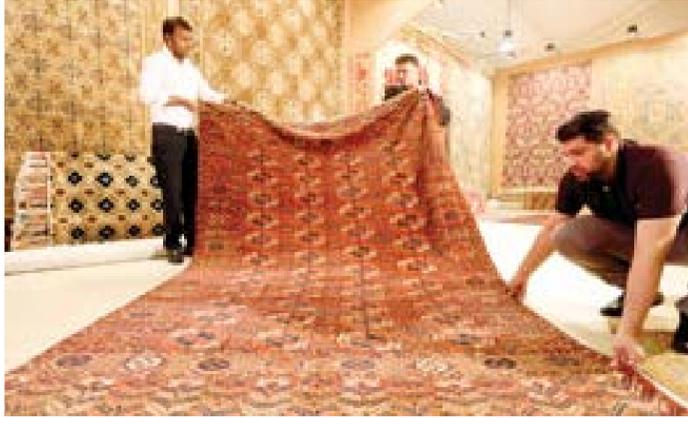


# Afghan Carpet Project Shines with UAE Support

DUBAI - The 20th edition of the Carpet & Art Oasis has many unique pieces of crafts around the world but visitors entering the hall may not miss noticing a woman weaver in traditional Afghan dress demonstrating her skills to complete a carpet under the banner of Fatema Bint Mohammed Bin Zayed Initiative (FBMI).  
 "She (the weaver) is part of our team consisting of over 4,000 weavers across Afghanistan highlighting the empowerment FBMI



passes on to the women of poverty-stricken population in the country," said Walied Jabarkhy, executive director of the FBMI, while talking to The Gulf Today. Sheikha Fatema Bint Mohammed Bin Zayed established the FBMI to alleviate poverty and provide long-term sustainability by partnering with Afghanistan-based Tanweer Investment and extended resources and opportunities for women to become part of the society again. The

FBMI was set up in 2010 and started by hiring around 340 workers to be part of carpet production process. Indirectly, over 20,000 people are benefitted from the project while earning livelihood for their families. Currently, as part of the FBMI initiative, around 4,000 people are working in three facilities established in Kabul, Jalalabad and Mazar Sharif, in which over 70 per cent workers are women. "Out of the huge proportion... (More on P4)... (17)

## Countrywide ANA Operations Left 8 Insurgents Dead

KABUL - At least eight insurgents including two mine planters were killed during nationwide operations conducted by the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces during the past 24 hours, Ministry of Defense (MoD) said in a statement on Monday. The operations were carried out in Kandahar, Helmand, Nangarhar, Laghman and Parwan provinces in which four insurgents including their commander Mullah Hassan were also captured, the statement added. The security forces have also seized some weap-

ons along with discovering and diffusing 12 mines in the mentioned provinces. According to the statement, two ANA soldiers were also killed in the roadside mine blasts. The Taliban, however, are yet to comment in this regard. After taking over the complete security responsibility of the country from international troops, the Afghan forces have increased their anti-insurgent operations across the country to prove their ability of ensuring citizens' safety independently. (Tolonews)

## 32 Welfare Projects Completed in Baghlan Province

SAR-E-PUL - Over 5000 families will benefit from recent completion of welfare projects in various districts of Baghlan province. With a cost of 22,908,276 AFN, the National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD/NSP) implemented 32 development projects in Pulikhumri, Tala-Wa-



Barfak, Khinjan, Burka, Nahrin, Andarab, Khust and Baghlan Jaded districts of Baghlan province. According to the Provincial Manager of NSP in Baghlan province, these development projects included the construction of community centers, culverts, a school building, a retaining wall, an irrigation canal, a concrete slope, side ditches, a gabion wall, a water supply network, graveling rural roads and excavation of wells. Approximately, 5,334 families in various communities have been able to gain access to basic human needs upon completion of these projects. (Wadsam)

## 65-Member Group of Armenian Peacekeepers Leaves for Afghanistan

KABUL - A 65-member platoon of Armenian peacekeepers left for Afghanistan on Monday to participate in the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Before starting mission in Afghanistan, the Armenian peacekeepers will participate in trainings in the Afghan city of Mazar-e Sharif. Here the Armenian platoon will



defend the airport and the ISAF headquarters within the German battalion. (PRA)

## Religious Council Member Shot Dead

LASHKAR GAH - A provincial religious council member was shot and killed following an armed attack in Helmand province on Monday, police said. "Member of Helmand's Religious Council Mawlawi Abdul Karim was martyred after two armed men opened fire on him at around 3:30 p.m. (local time) Monday," provincial police spokesman Farid Ahmad Obaid told Xinhua. Karim, a tribal elder, was walking near his house in Sahfyan locality of provincial capital Lashkar Gah when came under



attack. Karim was shifted to a hospital for medical treatment but succumbed to his injuries later on the day, the spokesman said. No group has claimed responsibility yet for the attack, but the Taliban insurgent group routinely claim such attacks. The Taliban has intensified attacks over the past couple of months as the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) assumed the full security charges from NATO-led troops after a four-year security transition earlier this month. The civilians... (More on P4)... (18)

## Woman Raped by Her Brother in Jawzjan Province

SHEBIRGHAN - A woman was raped by her brother in northern Jawzjan province of Afghanistan late on Sunday night, local officials said Monday. The officials further added that the incident took place in Sherbarghan city. provincial police spokesman Abdul Manan Raufi said the victim identified Farzana who is 17-year-old woman and was living in her father's house since her husband had

passed away last year. He said the perpetrator has been arrested and has confessed to his crime. He is currently in the custody of the police forces in Sherbargha city. According to the local government officials, the rape of the 17-year-old Farzana comes amid growing incidents involving rape of women in Jawzjan province. The officials at least three women have been raped in this province during the recent weeks. (KP)

## Police Trainer Dead in Khost Bombing

KHOST CITY/PUL-I-ALAM - A police trainer was killed in a remote control bomb explosion in southeastern Khost province on Monday morning, an official said. Provincial police chief Brig. Gen. Faizullah Ghairat told Pajhwok Afghan News the explosion took place when police trainer Col. Mirza Jan was on his way to the police headquarters. Giving an eyewitness account of the incident, resident Matoon Hafizullah said that the explosion was powerful and

happened when Jan was walking toward the police headquarters. Mirza Jan served in different positions during the past 25 years. No one has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. According to another report, a car bombing plot on Baraki Barak district centre in Logar province was foiled. The district chief, Mohammad Rahim Amin, said Afghan commandos seized an explosives-laden car in Charchino area last night. He... (More on P4)... (19)

## District Police Chief Wounded in Zabul Blast



QALAT - The police chief for the Mezani district of southern Zabul province was wounded in a roadside bombing on Monday, an official said. District chief Mullah Zarif told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place at about 10am when Khan Mohammad was patrolling Alam Gul

area. He said the police officer was wounded along with a policeman in the roadside bombing. The wounded were rushed to hospital for treatment. But a security official, who wished not to be named, said there were two bomb explosions, with the first one targeting Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers. The police chief was injured by the second blast. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. (Pajhwok)

## Outlook Horoscope

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

You might blast ahead with your original plans even though they could lead to more trouble than they are worth. Ironically, your common sense is working fine today; the problem is your inclination to fearlessly overrule reason with your desires. Fortunately, you can minimize the negative impact of your carelessness by repeatedly reminding yourself to slow down and think about what you're doing.

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

Don't rely on your friends for sound advice today, because they are likely to encourage your dreams, no matter how impossible your goals may be to manifest. Of course, receiving support from an ally feels great, but you might be better off if someone told you that your idea is ill-conceived.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

People may come up with plenty of reasons for you to decline a current opportunity, but you will likely say yes, anyhow. It's tough to see the downside of the current situation today because your hopes are so high and any progress appears to be better than none at all. Just remember that you might face discouragement if you continue to harbor such outrageous expectations.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Normally, your need for emotional security leads you to set boundaries so you don't destabilize your life. Nevertheless, you also like to be as cooperative as possible. Today, these two strategies collide as your optimism tempts you to take on more commitments than you should. Don't let things reach a breaking point before you pull back to protect your heart.

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

You have big plans on your mind but it doesn't serve you well to lose sight of what's actually possible today. Your extroverted nature usually works in your favor, but you might attract so much positive feedback now that you begin to believe you are invincible. Much to your chagrin, you haven't yet transformed into a superhero, so step back from the excitement and downsize your intentions before they get the best of you.

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

Managing your mood swings may be a challenging task today because the reflective Moon in your sign puts you in close touch with your changing emotions. However, your innate sense of clarity is tough to find now because you can't help but see amazing possibilities everywhere you look. Keep in mind that you might be better off waiting a day or two before making any life-altering decisions.

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

Putting on a happy face won't resolve your worries, especially if you discover problems with someone's plans for the day. Instead of covering your concerns with a quick smile, express your opinions as objectively as you can. You may be able to justify your thoughts, but your logical words aren't necessarily without their bias. Thankfully, setting your perspective out on the table might spark an informative conversation.

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

You are socially astute today and intuitively know exactly how much pressure to apply to a situation to get what you want. However, your wisdom could fly out the window once you see some positive results from your actions and you impulsively decide to ask for more. Remember, too much drama can prompt your most valuable supporters to retreat in haste.

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

You're trying to keep your ambitious goals from taking over your entire day, but bombastic Jupiter may not know how to take no for an answer now. Although a current boost of confidence can help if you're suffering from low self-esteem, it could be too much if you're already bouncing off the walls with enthusiastic anticipation. However, it's up to you to know how to best channel your energy.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

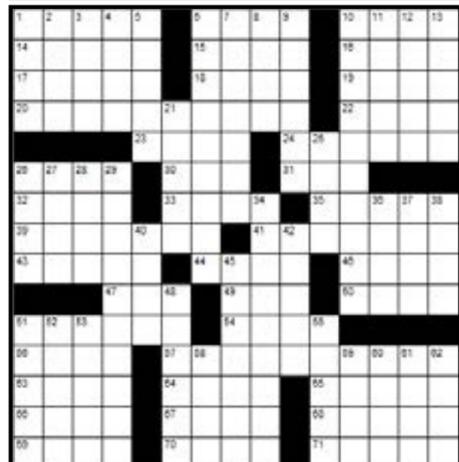
Your pragmatic approach to managing a rather large project can put you in the driver's seat as others give up before they gain any traction. Thankfully, you know that you're well suited for the job and are ready to give it your absolute best. Be careful; your perceptions are bent a bit out of shape by your desire to succeed, so it's still wise to exercise caution today.

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

You may attempt to simplify complex relationship dynamics today because it's easier to figure out your game plan when everything is neat and tidy. But leaving out the complicating factors just to suit your whim is not an intelligent idea. It's smarter to work with all the facts and be unsure of your next move than to arbitrarily avoid the truth to feed your false sense of security.

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

You are moving ahead with your new objectives and might even be proud of your significant progress. However, there may be danger lurking in your current optimism. Of course, the power of positive thought fosters success, but it might also prevent you from seeing an important truth if you take your hopeful perspective to an extreme.



**Across**  
 1. An alloy of copper and zinc, 6. Manacle, 10. Kind of school, 14. Stud, 15. Hodgepodge, 16. Angel's headwear, 17. Love intensely, 18. Nonexistent, 19. Creative work, 20. Original, 22. Anagram of "Tine", 23. Former Italian currency, 24. Worn away, 26. Contributes, 30. Slice, 31. 18-wheeler, 32. Jump, 33. Part of a foot, 35. Chafes, 39. Belly, 41. Palatable, 43. Not fresh, 44. Boom, 46. Urgent request, 47. Type, 49. Euro forerunner, 50. Skirt lines, 51. Scour, 54. Part in a play, 56. \_\_\_ du jour = Meal of the day, 57. Powered by electricity, 63. Hindu princess, 64. Compassion, 65. Draw forth, 66. Therefore, 67. Send forth, 68. Cyphers, 69. Observed, 70. Dash, 71. Amount of hair

**Down**  
 1. Fiber source, 2. Go on horseback, 3. Affirm, 4. Slave, 5. Pilfer, 6. Harmonious, 7. Emit long loud cries, 8. Dossier, 9. File cover, 10. Record player, 11. Speedy, 12. Wash out with a solvent 13. Modelled, 21. Recess, 25. Break in friendly relations, 26. "What a shame!", 27. Money owed, 28. Early 20th-century art movement, 29. Pillaging, 34. White blood cell, 36. Competent, 37. The original matter (cosmology), 38. Oceans, 40. Blend, 42. Grownup, 45. Religious outcast, 48. Custodian, 51. French for "After", 52. Cacophony, 53. Cooktop, 55. Construct, 58. City in Peru, 59. Smell, 60. Naked, 61. Frosts, 62. To tax or access

**Yesterday's Solution**  
 bleacher, bluff, boast, cannot, cheek, claim, climax, clown, coast, create, daughter, easter, either, engage, first, floor, loom, invite, night, organ, peat, pill, plastic, project, prove, really, right, roses, roving saint, save, smell, soar, stand, tales, think

