

Karzai against more US Troops in Afghanistan

KABUL - Former president Hamid Karzai on Thursday urged the Afghans to help advance the peace process and asked the US to sign a deal with the Kabul government on establishing peace in Afghanistan instead of taking military actions. In his message to the nation in connection with the new solar year's celebrations, Karzai said: "Unfortunately our nation suffered another year full of problems and miseries. Our people and security forces witnessed insecurity and repeated assaults from Pakistan." He said all these disorders occurred in the



face of a wide political and military presence of the US and its allies in Afghanistan. About one and a half decades ago, the US and its allies, supported by a number of key regional countries, had entered Afghanistan under the pretext of fighting against terror, he said. But terrorism could not be eradicated, instead the menace further strengthened and a new terrorist group, Daesh, also emerged as a result of wrong US policies, he said. "Instead of receiving regional cooperation, ... (More on P4)...(22)

7 Rebels Dead, 4 Policemen Hurt in Takhar Clash

KABUL - Seven militants have been killed and four policemen wounded in a clash in the Khwaja Bahauddin district of northern Takhar province, police said in a statement. Police repulsed militants coordinated attacks over security forces check-posts Thursday night, the statement said. Lt. Gen. Sher Aziz Kamawal, commander of police in the northeast of the country, said the overnight attacks were successfully ... (More on P4)...(27)

Taliban Shadow Judge for Ghazni Killed in Pakistan

GHAZNI CITY - The Taliban's shadow chief judge for southern Ghazni province has been killed in Pakistan's Quetta City during a clash within the group, an official said on Friday. Brig. Gen. Aminullah Amarkhel, police chief for Ghazni, said: "Maulvi Ishaq Jalad was killed in Guchlagh area on the outskirts of Quetta, the capital of Pakistan's Baluchistan province, and his body was shifted to Oshun area of Andar district in Ghazni last night." He said Jalad ... (More on P4)...(28)

Businessman's Son Kidnapped by Gunmen in Kabul

KABUL - The son of a businessman was kidnapped by a group of about 10 kidnapers in 13th Street in Wazir Akbar Khan on Thursday morning, police confirmed. Eyewitnesses said the incident took place in front of security forces at around 10:30am on Thursday. According to an eyewitness, the kidnapers drove a Land Cruiser vehicle with tinted windows. This vehicle was accompanied by another vehicle loaded with armed men. ... (More on P4)...(29)

Afghanistan Beat Ireland by 7 Wickets, Clinch Series 3-2

KABUL - After losing the third and fourth One Day International (ODI), Afghanistan on Friday made a strong comeback and won the fifth and final ODI by seven wickets that gave the blue tigers 3-2 victory in the series. Afghanistan who lost the toss on good batting surface was invited to bowl first. The Afghan bowlers did not allow the Irish batsmen to score free runs and bowled in good line and length. Ireland batsmen took a careful start but Afghan



bowlers made late inroads into the Irish batting line and restricted them to the total score of 229. Afghan leg break spin

bowler Rashid Khan was again impressive and economical. He grabbed fourth wicket and played great role in restricting to the

Ireland side to 229 along with Farid Malak who took three wickets. While chasing the target of 230 Afghan opens again failed to deliver and lost their wicket in early hours. However, one down Rahmat Shah's brilliant 128 balls 108 and Samiullah Shinwari 77 balls 26 helped Afghanistan win the fifth and final ODI. Captain Asghar Stanikzai also played a helping innings of 50 balls 39 in the run chase. The team ... (More on P4)...(23)

Displaced Families from Kohistanat Appeal to Govt for Help

KABUL - Residents of Kohistanat district of Sar-e-Pul province, who fled their homes a year and a half ago, have appealed to government for help. Four displaced families are living in one house which has only four rooms, and according to them, they are in dire need of help. "Losing a district (to the Taliban) and not helping vulnerable people is a shame for government," said Azizullah, one of the affected residents. "We are thirsty and hungry



and do not have anything to wear or to warm our room," said Rajab Khal. "Our houses were taken by Taliban in Kohistanat

district and we were forced to come to Sar-e-Pul," said Juma Khal, another resident. The families said nei ... (More on P4)...(30)

Taliban Attack on Takhar's District Pushed Back

TALEQAN - A group of Taliban militants attacked the district governor's office in Takhar's Khwaja Bahawuddin district on Thursday night and set fire to the district building, sources from the province said. However, the commander of north-eastern police zone, Lieutenant General Sher Aziz Kamawal said in a statement on Friday that a group of militants attacked the district governor's office and set fire to parts of the building. Kamawal said the militants



were pushed back by security forces after they arrived at the area. He added that three militants were killed and four others were

wounded in the attack. According to him, four local police force members were wounded in the clash. (Tolnews)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You are running out of patience with people who can't get their stories straight. But some mental gymnastics help to ease tensions by allowing you to see a different side of the picture. There's no harm in listening to someone's point of view today, and you might even strengthen your own position in the process. Don't be afraid to give up some ground to let another person be in the spotlight now.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You're wondering if everyone could benefit from a temporary spring hibernation in light of recent discord. You want to pull the covers back over your head today and close your eyes to the stress, hoping it will all come out in the wash. But your silence could serve as inaccurate confirmation or complicit denial if you don't participate in discussions that involve you now.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're willing to do whatever it takes to keep the waters calm today, making a concerted effort to listen and speak in equal measure. Others appreciate your open-mindedness, but don't abandon common sense and become a yes-person just to avoid potential conflict. You may end up inadvertently ignoring the voice of discernment in your attempts to maintain harmony now, creating tangles that will only get tighter later on.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You may be overly protective of your opinions now as you recall past experiences when speaking up didn't go very well. However, letting your guard down just enough to listen to a coworker or friend could prove to be worthwhile when benevolent Jupiter stands opposite clever Mercury in your 10th House of Reputation.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You're proud of all the work you're doing to cultivate your big ideas and you can't wait to watch them bloom. But you may look at your garden of seeds through rose-colored glasses today, believing that they will break ground in no time at all. Calling on a second pair of eyes is prudent when something appears too good to be true.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You might have unwittingly developed a tough outer shell to filter out bothersome noise that detracts from your ability to remain calm. However, you want to let in considerations from someone close to you today, instead of stubbornly shutting down when encouraging Jupiter opposes critical Mercury in your 8th House of Intimacy. You may be surprised by how understanding others can be when you allow them to see the inner chambers of your heart. Vulnerability is your friend.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You're the first to step in and try to smooth things over when the road gets bumpy. Fortunately, you can use your power of reconciliation for the good of someone close to you when high-minded Jupiter beckons to clever Mercury in your 7th House of Others. Creatively framing both sides of an issue allows everyone to see the situation more clearly.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You assume you can handle anything life throws at you today because you have painstakingly examined every detail of your plan. You're sure nothing could go wrong if you just follow along with each preconceived step. Although your detective's nose has rooted out many of the facts.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Sometimes all it takes are a few simple words to make you realize your fortunate position. You don't lack for personal initiative while fleet-footed Mercury plays in your 5th House of Creativity. However, an opposition from magnanimous Jupiter reminds you that including your friends in your activities is just as important as pursuing them yourself. Even if you don't always see eye to eye, never underestimate the value of community.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

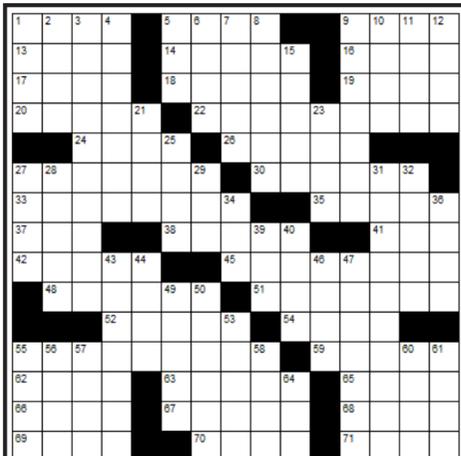
You're eager to pick up the pace again, even if it means letting go of an unresolved argument. It's clearly evident that your ambitions will suffer if you hold onto negativity that roots you in place, regardless of its origin. While a healthy dose of forgive-and-forget is always a good idea, be sure you don't sweep anything under the rug for the sake of laying an issue to rest.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You may still be slightly rattled by a recent misunderstanding, but you're beginning to see the importance of widening your outlook to be more inclusive. It's easy to lose sight of the big picture when you're devoted to making your point. However, today's enlightening Mercury-Jupiter alignment refreshes your fundamental belief that everyone is entitled to their own opinions.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your belief in second chances is a strength that many forsake once they've been hurt once or twice. But strength can become weakness if you're trying to overcompensate for a past offense that you still regret. There's a fine line between empathizing with someone's feelings and granting them a get-out-of-jail-free card just to help you absolve your guilt over an unpleasant incident. Sometimes moving on doesn't include a pretty resolution with a bow on top.



Across
1. Laugh, 5. Expectoration, 9. Small freshwater fish, 13. Prima donna problems, 14. Praise, 16. Distinctive flair, 17. Tracks, 18. Warn, 19. Sell, 20. Rot, 22. Budgies, 24. Tinted, 26. A seal, 27. Extol, 30. Gobble up, 33. Indolent, 35. Breathing problem, 37. A sizeable hole, 38. Provides food, 41. Center, 42. Religious splinter groups, 45. Organized body of related information, 48. Beat, 51. Ripple, 52. Devout, 54. Small brook, 55. Upheavals, 59. Thermionic tube, 62. Casino game, 63. Hockey footwear, 65. Female sheep (plural), 66. Margarine, 67. Creepy, 68. Vice President, 69. Observed, 70. Adolescent, 71. Countercurrent.

Down
1. Group of cattle, 2. Chills and fever, 3. Motley assortment, 4. Attack, 5. Calypso offshoot, 6. A mixture of cellulose fibers, 7. Notions, 8. Fervid, 9. Gain through experience, 10. Away from the wind, 11. Camber, 12. Terminates, 15. Platform, 21. "Sure", 23. Pueblo ceremonial chamber, 25. Backside, 27. Vipers, 28. Anagram of "Peril", 29. Fitting, 31. Unsanctified, 32. Utilize again, 34. Directed, 36. Incite, 39. Black bird, 40. Sun, 43. Cyclone, 44. Blend, 46. Keen, 47. Accept as true, 49. Home, 50. Muzzle loader, 53. Look at with fixed eyes, 55. Flying saucers, 56. Wan, 57. Tall woody plant, 58. Anagram of "Ties", 60. Accomplishment, 61. Catch a glimpse of, 64. Poetic dusk.

Yesterday's Solution
BEERS DENIS CARP
RADIO EXITT AREA
ERITCA PATIT MOSES
ENTHRAILED OMIT
SPOT IGUANA
RAPIT AYE OJAF
ALAE RIDS SLAGS
GAPSTAN GOHABIT
ERATO GAOL GULA
AGO BUDE TAT
MADCAP STEM
ALEE INGINERATE
LOICO RIEON ROISES
THOU TONG GAINS
SAYS ENDS ERAISE

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