

Afghan Start up Opens Doors to Online Trading

KABUL - MoHE has started a review into the validity of SayedHafizullahHashemi's educational background after reports emerged of his certificates being fake. The higher education ministry said on Saturday it has started reviewing the new Independent Election Commission (IEC) member's credentials.

This comes after reports surfaced that the new commissioner, SayedHafizullah-Hashemi, has fake education certificates. The Ministry of Higher Education's (MoHE) spokeswoman ArifaPaikar said they have sent letters to the universities in the United States to verify Hashemi's claims that he graduated there. She said a letter has also been sent to the Afghan embassy in the US requesting their assistance to gather information on the issue.

"It belongs to Ministry of Higher Education (to assess the issue)," Paikar said. "We sent emails to the university in the United States following the issue. We are waiting for their response. And meanwhile, we will pursue this issue through Afghanistan's ...*(More on P4)...(15)*



New IEC Commissioner's Credentials Queried

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Kabul Hotel Attack Death Toll Could Rise to 43: Source

KABUL - A survivor of the incident told TOLONews that the number of casualties is much higher than revealed by government institutions. The death toll from the deadly attack on Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul climbed to 18 by late Sunday but one source said the number of dead could be as high as 43. The attack ended after 17 hours. At least six people were wounded in the attack, sources said. A survivor also said the death toll is much higher than what government has said.



Another credible source said there had been an engagement party at the hotel when the attack happened. The source said the attackers had opened fire on guests who were attending the engagement party.

The Ministry of Interior says six attackers were involved in the attack. Earlier in the day, the Ministry of Interior confirmed that at least five people, including the head of Farah's telecommunication department, ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Afghan Forces End Deadly Kabul Hotel Siege

KABUL - Afghan commando forces have ended an overnight siege at Kabul's Intercontinental Hotel that resulted in the deaths of all five heavily armed assailants and six guests, including a female foreign national, officials said Sunday. The newly appointed Afghan Consul General to Pakistani port city of Karachi was among those killed in the hotel attack. An Interior Ministry spokesman, NasratRahimi, told VOA the last surviving attacker blew himself up around 11 a.m. local

time, setting ablaze the sixth floor where he had been holed up. Rahimi said seven people, including three security personnel, were wounded and more than 161 guests, including 41 foreigners, were rescued. Several employees of KAM airlines were said to be missing after the attack. They include Venezuelans and Ukrainians. Security forces were going room by room before formally declaring the building cleared of any remaining suspects, he added. ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

China to Help Build Afghan Military Capacity: Diplomat

KABUL - A trilateral contact recently established between China, Afghanistan and Pakistan would be helpful in fighting against terrorism and ensuring peace in the region, a senior Chinese diplomat in Kabul said on Saturday. Zhang Zhixin, Charge d'Affairs at the Chinese Embassy in Kabul, said this while addressing a seminar involving Afghan and Chinese experts titled, 'Afghanistan-China Bilateral Relations' organized by the Center for Strategic and Regional Studies (CSRS) here. Abdul Baqi Amin, head of CSRS, addressing the meeting, termed China as a kind

and honest neighbor of Afghanistan and said Afghanistan needed China's help in developing its industry, agriculture and economy. He said China also needed Afghanistan. Calling China's role as important in the Afghan-lead peace talks, he said: "China also can play an important role reaching understandings between Russia and the US as well as between Afghanistan and Pakistan." Reassuring his country's continued support for Afghanistan, Zhang Zhixin said China was trying to convert Afghanistan into an economic ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Afghanistan to Play New Zealand in U19 World Cup Quarterfinals

KABUL - Afghanistan U19 will play host New Zealand in Wednesday's quarterfinals at ICC Under-19 World Cup. Afghanistan beat Pakistan and Sri Lanka in their group D matches but lost to Ireland in their final group match. New Zealand finished top in Group A and now face Afghanistan, who finished second in Group D after their upset againstIreland on Saturday. In the day's other matches, England and West Indies had big wins over Canada and Kenya respectively. (Tolnews)



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Reports emerged of Hashemi allegedly having fake degrees after his application and certificates for the IEC post were leaked. A number of MPs in the Wolesi Jirga said Hashemi's bachelor degree certificate had been issued by a non-existent university in the United States. They asked the higher education ministry and the foreign ministry to urgently review Hashemi's documents and verify their credibility. "There are claims that say fraud has been made in this regard and it must be investigated seriously. It will be made clear that what will he (Hashemi) do during the process as he has started his work by bringing fake certificates," said AssadullahSaadati, an MP. (Tolnews)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries Sometimes your impatience is so relentless that you go ahead with an action you know will create problems. However, your logic is not the captain of your ship now, and you might not be able to talk yourself into waiting. Although the Moon's return to impetuous Aries can convince you to take a risk, her square to naysaying Saturn puts a damper on your plans.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus You're ready to slip into stealth mode today because you believe you can be more productive when you don't have to explain every move you make throughout the day. In fact, your behavior might seem mysterious to those who can't figure out why you're not more forthcoming about your specific needs.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini Yesterday's reasons to turn down a social invitation might return as today's justifications for saying yes. It's confusing when reality can be perceived so differently in less than twenty-four hours, but the Moon's shift into spontaneous Aries and your 11th House of Friends reminds you that your relationships are key to your happiness.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer You are in the throes of a complex dilemma today as work-related opportunities require your response. Every cell in your body is screaming yes, but circumstances might not allow you to proceed at this time. Fortunately, patience is one of your secret weapons, so focus your energy on where you can be useful now and stop watching the clock.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo You are just as impatient as the other fire signs, but your fixed nature can turn a frustrating situation in your favor now. Once you set your mind to accomplishing a goal, you are relentless in your pursuit until you reach your destination. Although you may run into one stop sign after another today, you're not likely to become discouraged.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Virgo If you are involved in complicated negotiations with your coworkers now, it helps to know what motivates their actions. Luckily, you can see directly into someone's soul today, enabling you to easily break through their normal defenses. However, you could accumulate bad karma if you use your current skill to gain unfair advantage. Enter every discussion with a clear goal in mind.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra You appreciate it when people are direct in their communication because it's easier to respond when you already know how someone else feels. Nevertheless, you find it unacceptable when anyone comes on so strong that they don't give you a chance to meet them on equal footing.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio Your work-related chores are well defined now, leaving little doubt about what is expected from you. Fortunately, you are confident that you can do your job in a timely manner. The self-willed Aries Moon is marching through your 6th House of Logistics, motivating you to shift into high gear in order to get traction and finish what you start.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius Hiding your optimism is a challenge today, but you don't want to flaunt your confidence when others appear to be struggling. However, you're not afraid to climb out on a limb and fully own your positive attitude now. Nevertheless, you still might annoy, or even shock, someone with your cavalier approach. It might seem as if you're emotionally detached from the outcome of everything in the material world now.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn As competent as you are in the outer world, expanding your skillset in the inner world is a more complicated challenge. But you're not one to take psychological exploration lightly; you might not even believe that it is your best defense against stress. Nevertheless, your serious nature pushes you into imaginative realms where magic is just as common as cause-and-effect.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

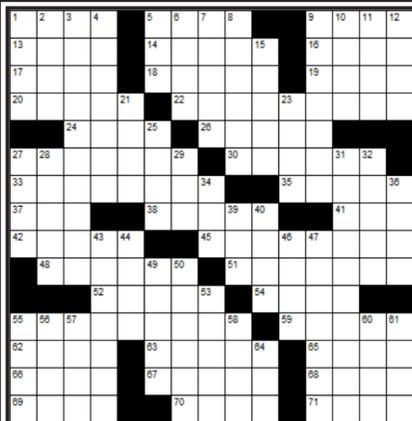


Aquarius You seem to be a conversation 'starter today and are unwilling to patiently wait for others to make the first move. You want all the facts you can get now because you believe knowledge is power. Don't look for a signal that it's okay to initiate a dialogue. Ask probing questions to start the ball rolling while the courageous Aries Moon is visiting your 3rd House of Information.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces You need a fully functioning social network today because the support of your friends can make all the difference in the world. But you can tell that there's an emotional storm brewing and you want to know all the facts before you jump into a situation and find yourself in over your head. Thankfully, your greatest cosmic resource now is the reflective Moon's presence in your 2nd House of Possessions.



Across

- Circle fragments, 5. Near, 9. Daughter of Zeus and Demeter, 13. Essence, 14. Notions, 16. Mining finds, 17. Unadulterated, 18. A bed on a ship, 19. Relative status, 20. Seminal fluid, 22. Showy yellow flowers, 24. Atop, 26. Long-necked bird, 27. Frustrate, 30. Aspirations, 33. Ungrateful person, 35. Narrow fissures, 37. Prompt, 38. Decree, 41. Chief Executive Officer, 42. Jagged, 45. Consisting of fine particles, 48. Hard glossy coating, 51. Player piano, 52. Ate, 54. Yanks, 55. Considers carefully, 59. Endorses, 62. Mimics, 63. Water park slide, 65. Departed, 66. Cooking fat, 67. Anagram of "Coast", 68. Type of sword, 69. Sounds of disapproval, 70. Past tense of Leap, 71. Bottomless,

Down

- Vipers, 2. Debauchee, 3. A cantankerous person, 4. Roomette, 5. Pen part, 6. As just mentioned, 7. Hebrew unit of weight, 8. Intense dislike, 9. Wreath, 10. By mouth, 11. Cleave, 12. Requests, 15. Bake in a shallow dish, 21. Exploded star, 23. "Comes and ...", 25. Anagram of "Tine", 27. A pale blue pigment, 28. Habituate, 29. Directed, 31. Used to see small things, 32. Metal, 34. Take in slowly, 36. Fizzy drink, 39. Policeman, 40. Blockhead, 43. They love to inflict pain, 44. Send forth, 46. Apply, 47. Betrothed, 49. Make into law, 50. Deadly, 53. Two, 55. Actors in a show, 56. Creative work, 57. Eccentric person, 58. "Cut that out!", 60. Leg joint, 61. Dribble, 64. Eastern Standard Time,

Yesterday's Solution

PAZES STIGB ALIAS
APISH PERU GASH
DENSE MEIR UNTO
EXCELLENCE LAIR
SLAG SOG USE
KILLO LIED ARARA
TIPPOSEB ERATTIC
POSSEB LICOT TOSH
EAR NIT EPEE
ARABLE SCOW
EMIR DIET LUNGE
TIER ECCE ESTER
EELY RAITS SHOEID

astern, beatnik, boos, budget, crave, crisis felt, fight, flame, fuzzy goals, honey, hysterical impish joint, lane, logic lunge, majority, mate, money, nadir origin phone, quotation, resort roads, spool, sumptuous

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