Jawjzan ALP Seeks Sophisticated Arms to Battle Rebels

SHIBERGHAN - A number of Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel in the Qush Tepa district of northwestern Jawzjan province complain they do not have advanced weapons to thwart militant attacks.

Sher Ali, ALP commander in Jarqadoq area of Qush Tepa district, told Pajhwok Afghan News they had been fighting against the rebels for the past seven years and had bravely defended the town.

He said militants had been operating in the area before the deployment of the ALP personnel, who had cleared the district of insurgents.

"If an ALP member gets into face-to-face fighting with a militant, he will fire 119 of the 120 bullets he has. He would keep just one bullet for self-protection. We are unlike those surrender meekly," he remarked.

Ali said ALP forces were serious about fighting against Taliban and Daesh rebels, but they were faced with lack of equipment. Jura, another ALP official, said: "There are around 50 ALP personnel here fighting against Taliban. But the number of insurgents is far higher. Still we are battling the militants with passion and determination." He said a number of ***...(More on P4)...(14)***

Battle Leaves 12 Dead in Helmand

LASHKAR GAH - Afghan forces during operations against militants in the southern Helmand province have killed 12 Taliban fighters and injured 19 others over the past 24 hours, said a statement of provincial government released here on Wednesday.

The security forces, according to the statement, conducted operations in parts of Nahr-e-Saraj, Sangin and Arghandab districts ***...(More on P4)...(15)***

Police Arrest 13 Drug Traffickers

KABUL - The Counter-Narcotics Police of Afghanistan (CNPA) have arrested 13 drug smugglers over the past week and confiscated more than 1.5 tons of illicit drug, said an official statement released on Wednesday.

Cases of all the arrested smugglers have been referred to the Central Narcotics Tribunal (CNT), a ***...(More on P4)...(16)***

Charles to Meet Afghan who Thumbed a Lift Across Europe

KABUL - During a royal visit to Leicester, the Prince of Wales is all set to meet an Afghan teenager who thumbed a lift across Europe before finding his way to the United Kingdom.

The Belfast Telegraph reported on Wednesday Prince Charles would meet Baseer Omarkhil Khan, who reached Britain after a prolonged hitch-hike at the age of 11. Now 16, the boy has completed his schooling with the help of the Prince's Trust charity, established by Charles. When he arrived in the UK, he could speak a single word of English. In 2014, Baseer graduated from the Trust's Achieve programme. Having settled with foster parents, he has completed schooling and has now gone on to study motor mechanics at the City of Leicester College.

(Pajhwok)

Herat Ladies Turn to Facebook to Sell Their Products

HERAT CITY - A Herat woman has created a Facebook Group through which other women are able to sell their handicrafts and unused goods.

The group was created by the woman nine months ago, and according to members of the group, the page has generated over $1.5 million USD in the past nine months.

The group now has almost 8,000 members. These women who sell their goods post pictures and details of the items for sale. Buyers in turn leave messages and then negotiations continue via messenger.

The group's members said once a price has been agreed to, the seller delivers the product to the buyer and is paid cash on delivery.

"This group is very useful. I have been a member of the group for a few months and have bought and sold lots of goods; I have found goods here that I never seen in Herat markets," Freshta Ahmadi, a member of the group said. "The group has provided us with the opportunity to sell goods that are not needed in our house anymore and but people who need the stuff buy it," said Zohra, another member of the group. Some of the women also offer services to ***...(More on P4)...(17)***

Taliban Weapon Caches Discovered in Logar

KABUL - The Afghanistan National Directorate of Security (NDS) or the country's spy agency has discovered two weapon caches of Taliban militants in the eastern Logar province, the official Bakhtar News Agency (BNA) reported on Wednesday.

The two weapon caches which stored variety of arms and ***...(More on P4)...(18)***

Four Insurgents Killed in Uruzgan Operation

TRINKOT- At least four insurgents were killed in clashes with police forces in central Uruzgan province, local police officials said in a statement on Wednesday.

In addition, seven other insurgents were injured. The clashes took place in Chaharcheno district of the province after insurgents attacked police check posts, according to the statement.However, the statement did not provide further ***...(More on P4)...(19)***

36 IS Militants Killed in Afghanistan: MoD

KABUL - A total of 36 militants loyal to the Islamic State (IS) group have been killed in the conflict-hit Afghanistan over the past 24 hours, said a statement from Ministry of Defense here on Wednesday.

According to the statement, the government forces raided IS positions in Khak-e-Afghan and Shamalzai districts of the southern Zabul province during which 20 more rebels sustained injuries.

Hundreds of IS fighters along with their families, according to locals, have settled in Deh Chopan district and other parts of Zabul province over the past several months.

The hardliner IS group has yet to make comment.

(Xinhua)

Heavy Snowfalls Cut off Access to Badakhshan Capital

FAIZABAD - Heavy snowfalls have closed roads in nine districts of Badakhshan province – shutting off access to the provincial capital of Faizabad for the past few days, local officials said on Tuesday.

The deputy head of Badakhshan provincial council, Ziauddin Wasiq, said roads have been closed for days and people living in remote areas are stranded.

The roads in this northern province are largely dirt tracks which in winter turn into mud tracks that end up being completely snowed over.

"The roads are snowed in every winter due to government's inattention. We will face a crisis if government does not do something about it," he said, referring to the fact that there is no assistance to clear roads of the snow.

"Government will not be able to reopen the roads ***...(More on P4)...(20)***

Outlook Horoscope

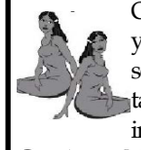
Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Your coworkers may be standoffish today because you're giving off the impression that you don't want to be disturbed. It's true: you're not in the mood for horsing around because you're trying to get serious about your work. However, your no-nonsense attitude is really an avoidance strategy as wounded Chiron and vulnerable Venus sing a lament in your 12th House of Escapism.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

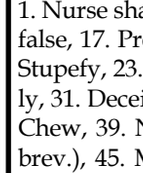
You're trying to collect as many constants as you can so the variables aren't as tricky to handle. Surrounding yourself with the facts helps you feel more comfortable in your own skin. You can usually count on your friends for support, but you prefer to depend on yourself today. Being in the midst of a group reminds you of past friendships that may have ended badly or communities you left behind.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



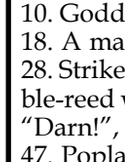
Others may wonder what's wrong today as you're not quite acting like your usual chipper self. The truth is you're uninterested in small talk because you're preoccupied with processing complicated emotions while the solemn Capricorn Moon transits your 8th House of Transformation. Additionally, the poignant Chiron-Venus pairing calls to mind a time when your reputation was damaged, and it feels just as real now as it did when it happened.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Your melancholy is hidden under the surface of the tough exterior shell you created to keep it inside. However, the people who know you best are likely to notice that something is bothering you anyway. You may be stuck remembering a time when your biggest dream fell flat, and it's difficult to stop your heart from replaying the painful feelings of disappointment.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

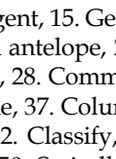


Getting enough rest should be top priority now, whether or not external circumstances are physically demanding, since your immune system needs support. Healer Chiron and vulnerable Venus conspire in your 8th House of Intimacy and your heart pangs in remembrance of an emotional debt that was never repaid.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

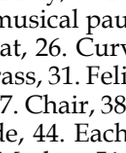
Your manner is calculated and controlled today as rigidity feels safer than allowing the chips to fall where they may. You're afraid your heart might do the talking, and it has plenty to say about an old flame that's haunting your thoughts now. Instead of dwelling on the past, try to realize that it's not your job to fix lost souls. Although forgiving the person who has hurt you is an important piece of the puzzle, it's even more crucial to forgive yourself.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Your people skills are one of your best assets and it's gratifying to put them to good use. Although creating harmony and mediating compromise can seem like a full-time job, it's easy to see the beauty in conflict resolution. However, sometimes diplomacy doesn't always do the trick, and you may remember a time when you tried your best to serve the greater good and it was all for naught.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

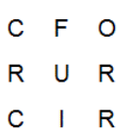


Keeping busy with menial tasks is surprisingly satisfying today. It's as if you're able to detect the artfulness of the mundane in every curve and angle. Although you're often seen as the brooding type, you actually possess a knack for transmuting negative feelings into imaginative art.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

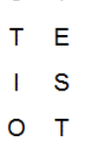
What you thought was ancient history is brought back to full-blown awareness today. Loving Venus encounters sensitive Chiron in your 4th House of Family, dredging up childhood memories that may not be so happy. The past might be hard to face, but favorable aspects from the patient Capricorn Moon can help you see the value in these difficult experiences.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



No matter how many times you turn over a problem in your mind, you can't seem to find an answer that satisfies everyone. The reason is that sometimes there is no solution; accepting a situation exactly as it is can be the best way to make peace with it. The cosmos is offering you an opportunity to practice this process as a sentimental Venus-Chiron connection recalls an image of the past frozen in time.

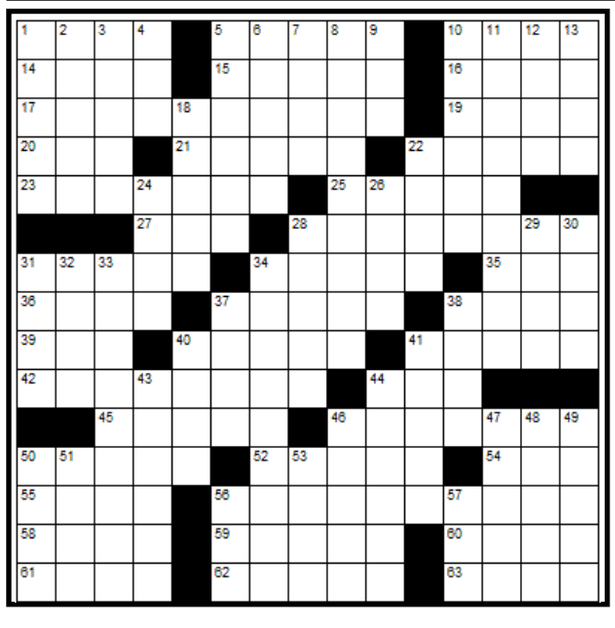
Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



The silent spaces in between activities seem to stretch out, allowing you to reflect on a time when you had less than you do now. Perhaps you went for a stretch with few material comforts or spent time on your own with little emotional support. These recollections may be uncomfortable because you remember them so vividly, but they also serve as landmarks that indicate how far you've come on your journey.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

It feels as if you've been transported back in time because everything reminds you of an earlier version of yourself. Although you may have shed your skin many times in this life, some new phases began out of necessity when chapters had to come to an end rather painfully. Keep in mind that there's a fine line between meditating on the past and throwing a pity party.



Across

1. Nurse shark, 5. Stripes, 10. Food thickener, 14. Astringent, 15. Genuinely, 16. Not false, 17. Pronounced, 19. Derbies or berets, 20. African antelope, 21. Crop up, 22. Stupefy, 23. Conference, 25. Thugs, 27. Website address, 28. Communicated silently, 31. Deceive, 34. Implant, 35. Ripen, 36. Assist in crime, 37. Column of wood, 38. Chew, 39. Not bottom, 40. Divinity, 41. Mother hen, 42. Classify, 44. Arrive (abbrev.), 45. Muse of love poetry, 46. Commemoration, 50. Swindle, 52. Craze, 54. Ghost's cry, 55. Largest continent, 56. Woodland, 58. Fix, 59. Ancient Mexican, 60. Away from the wind, 61. Backside, 62. Crystal-lined rock, 63. What we sleep on.

Down

1. Mobs, 2. Without company, 3. Ballet skirts, 4. French for "Friend", 5. Unsaturated alcohol, 6. Coach, 7. Chafes, 8. Undecipherably, 9. Yes to a sailor, 10. Goddess of wisdom, 11. Meadow, 12. Car, 13. A musical pause , 18. A marker of stones, 22. Agent 007, 24. Cooking fat, 26. Curved molding, 28. Strike, 29. Quaint outburst, 30. Wet, as morning grass, 31. Felines, 32. Double-reed woodwind, 33. Rigid dirigibles, 34. Typify, 37. Chair, 38. Encircle, 40. "Darn!", 41. Very prickly woody vine, 43. Colonnade, 44. Each, 46. Ceased, 47. Poplar tree, 48. Modelled, 49. Flexible tubes, 50. Mother, 51. End ___, 53. Countertenor, 56. Move from side to side, 57. Apprehend.

Yesterday's Solution

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

after, batch, blunt, bother, candle, carry, coast, collapse, collection, crisis, criteria, current, drone, earliest, force, grave, heart, hurry, lace, organ, porch, pursue, rant, reap, recent, river, seas, separation, short, steed, strength,teal, theory, thirst, trash, tree.

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