. Also in 2016, China and Tajikistan held their first-ever joint bilateral military exercises in the part of Tajikistan bordering on Badakhshan. (Agencies)

15 Daesh Insurgents Killed in Kunar's Ongoing Clashes



ASALABAD - At least 15 Daesh insurgents were killed in an attack on security check posts in Kunar province on Sunday, local officials claimed.

At least 15 Daesh insurgents were killed in ongoing clashes in eastern Kunar province, local officials con-

firmed on Monday. In addition, 20 other insurgents were wounded.

The clashes started on Sunday evening after Daesh insurgents attacked security check posts in Chawki district of the province, officials said, adding that ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

U-19 Cricket Team Beats Bangladesh Ahead of World Cup

KABUL - U-19 National Cricket Team has defeated Bangladesh by 56 runs in their first warm-up match on Monday ahead of the Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand.

The Afghan cricketers batted first and set 207 runs for Bangladesh in the 49th over. Azmatullah Omarzai scored 81 runs off 66 balls while Bahir Shah made 44 off 60.

The other player of the team, Ibrahim Zadran, hit 32 off 64.

The Bangladesh players only managed 150 runs after losing all their wickets by the 42nd over.

The Afghan players will face Namibia in their next warm-up match on Wednesday before they face Pakistan in their first match in the World Cup on Saturday. (Tolonews)



Fire Guts Trees on Several Acres of Lashkargah Jungle

LASHKARGAH - A fire gutted ornamental and other trees on around 17.5 acres of forest land near Lashkargah, the capital of southern Helmand province, an official said on Sunday. The fire that broke out in the forest along the Helmand River sometime last night continued for several hours, destroying a large number of trees.

Ahmad Sha Khairi, Nangarhar agriculture director, told Pajhwok Afghan News that they were investigating the cause of the fire breakout. He said common people used to walk inside the forest and some drug addicts were also living there while some times security forces used to hunt fishes in the river by firing.

He said common people should strongly pay attention to preservation of the jungle because the trees played a crucial role in keeping the city from flooding and pollution. Abdullah Jan, a resident, blamed the fire breakout on government's negligence. He claimed some people intentionally torched the forest to grab the land. (Pajhwok)

Perpetrators of Jalalabad Money Exchange Market Attack Arrested

KABUL - At least three people have been arrested in connection to an attack in Jalalabad city money exchange market that left a local trader dead, the local officials said Monday.

Provincial governor Mohammad Gulab Mangal told reporters that the men carried out an attack on a

trader in the second police district of the city twelve days ago.

Mangal further added that the trader as killed and five others including three women were wounded attack which sparked anger among the city residents.

He said the provincial military council launched an investigation

in connection to the incident with the help of the local residents.

According to Mangal, the Afghan intelligence findings revealed that the attack was plotted by another money exchange trader identified as Faisal who is originally a resident of eastern Kunar province. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You'll try nearly anything to get ahead today and, assuming your behavior is within reason, your plan will probably work. Your commitment to reaching lofty goals is part of your formula for success.

However, your intuition is on point now, blessing you with a secret weapon when it comes to making decisions.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus Obstacles seem to magically fall away before you reach them today, enabling you to accomplish more than anyone expects. Needless to say, your coworkers will be thrilled with your job performance, but only to a certain point. Your extreme productivity could backfire if others think your industrious attitude might make them look bad.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini Sometimes you can use your incomparable wit to keep a conversation from treading into uncomfortable territory. Normally, you're a champ at defusing a potentially intense encounter before it reaches its flash point. However, you might surprise someone today by intentionally pushing a lighthearted discussion directly into the fire of passion. You know that the old ways aren't working as they once did.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer You are a magnet for powerfully intense interactions today. It doesn't seem to matter whether the other person is a lover or just a casual acquaintance; either way, a slight difference of opinion could quickly morph into a major conflict. However, an argument requires two people, giving you the power to end a disagreement by simply walking away.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo Step aside, world, and watch what happens when a Leo's actions are as powerful as her roar. You may grab someone's attention by boldly announcing your new aspirations. Although most people take you seriously now, they might worry that your agenda is too ambitious.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Virgo You aren't interested in declining an opportunity when there's the possibility of responding affirmatively. But you can't join the party until your conditions have been acknowledged and met. First of all, you don't want your efforts to lose focus or take a back seat to someone else's goal. Secondly, you need to know exactly what your role will be so you can maintain your boundaries as the circumstances change.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra You are determined to reconnect with a family member or someone from your childhood today. It's as if you have unfinished business and need to revisit an old memory one more time. However, it's not as meaningful if you take this sentimental journey by yourself.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You are in your element today as you parade your emotions out into the open. Sometimes, your ability to keep your feelings locked up is self-defeating. You remain quiet because you don't want to be judged for your high level of intensity. But your self-imposed isolation is a two-way street that keeps others safe from your intrusion, while also preventing anyone from reaching you.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius You can make steady progress today on a couple of different fronts. First, your self-esteem is on the rise. It's easy to love yourself now and this makes it feasible to love others, too. A romantic attraction is likely to be required, adding to the good vibrations buzzing all around. However, feeling happy also opens the door to new potential streams of income.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You've been preparing for an intense amount of transformation, and finally you can put some of those changes into motion. Oddly enough, the very same things that once seemed impossible are now unfolding on their own. You're able to step in, wearing your authenticity like a badge of honor.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

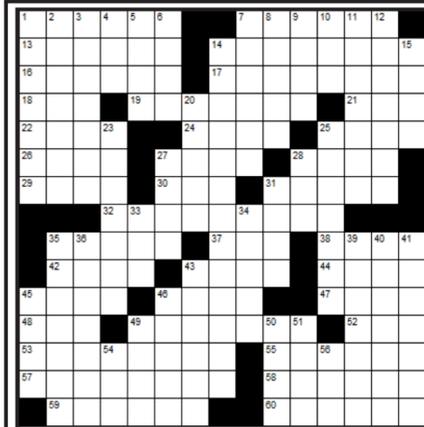


Aquarius Any words of appreciation that come your way today will warm your heart. But don't let your ego grow too attached to the positive vibes, since this kind of connection could turn on you. Once you are addicted to being needed, it's nearly impossible to extricate yourself from a complicated relationship.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces Strengthening your social ties now has a greater influence on your future than you might imagine. Your goals for the year ahead are more manageable when your life feels relatively stable. Luckily, your community will come to your support when you need it, but you must cultivate these relationships as you would tend a garden.

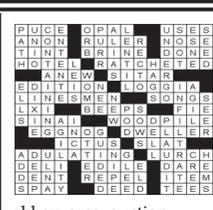


Across

- Layers, 7. Rat or mouse, 13. Blind-wit, 14. Holes, 16. New, 17. Light opera, 18. French for "Friend", 19. Authentic, 21. Uncooked, 22. Carry, 24. Hotels, 25. Tins, 26. Kaolin, 27. French for "Head", 28. A Maori club, 29. Puncture, 30. Card with one symbol, 31. Drills, 32. Replace, 35. Got up, 37. "Eureka!", 38. Historical periods, 42. No more than, 43. Bit of gossip, 44. Make out (slang), 45. A magician, 46. Cast a ballot, 47. Indian dress, 48. Estimated time of arrival, 49. Kayak, 52. Lair, 53. Fast, 55. A citizen of Calcutta, for example, 57. Outmaneuver, 58. Lollygag, 59. A baby's toy, 60. Hen-pecked,

Down

- Abrasion, 2. Vibrating effect, 3. Performance, 4. Consumed food, 5. Bell sound, 6. Blind (poker), 7. Pillaging, 8. Roasters, 9. Calamitous, 10. French for "Summer", 11. Nitrify, 12. Lockjaw, 14. Counterstrike, 15. Wood-cutting tools, 20. Daughter of a sibling, 23. Blight, 25. Lurches, 27. Adhesive strip, 28. Detachable container, 31. Laser light, 33. Utilize, 34. Inspire, 35. Novice, 36. Sailing competition, 39. Interpreting written material, 40. Land, 41. Peeled, 43. A type of tincture, 45. Quick note, 46. Like the flu, 49. A metal fastener, 50. Pottery oven, 51. Dwarf buffalo, 54. Eastern newt, 56. Excavated,



abbey, area, auction, bloom, check, derby electronics, example, finances, however, inform, internal, invoice label, live, local, meeting music, operation, peace pierce security, shrink sleep, stand, troll, stuck swam, sway trade

