

Kapisa, Sar-I-Pul Students Seek Ramadan Holidays



SAR-I-PUL - Hundreds of university students in northern Sar-i-Pul and central Kapisa provinces staged protests asking for holidays during the holy month of Ramadan. Students in Sar-i-Pul closed Sar-i-Pul- Sayad road to traffic, while Kapisa students shut the Alberoni University gates. As many as 300 students shut the Sar-i-Pul - Sayad road to traffic, threatening the road would remain closed till acceptance of their demand. They said majority of the universities across the country were closed due to hot weather and Ramadan but no such thing occurred in Sar-i-Pul. Ahmad Javed, a geology and mines student at Sar-i-Pul University, told Pajhwok Afghan News the weather had become very hot and they could not continue with their studies in the month of Ramadan. "On the one side, there is Ramadan and on the other hand the weather has become really warm. Sar-i-Pul higher education department should give us off," he added. Arash Khalili, head of Sar-i-Pul higher education department, said he needed three days to consult with higher education ministry officials in Kabul. The students, however, said they wanted the holidays without any delay. Students of Alberoni University also shut the doors of their university in Kapisa for the same reasons. Shabir, a student, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "Some of the universities in northern provinces went on holidays last week. We cannot continue with our studies during Ramadan. (Pajhwok)

30 Schoolgirls Poisoned in Bamyan

BAMYAN CITY - Another 30 schoolgirls have been poisoned in Waras district of central Bamyan province, an official said Monday. Abdullah Murawaj, principal of Band-i-Kosa School, told Pajhwok Afghan News that 30 students were shifted to hospital in the Waras district after falling unconscious. He said the students felt nauseous, dizzy and crying after poisoned. The nature of the incident was unclear but police have launched investigations to unearth facts, Murawaj said. "Possibly some suspects have sprayed poisonous materials in school rooms before children



come to school," he observed. Mohammad Amin Danishyar, a relative of an ailing girl, said he had shifted an affected student to a local health clinic. He said that health conditions of some of the students were critical. Mohammad Reza Ada, provincial education director, expressed concern over the issue and said there was no laboratory in Bamyan to practically probe the issue. Local officials said blood sample of affected students had been sent to the Ministry of Public Health for examining. This is the fourth time the schoolgirls in Bamyan province poisoned in the past one month. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Kidnap Executive District Director



HERAT CITY - Taliban on Monday kidnapped Ihsanullah Sadaat, executive director of Chisht district and his driver, in western Herat province, an official said. The incident took place at around 01:00am, Ihsanullah Hayat, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News. Sayyed Mohammad Maudoodi, the town's administrative chief, refused to comment on the incident. Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. (Pajhwok)

Khost Museum: Rare Artefacts under Threat

KHOST CITY - Rare artefacts and handicrafts are running the risk of being damaged due to the absence of a secure building for the museum of southeastern Khost province, officials say. Having 400 historic relics and handicrafts, the museum is currently confined to a congested room in the Department of Information and Culture. The items have been placed in old cupboards in a disorganised fashion. More often than not, visitors touch these pieces of art and place one on top of the other in rickety racks, according to curators, who underlined the



need for the preservation of these items. Habib Mandozai, in charge of the museum, told Pajhwok Af-

ghan News some of stone statues, vessels and other pieces have a history spanning thousands of years. Some of these items date back to the Yama kingdom, says Mandozai. "We have a five-kilogram fang of a giant animal; we found this while digging up a site. This tooth is thousands years old," the officials adds. Mandozai says they need a building equipped with the requisite facilities to preserve the artefacts, whose security is currently far from ensured. "We want the Ministry of Information and Culture, as well as our... (More on P4)... (21)

85 Insurgents Killed in ANSF Military Operations



KABUL - At least 85 insurgents have been killed in a series of coordinated operations over the past 24 hours by the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said in a statement on Monday. In addition, 49 other insurgents were injured. The operations were conducted in Kunduz, Badakhshan, Sar-e-Pul, Nangarhar, Farah, Ghazni and Helmand provinces, the statement said. "Also, during these operations, Afghan National Police discovered and confiscated light and heavy rounds of ammunition," it said. The MoI, however, did not comment on whether any security force members were injured during the operations. (Tolonews)

Nuristan PC Members Accused of Absenteeism



JALALABAD - At least two provincial council members have never attended the elected body's sessions in eastern Nuristan province, the

acting governor said on Monday. Hafiz Abdul Qayum told Pajhwok Afghan News the two had been living in Kabul and had never attended the council meetings since their election, while the remaining four members irregularly attended the sessions. The Nuristan provincial council has nine members. Qayum said the Independent Directorate of Local Government should take notice of the absenteeism and find a permanent solution to the issue. However, the acting governor did

not name the council members living in Kabul. The council head, Eng Saadullah, told Pajhwok Afghan News one of the two members living in Kabul had been nominated for a working committee and the second had personal dispute with the acting governor. The absent members did not receive salaries and were marked absent, he said, adding: "Nuristan is a mountainous region, the remaining seven... (More on P4)... (22)

Six Daesh Insurgents Killed in Clash with Security Forces



LASHKARGAH - Six Daesh or ISIS fighters were killed in a clash with security forces in restive Helmand province. A statement issued on Monday by the Afghan Army 215th Maiwand Corps states that a group of militants belonging to Daesh attacked security check posts in Garah area of Kajaki District yesterday which engulfed a gun battle between the two sides. The statement adds that including a commander of the group, six insurgents were killed in the clash. The dead bodies of those killed were left on the ground. Two Kalashnikovs belonging to the group were also seized by the security forces. The statement does not specify if security forces have suffered casualties in the clash or not. (KP)

Paktika Ulamas Voice Support for ANSF

SHARANA - Scores of religious scholars and local elders held a mammoth gathering in southeastern Paktika province in support of Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) to ensure peace and stability in the country. Religious scholars, local elders, provincial council members, civil society activists and government officials attended



a meeting held on Sunday evening. The meeting was organized to discuss problems and recent security situation in the country. Gul Mohammad, a religious scholar, urged all religious leaders to... (More on P4)... (23)

US Drone Strike in Nangarhar Kills 7 Rebels

JALALABAD - At least seven Taliban militants have been killed in US drone strike in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Monday. Col. Hazrat Hussain Mashriqiwal, police spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the unmanned aircraft fired missile on a

car carrying seven rebels on Sunday evening in Batikot district. Three dreaded commanders, Khan Afzal, Hanifa and Dr Omar were among the slain militants, he said, adding that a car and ammunition had been destroyed in the attack. However, Taliban have yet

to comment on the attack. Separately, Mashriqiwal said police had seized several kilograms of drugs but no one had been arrested. It merits mention that pilotless drone strikes had been intensified attacks in recent past, inflicting heavy casualties on militants. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Conflicting cosmic instructions make it nearly impossible to please others today. One voice tells you to go while another commands you to stop. Macho Mars runs into Saturn's obstacles and there doesn't seem to be a way to get around the resistance. If you push too hard, you may wish you didn't. But if you don't try at all, you will wish you did.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You can grow very obstinate if you're manipulated in ways you don't like. It might feel as if everything is changing too fast today for your tastes, but clinging to the present is futile nonetheless. The more you attempt to hold your ground, the harder it is to get your footing in the midst of the storm. Don't try to fix everything; instead, find pleasure in the little things you can actually control.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You're reluctant to reveal your fantasies because you worry that people will misunderstand you. Unfortunately, carrying around too many secrets could inadvertently invite a minor emotional meltdown. In the same way you can create walls by hiding your feelings. Relationship dynamics might not improve right away; in fact, things could get worse before they take a surprising turn for the better.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Although you may be talking a mile a minute today, you still can't seem to say exactly what you mean. People can tell that your chattiness is just one of your ways to cover up your insecurities. Fortunately, you're already on the edge of making an important breakthrough now, so don't waste time burying your emotions.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You think you're taking the most rational path today, but you might be operating under a false illusion that everything is fine. Unfortunately, something that was recently bothering you could suddenly erupt again unless you remain in close touch with your feelings now. However, your growing sense of urgency may not actually be a true reflection of the current circumstances, for something crazy

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You might be so sure of your current actions that you miss the nuances of the political dynamics at work today. Tread carefully or you could set off an emotional landmine while the moody Moon is traveling through your sign. It may feel as if someone is working at cross-purposes now, but it's more likely that your goals seem so different because you have such divergent approaches.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



It seems as if everyone has his or her particular idea of what you should be doing now, but no one is bothering to ask you what you want. This apparent disconnect is tricky territory to navigate, especially if you already feel alienated from those you love. Although people appreciate you trying to meet their demands, it may be more important to acknowledge your own needs first.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Instead of trying to convince anyone that your strategy is practical, use this time to examine your personal weaknesses so you can better understand how they lead you to overcompensate in your work. Rather than focusing on your own productivity today, see what you can learn from others without trying to compete with them.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Although you're doing your best to demonstrate your good intentions, people still may not be satisfied with your efforts. You're feeling performance pressure now and it's disconcerting if you sincerely believe that others are judging you unfairly. However, there's absolutely no need to fight back; just continue gathering the facts and be ready to tell your side of the story when asked.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You're willing to endure hardship and austerity as long as you know that a big payoff might be yours in the near future. Your patience usually works in your favor, but now impetuous Mars is pushing for immediate results. Unfortunately, nothing is going to change overnight that will enable you to claim your reward faster. Lessen your anxiety by temporarily suspending your need to speed up the process.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



You know exactly what you want but you have no idea how to get it. Don't fret if you're without a coherent strategy today; too much advanced planning only reduces your spontaneity. Unfortunately, some people may see you as uncooperative now, but that's not your intent; you just want to make your point as succinctly as possible.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You may be feeling your oats today, but possessing self-confidence doesn't necessarily mean your dreams will automatically come true. Part of your problem now is that asking for the wrong thing sets you up for failure before you even start. Thankfully, your sense of timing improves as the day wears on. What begins as a blunder could turn into a strong conviction to do the right thing.



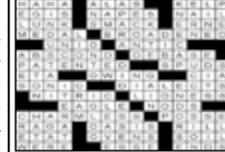
Across

1. Outbuilding, 5. Trades, 10. Monster, 14. Yachting cap, 15. Dimwit, 16. An old spelling of "True", 17. Colored part of an eye, 18. Snakelike, 20. 10-sided polygon, 22. Cleaning device, 23. Uncooked, 24. Gangs, 25. Rattlesnake, 32. Bay window, 33. A giant with 100 eyes (Greek mythology), 34. Liveliness, 37. Valuable metal, 38. Clever, 39. Lunch or dinner, 40. N N N N, 41. Habitual practice, 42. Crown, 43. In a purposeless manner, 45. Excuse, 49. Buffoon, 50. Deep purplish red, 53. Enraged, 57. Responsibility, 59. Govern, 60. Midday, 61. Coming and _____, 62. Feudal worker, 63. Hot rum drink, 64. Malice, 65. Sun.

Down

1. Slip, 2. Not there, 3. Sweeping story, 4. Rendered weaponless, 5. Renounce, 6. Biblical garden, 7. What we breathe, 8. Cuts off, 9. Goulash, 10. Aquatic mammal, 11. Complain, 12. Regenerate, 13. Decorative jugs, 19. They hold up heads, 21. Jail (British), 25. Venetian magistrate, 26. Weightlifters pump this, 27. Afflicts, 28. A type of small mammal, 29. Boasts, 30. Yes, 31. Slice, 34. Legumes, 35. Nobleman, 36. Participate in games, 38. South southeast, 39. Fails to detonate, 41. Utilizing, 42. Rip, 44. Lollygag, 45. Amidst, 46. Work hard, 47. Snow house, 48. Existence, 51. Labels, 52. At the peak of, 53. Typeface, 54. Dethrone, 55. Forearm bone, 56. Clairvoyant, 58. 3 in Roman numerals.

Yesterday's Solution



around, attendance, black, cape, celebration, chick, clean, cream, creator, crown, draft, effect, erosion, father, flicks, foals, ghosts, glen, great, hare, invite, large, parks, periods, person, porch, quest, rash, reason, reward, sail, sheep, sleet, soak, speak, stark, stuck, suit, table, tore, tout, twist.

