

Afghanistan Among Countries with Highest Number of Refugees, IDPs UN Report

UNITED NATION - The United Nations refugee agency says in an annual report that persecution and conflict in countries like Afghanistan and Syria has increased the number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) worldwide to a record 65.3 million last year. According to the UNHCR's Global Trends Report, Palestinians are the largest group of refugees at more than five million. Syria is next on the list, with 4.9 million refugees, followed by Afghanistan (2.7 million) and Somalia (1.1 million). The agency said situations that cause large refugee outflows are lasting longer, including more than 30 years of unrest in both Afghanistan and Somalia. As per the report, 2014 had already wit-



nessed the highest number of refugees worldwide since World War II, with 60 million displaced people. But last year after arrival of large numbers of migrants to Europe surpassed that record by nearly 10 percent. The UN refugee agency prodded world leaders to do more to end the wars that are fanning the exodus of people from their homelands. "I hope that the message carried by those forcibly displaced reaches the leaderships: We need action, political action, to stop conflicts," said Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. He added: "The message that they have carried is: If you don't solve problems, problems will come to you." ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

65 Million People Were Displaced Last Year, Thanks to Syria and Afghanistan Conflicts

UNITED NATION - The U.N. refugee agency says persecution and conflict in places like Syria and Afghanistan raised the total number of refugees and internally displaced people worldwide to a record 65.3 million at the end of last year. The previous year, 2014, had already seen the highest number of refugees worldwide since World War II, with 60 million displaced people. But last year - when Europe staggered under the arrival of large numbers of migrants - topped that re-

cord by nearly 10 percent, the UNHCR said Monday in unveiling its annual Global Trends Report. The Geneva-based agency urged leaders from Europe and elsewhere to do more to end the wars that are fanning the exodus of people from their homelands. "I hope that the message carried by those forcibly displaced reaches the leaderships: We need action, political action, to stop conflicts," said Filippo Grandi, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

ISIS in Afghanistan Claims Attacks on Canadian Embassy Guards in Kabul

KABUL - The loyalists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group in Afghanistan have claimed responsibility behind a deadly attack on the Canadian Embassy security guards in Kabul. The sympathizers of the terrorist group in Afghanistan have claimed that the attack was carried out by a suicide bomber whom they have identified as Irfanullah Ahmad. The loyalists of the terrorist group claim that a group of Nepalese guards working for a foreign embassy were targeted in the attack. In the meantime, the Taliban group in Afghani-



stan has claimed that the attack was carried out by the fighters of the Taliban group. Taliban group spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed that over 20 people were killed or wounded in the attack. At least 14 Nepalese ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Iran and Afghanistan Stress Anti-Narcotic Collaboration

KABUL - In a meeting in Kabul on Sunday June 19, Iran's Drug Control Headquarters Official Mahmoud Reza Pourmansour and Afghanistan's Anti-Narcotics Minister Salam Azimi explored avenues for bolstering and reinvigorating bilateral ties in fighting drug trafficking. The Afghan minister also lauded Iran for its contribution to equipping the Kabul rehabilitation camps and boosting cooperation in the field of fighting narcotics. In a relevant development in January, Commander of the anti-narcotics squad of Iran's Law Enforcement Police General Ali Moayyedi underlined that the poor performance of the US-led foreign troops in Afghanistan had resulted in a steady rise in drug production in Afghanistan. "The problem of narcotics still persists in Afghanistan as a result of the negligence of foreign states towards the illicit drug trade in our neighbouring country," General Moayyedi said, addressing the closing ceremony of a training workshop for the Afghan police officers in Tehran. He also voiced Iran's readiness to send its anti-narcotics officers to Afghanistan to train officers there. The Islamic Republic has emerged as the leading country fighting drug trafficking after making 85% of the world's total opium seizures. Since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Iran has lost more than 4,000 of its security forces in its war against drug smuggling. Iranian police officials maintain that drug production in Afghanistan has undergone a 40-fold increase since the US-led invasion of the country in 2001. While Afghanistan produced only 185 tons of opium ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

NATO Condemns Deadly Attacks in Kabul which Left 14 Dead, Many more wounded

KABUL - The NATO-led Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan condemned a series of attacks in capital Kabul today which left at least 14 dead and many more wounded. "Resolute Support strongly condemns today's Improvised Explosive Device attacks in Kabul that have killed several civilians and injured many more," a statement by RS said. "The Taliban's actions repeatedly harm civilians in an effort to undermine the Government of Afghanistan's efforts to provide peace," said Brig.



Gen. Charles Cleveland, Resolute Support Deputy Chief of Staff, Communication. "Horrific attacks like these show that, despite the Taliban's promises, they have a complete disregard for the lives of innocent civilians," Cleveland said. The statement by RS further added "Resolute Support ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

12 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Separate Ambushes by Afghan Police

KABUL - at Least 12 Taliban Insurgents Were Killed in separate ambushes of the Afghan National Police (ANP) forces, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said. According to a statement by MoI "Eight armed Taliban were killed in an ambush of the Afghan National Police and Afghan National Army in Sayed Abad village, Nad Ali District of southern Helmand province, yesterday morning." The statement further added "In the meantime, the joint forces confiscated one PK machine gun, one AK-47 rifle and some amount of ammunitions from



the scene." "In a separate report, four armed Taliban were killed and five other armed Taliban were wounded in an ambush of the Afghan National Police in Mati Kali village, Gilan District of Ghazni province, yesterday evening," the statement said, adding that the Afghan police forces confiscated some amount of ammunitions and three motorbikes as well. ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

UNAMA Condemns Attacks in Kabul and Badakhshan

KABUL- The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) expresses grave concern about today's series of attacks in civilian populated areas that killed and maimed civilians across Afghanistan. UNAMA condemns in the strongest terms the detonation of an improvised explosive device (IED) in a bazaar in Kishem district, Badakhshan province that killed ten civilians including five children, and injured 36 others, mostly children. Earlier this morning, a Taliban suicide attack in a crowded area of Kabul city killed 13 Nepalese contractors and injured eight others including five Nepalese diplomatic security guards and three Afghan civilians. Following this

incident, an IED targeting a provincial council member detonated in Kabul city, injuring four civilians including the council member. Taliban claimed responsibility for both attacks in Kabul city and denied responsibility for the attack in Badakhshan province. UNAMA reiterates its call for Anti-Government Elements, including the Taliban, to immediately cease all attacks in civilian-populated areas and any attacks deliberately targeting civilians, including attacks against diplomatic facilities and personnel. UNAMA extends its condolences to the families of all of those killed and wishes a speedy recovery for those injured. (PR)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You wish you could recapture your lost innocence, but yesterday's lofty ideas have transformed into today's heavy workload. It's not that you're overwhelmed with all the logistics; in fact, you're eager to get started. It's just that you grow increasingly pragmatic about the limitations of your time as the day wears on. Instead of adhering to your I-can-do-everything attitude, set yourself up for success by adjusting your goals to align with reality.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You lighthearted Twins are known to be champions at avoiding discussions about difficult issues. You can make it look like you're diving into the topic, only to smoothly waltz around the edge of an emotional abyss. However, you're driven to dig deeper today in order to process intense feelings that are impeding your progress.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

People won't be able to push you around today just because their intentions are altruistic. Friends might claim that they are trying to help you, even if you believe they're overstepping your boundaries on purpose. You may need to be very firm when you tell others to back off. There's no reason to be afraid of an intense encounter now, especially when you know you're on the right side of the equation.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

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Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

There is little room for negotiation today when it comes to managing your schedule. You know what you need to do at work to finish your assignments and you're not in the mood to waste time with anyone who stands in the way of your progress now. Use every potential distraction as fuel to hone your fierce concentration. Persistence turns failures into extraordinary achievements.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You possess the power to create great change today, yet it's up to you to decide where to focus your energy. Your actions impact others in a profound manner, especially if you are actively involved in a social cause. You seem to be a magnet for positive transformation, even in the realm of personal relationships. However, you will be more effective now if you widen your perspective and work for the good of many rather than your own individual interests.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your sense of loyalty to your parents or siblings can create stress if your social life pulls you in a different direction. The proverb, "blood is thicker than water" holds special meaning for you today. Even in the midst of disagreement, family relationships carry more weight than those with friends and coworkers. Although you might be pushed to make a decision, in the final analysis there's really no conflict of interest.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your unwavering integrity is like a bright beacon that shines for those who know you well. Your closest friends appreciate how seriously you listen to their problems and the wisdom you share. Although you may often be a rock of stability in someone else's life, sometimes you're the one who needs a shoulder to lean on.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You may be unusually cautious around others today, revealing your feelings only on a need-to-know basis. However, your personal values give you a stronger sense of purpose now that can be inspirational to your peers. Rather than carefully skirting around a discussion of your core beliefs, bring them out into the open for everyone to examine.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You're not a pushover just because your generosity appears so magnanimous now. You are willing to do whatever it takes to help someone until your motives are brought into question. But it's unlikely that anyone would pick a fight with you today because your body language is clearly saying, "Don't mess with me."

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You're not interested in meaningless social encounters today; you would prefer to withdraw from the crowd and focus on your goals. In fact, you might see other people as potential distractions now rather than possible partners. You have plenty to accomplish and believe you're better off doing it alone, whether it's true or not. As long as you don't hurt anyone's feelings, a bit of solitude is good for your soul.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your friends have your back today and may bail you out in ways that you don't expect. Thankfully, it's unlikely you will even need to ask for help now; it just seems to magically arrive out of the blue in the nick of time. Nevertheless, it's not a good idea to idly stand around waiting for assistance from the universe. You are much more likely to get lucky if you work hard and answer the door when opportunity knocks.



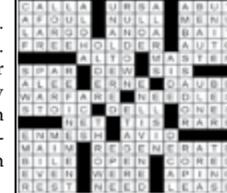
Across

- 1. Flat-bottomed boat, 5. Fasteners, 10. Circle fragments, 14. Body of water, 15. Delete, 16. Satyr, 17. Emanation, 18. Noteworthy, 20. Eyewear, 22. Remedy, 23. Santa's helper, 24. Not over, 25. Working class, 32. Scraped gently, 33. Cycle per second, 34. French for "Name", 37. Quaint outburst, 38. Exploded stars, 39. Easy gait, 40. Cheer, 41. Hotel employee, 42. Ballet skirts, 43. Ceaselessness, 45. An evil supernatural being, 49. Barely manage, 50. Kill, 53. Nouveau-riche, 57. Yellow gentian, 59. Threesome, 60. Away from the wind, 61. Creepy, 62. Behold, in old Rome, 63. A musical pause, 64. Construct, 65. Outbuilding.

Down

- 1. Smelting waste, 2. Inner membrane of embryos, 3. Gumbo, 4. Prevaricated, 5. Forlorn, 6. Mining finds, 7. Flee, 8. Russian emperor, 9. Arid, 10. Encore, 11. Cloaked, 12. Give birth, 13. Drive, 19. A clumsy dolt, 21. Toboggan, 25. Quarry, 26. Indian music, 27. Alright, 28. A grasp of something, 29. Celebrate, 30. Angry, 31. Consumed food, 34. Memo, 35. Creative work, 36. Untidiness, 38. Indian bread, 39. Anagram of "Unsettle", 41. Locale, 42. Sounds of disapproval, 44. 7 member group, 45. Prohibit, 46. Banish, 47. Dishes out, 48. Group of 8, 51. Tall woody plant, 52. Pitcher, 53. Relating to urine, 54. Eyebrow shape, 55. Type of cereal grass, 56. Pigeon, 58. Mineral rock.

Yesterday's Solution



abuse, after, arrival, bench, bugle, charity, client, crime, date, device, donor, drink, engrave, entertainment, feature, feast, gases, hangar, impression, knave, misery, ope, more, necessary, nine, raid, real, resign, satisfaction, seduction, sexily, sheep,

