

# Public Representatives Linked to Qaisar Unrest

**MAIMANA** - Residents and local officials have expressed concern over differences between lawmakers and provincial council members, saying the rifts were fuelling insecurity in Qaisar district. Rows between the supporters of lawmaker Fathullah Qaisari, provincial council member Faqir Mohammad Qaisari and Mohammad Nader Syed recently escalated, they said. Hundreds of families have been displaced as civilians witness frequent fighting in the restive district. Resident Mohammad Ibrahim told Pajhwok Afghan News Qaisari irked former rebels on Saturday when an ex-



militant was detained. He said hundreds of Taliban exploited the tense situation, stepping up their activities in different areas of Qaisar. As a result, a large number of families have been displaced.

"We have contacted the deputy governor, police chief and some other officials to release the former militant and put an end to the ongoing violence," the resident added. An influential individual, wishing not to be named, confirmed that the detention of Mullah Zabihullah had damaged the peace drive and rebels would no longer trust government's assurances. For his part, Qaisari accused Zabihullah of involvement in several murder and robbery cases on the Qaisar-Almar highway. He said lawmaker Fathullah was supporting people like Zabihullah... (More on P4)... (16)

## Rebel Leader Injured, 3 Killed

**MAIMANA** - In separate incidents in northern Faryab province, a Taliban-designated district chief was injured while two insurgents were killed by the landmine they were planting, officials said on Sunday. Mohammadullah Batash, acting governor, said Taliban's Dawlatabad district chief Mullah Nooruddin was injured during a clearing operation on the Faryab-Jawzjan highway. The joint operation, he said, was conducted to secure the highway that intermittently faced closure due to insurgent activities. Batash said clearing operations were also underway in Qaisar, Almar and Ghormach districts. Meanwhile, 209th Shaheen Corps officials in Faryab said two insurgents were killed and a third wounded on Saturday night when the explosives they were trying to plant went off in Dawlatabad district. The army personnel were scheduled to cross the... (More on P4)... (17)

## IS Commander Among 10 Killed

**KABUL** - Islamic State (IS) commander, to Mullah Khadim, was killed along with nine associates during an operation in southern Helmand province, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said on Sunday. MoD spokesman Gen. Zahir Azimi tweeted the operation was launched by the 2015th Maiwand Military Corps last night. He said Hafiz Wahidi, who was replaced by Mullah Abdur Rauf Khadim as IS commander for Afghanistan, was killed along with nine supporters. Mullah Khadim had served as a military commander in Herat and Kabul during the Taliban regime. He was a close ally of Taliban's supreme leader Mullah Omar. Some months ago, he defected from the Taliban and joined the Islamic State. He was subsequently appointed as IS commander in Afghanistan. Khadim was killed in a drone strike on Feb 9. (Pajhwok)

## Powerful Figures in Lashkargah Illegally Occupy Houses

**LASHKARGAH** - Some powerful figures have occupied hundreds of houses allocated to homeless government servants in the capital of southern Helmand province, an official said on Sunday. Constructed 45 years ago, 400 houses are occupied by senior officials and some have even rented them out to others, despite the facts that some occupants had been allotted separate land plots. Tayyeb Attal, the head



of a commission tasked with resolving the issue, said: "We have launched an investigation to find out individuals who had illegally occupied the homes."

The commission has so far identified 108 homes in which powerful officials live. He said the government had authorised the... (More on P4)... (18)

## As Logar Land Dispute Resurfaces, Kuchis Block Roads

**UL-I-ALAM** - Local officials on Sunday said Kuchis in central Logar province have blocked roads, letting loose their animals to graze in private fields. Baraki Barak district Chief Mohammad Rahim Amin warned nomadic tribe's action could trigger trouble if the government did not deal with the situation with a sense of urgency. Over the past four years, residents and nomads have clashed several times over 2,000 acres of land. Both sides have suffered casualties. Amin said the nomads had violated a ceasefire agreed with the locals by



setting up their own posts along roads and blocking traffic. Nearly two months ago, the Kuchis and local residents reached a ceasefire following a clash over the land issue. The government had played a key role in bringing about the truce. "The Kuchis are equipped with weapons; they are encroaching on private farms," Amin said, adding the issue could not be settled by the local authorities. A tribal elder, Ahmadullah, said their patience with the nomads was running out. He accused the provincial government of supporting the nomads. Ahmadullah added residents... (More on P4)... (19)

## 5 Roads Rehabilitated, Handed Over to Authorities

**KUNDUZ CITY** - Five important roads in the capital of northern Kunduz province were handed over to local authorities after being rehabilitated and improved over the past two years, the German Cooperation with Afghanistan said on Sunday. The roads including Bala Hesar, Jaded Azadi, Khawjah Mashad, Spinzar Hospital and Pedagogy road were reconstructed by the German-funded Regional Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) together with Afghan partners, the German Cooperation with Afghanistan said in a statement. The rehabilitation and improvement of the roads had been requested by the provincial administration through the Governor's Office and the Provincial Development Committee (PDC), it said. Before their rehabilitation and improvement, the roads were dusty and in poor condition, some subject to frequent floods and unable to bear significant load of truck traffic. The statement said the

asphalted roads had now side drains, footpaths, culverts, road signs and proper road markings. Bala Hesar Road and Jaded Azadi Road serve as part of the major ring and transit road to allow heavy traffic and trucks to bypass the centre of Kunduz City helping to decrease traffic and vehicle pollution in the city centre. Jaded Azadi Road also allows easier access to markets and services for people traveling from north (Imam Sahib) to southeast (Khanabad and Taloqan) and south (Kabul). After improvement works had finished, Khawjah Mashad Road, Spinzar Hospital Road and Pedagogy Road are now connecting south-east and south-west areas of Kunduz City. Dr. Martin Schuldes, the German Development Commissioner in Afghanistan, said "the completion of the project is another instance illustrating that progress is happening in Afghanistan." He added new infrastructure like the five city roads could help... (More on P4)... (20)

## 54 Militants Killed in Fresh Raids

**KABUL** - Some 54 Taliban militants have been killed as the Afghan army pressed ahead with offensives in restive provinces, the Defense Ministry said on Sunday. "Afghan National Army carried out cleanup operations in Ghazni, Kandahar, Laghman, Faryab and Sari Pul provinces

within the past 24 hours, killing 49 armed militants, wounding several and detaining 18 others," the ministry said in a statement, Xinhua reported. Meanwhile, five militants were killed and six others wounded as a result of an ongoing offensive in the Southern

Helmand province, according to the statement. Two soldiers were also killed during the operations, the statement noted, adding that weapons were seized, and 109 roadside bombs and landmines were defused. The Taliban militant group has yet to make comments. (FNA)

**JALALABAD** - At least three children were killed and four others including two women injured in a roadside mine blast in eastern Nangarhar province on Saturday evening, local officials said. The blast took place in Hashemkhal area in Sherzad district of Nangarhar while a civil vehicle struck a roadside mine, spokesman for acting provincial governor, Ahmad Zia Abdulzai said. "Most of the victims were children and the injured were taken to a nearby hospital," Abdulzai said. However, no group including the Taliban has claimed responsibility for the blast. (Tolnews)



## 3 Children Killed in Roadside Mine Blast

### Outlook Horoscope

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

Although you have come to the conclusion that practicing patience is your smartest strategy now, you still might feel as if you're jumping out of your skin.

You're enthusiastic about the future, yet you can't decide whether to laugh joyfully at the possibilities or scream out of frustration at the delays.

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

You might appear somewhat subdued today as you settle into a steady pace and go about your chores. You're not concerned about receiving recognition for your individual contribution now; you're more driven just to get things done right. Your friends and relatives see you as a real team player because you're happy to trade anonymity for the overall success of a group project.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You wish that being observed by others didn't make you feel uncomfortable today. You might think that you would be happier once you escape public scrutiny. Whatever you do, you seem to garner more than your fair share of attention now; however, you might end up growing more accustomed to the spotlight as the day wears on. Unfortunately, your dramatic performance could make someone uneasy.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Following the rules might not make sense to you now, but it still isn't advisable to bite the hand that feeds you.

Be respectful and work within the existing constraints even if they seem illogical. You can always question authority later, especially since rebellious behavior today won't likely make you any friends or influence those who matter.

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

You probably know better, but it's so tempting to say what's on your mind today if you think you can balance the score by uttering a few clever words at exactly the right time. However, you might believe that some things are better left unsaid.

Don't waste energy by holding a grudge if you have unexpressed anger that needs venting.

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

You are usually quite rational in your approach to solving problems; however, a friend or partner could confuse you with their stories, even if you think your logic is sound.

At first, you may doubt your ability to accurately interpret what you hear, but as you listen further you realize that you aren't the cause of the current misunderstanding.

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

You may be at odds with someone today, and you don't understand how the warm and fuzzy feelings could have cooled off so quickly.

Thankfully, a lover's quarrel or a business conflict won't last long if you can maintain mutual respect, no matter how strongly you disagree. But don't force the issue now because tempers might flare without warning.

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

A heated debate with an acquaintance can rattle your nerves today and pull you off track.

Although you may be tempted to settle the score right away, it's impossible because there's actually no single correct answer. Fortunately, you're probably amenable to accept the difference of opinions if you feel like your words are heard.

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

You may believe that cooling your jets now will help you stabilize your position with someone you like, but the idea of new projects at home spark your interest before you slow down enough to matter.

If you are wise, you won't take off with an intriguing idea until you give it plenty of time to develop. However, you could become obsessed with your scheme and try to launch it prematurely.

#### Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19)

You might decide that being patient is more prudent than climbing mountains today, trying to achieve impossible results. You could exhaust yourself if you attempt to force a river to flow uphill now that the Moon has returned to your ambitious sign.

But it's pointless to fight the inevitable, even if you feel the need to stand your ground.

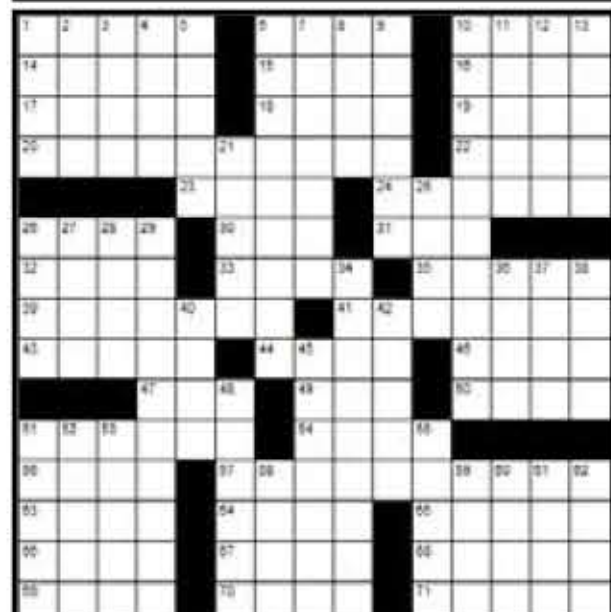
#### Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Oddly, you are more certain about your feelings today, even if a close friend or relative thinks you're barking up the wrong tree. Luckily, you're wise enough to recognize that there can be differing methods to successfully handle the same issue. Establish common ground and then agree to disagree on the specifics.

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

Although you're in an agreeable state of mind today, a conflict could erupt if you say more than is necessary. Ironically, your attempts to avoid an argument only seem to agitate it.

Unfortunately, you may be more confused about an important issue than you realize, and your lack of clarity fogs your communication now.



**Across**  
 1. Improvise, 6. Close violently, 10. Not legs, 14. Direct the course, 15. A landlocked African republic, 16. Not this, 17. Breathing problem, 18. Visual organs, 19. Scrambled piece, 20. In spite of everything, 22. A Freudian stage, 23. Airhead, 24. French for "Again", 26. Feudal worker, 30. Hale, 31. Comes after Mi and Fah, 32. Pinnacle, 33. Provide nourishment, 35. Picture, 39. Outdo, 41. An endocrine gland, 43. Provide with a permanent fund, 44. Threesome, 46. Standard, 47. Mayday, 49. N N N N, 50. Checks, 51. Replenish, 54. Goulash, 56. Send forth, 57. Disinfectant, 63. River of Spain, 64. Vitality, 65. Betel palm, 66. Swerve, 67. Burden, 68. Turbine part, 69. Countercurrent, 70. Defrost, 71. Go on a buying spree

**Down**  
 1. Food thickener, 2. Hoodwink, 3. Water chestnut, 4. Notion, 5. Whiskers, 6. Stinkiest, 7. Kit for a baby, 8. Beers, 9. Overlooks, 10. A supplementary part, 11. Rhinoceros, 12. Of the cheekbone, 13. Inscribed pillar, 21. Takes off, 25. French for "Black", 26. Lack of difficulty, 27. Twirled, 28. Egghead, 29. Informative, 34. Prissiest, 36. Dwarf buffalo, 37. Dress, 38. Shade trees, 40. Absent Without Leave, 42. Units of medicine, 45. Relaxing, 48. Ski race, 51. Female ruff, 52. Implant, 53. Terminated from a job, 55. Dons, 58. 1 less than 10, 59. Brace, 60. French for "Head", 61. Computer symbol, 62. Credit or playing

**Yesterday's Solution**

adore, agree, amuse, bacon, bail, barren, bonus, branch, chick, cope, dale, deserve, drabble, drool, eternal, family, farad, forever, happy, judges, mingle, nation, propose, purple, realm, reel, shovel, start, television, threat, title, together, ken, tutor

