

# 3 Senior District Officers Sacked on Graft Charges

LASHKARGAH - Three senior civil and military officers in the Garmser district of southern Helmand province have been removed on corruption charges, the deputy governor said on Thursday. District chief Ayub Omar Omari, police commander Toryalai Rohand intelligence officer Amrullah Khan allegedly received bribes from farmers and promised allowing the cultivation of opium poppies -- a crop banned by the government. Deputy Governor Mohammad Jan Rasyulay ...*(More on P4)...(23)*



# Growers in North Demand Access to Market

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Farmers in the northern zone on Thursday demanded the government construct more storage facilities and explore market for their products. The growers expressed these views to Pajhwok Afghan News during a food exhibition in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of northern Balkh province. One of them, Jamaluddin, a resident of Faryab province, said: "I'm running a dried fruit business, but could not develop it due to the non-existence of market." Jamaluddin had brought a variety of dried fruits to the exhibition. He lauded



the arrangement of the food expo, but in the same breath urged the government to help farmers find market for their products. Another farmer, Musa Khan, complained of a lack of storage facilities. "I grew carrots on four acres of land last year, but faced serious problems preserv-

ing the produce," he recalled. Asadullah, the provincial agriculture and livestock director, acknowledged the growers' problems, but said they should also contribute to the agriculture sector's development. He said water scarcity was a ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

# Schoolteacher Stabbed to Death

MAIMANA - Unidentified assailants have stabbed a schoolteacher in the Qaisar district of northern Faryab province, an official said on Friday. Abdul Jamil Siddiqui, the Qaisar district chief, speaking to Pajhwok Afghan News, identified the victim as Mullah Mohammad, who was also the treasurer of the area council. He said unknown attackers stabbed the teacher to death late on Thursday when he was on his way home from the district market. The murder was linked personal enmity, he said. *(Pajhwok)*

# ALP Commander Killed in Blast

SHARAN - Afghan Local Police (ALP) commander was killed along with a security guard in a roadside bombing in the Mata Khan district of southeastern Paktika province, officials said on Friday. Nisar Ahmed Abdul Rahimzai, Paktika's acting police chief, told Afghan Pajhwok News the overnight blast took place in Faqir Kala area of the district. He blamed the militants for planting the bomb that hit the car carrying ALP officer Musa Khan Andar and his two guards. Khan and one of his guards died while another was wounded. Rahimzai said police started an operation soon after the explosion, killing a militant and wounding two others. The Taliban have not yet given spoken about the incident. *(Pajhwok)*

# Rebel Groups Surrender in Nuristan, Baghlan

JALALABAD/PUL-I-KHUMRI - Two insurgent groups renounced violence and joined the government-initiated peace process in Nuristan and Baghlan provinces, officials said on Thursday. Nuristan's acting Governor Hafiz Abdul Qayyum told Pajhwok Afghan News a Taliban's commander Ahmad had joined the peace process along with his nearly a dozen fighters in the Bargi Matal district. He hoped the surrender would help improve the law and order situation in the province because the group had been involved in various insurgent activities in the town. Mohammad Ayub Hussainkhel, the 201st border zone police commander, claimed they had been persuading the 12-member group to reconcile with the government. He said the group had surrendered their arms and ammunitions to security forces. Another 10-member rebel group, including its commander Nooruddin, had joined the peace process in Baghlan. Mualvi Sirajuddin Serat, the ...*(More on P4)...(27)*



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# Essential Item Rates Steady; Russian Gold Down

KABUL - With Russia gold rates falling, the price of the Arabian variety increased during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Thursday. Mohammad Fawad, a jeweller in Timor Shahi area, told Pajhwok Afghan News the price of one gram of Arabian gold rose from 2,000afs to 2,050afs. The price of the Russian variety fell from 1,650afs to 1,600afs. Fazel Rahman, the Food Traders' Union head, said a 50-kilogram sack of Pakistani sugar accounted for 1,520afs, compared with 1,500afslast week. A price of Vietnamese green tea was priced at 180afs, the same quantity of African black tea at 210afs, a 50-kg bag of flour at 1,250afs, a 24-kg sack of ...*(More on P4)...(29)*

# Some Civil Activities out to Fuel Anarchy: Khost Elders



KHOST CITY - Some civil society groups are trying to challenge the government writ and create problems for the people in the garb of an anti-graft campaign, elder in southeastern Khost province alleged on Friday. The local elders, who are also active civil society members, gathered in office of Abdul Wali Wahedzai, a member of the provincial council, in Khost City to warn certain elements against trying to fuel anarchy in Khost. On March 24, some provincial council members accused the governor of incompetency and administrative corruption. Led by two lawmakers Humayun and Kamal Nasir Osuli, they called for the provincial leadership to be replaced. A ...*(More on P4)...(26)*

# Norway Taliban-Afghan Gov.t Move Interesting: Analyst

"I think reports of the Taliban having attended the seminar are credible," Kate Clark, Country Director at the Kabul-based Afghanistan Analysts Network (AAN) tells The Foreigner.

KABUL - "The fact that Afghanistan government representatives met with the Taliban is nothing new, though Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai has been trying to get bilateral talks near the top of his agenda since becoming President." Norwegian authorities invited three members of the Taliban to attend the peace seminar at Oslo's Akershus festning (fortress), according to broadcaster NRK. On the agenda for the event, which was organized by the Norwegian Joint Staff College-arranged peace negotiations course were matters such as looking at ceasefire agreements. Officials from Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs would only comment about the seminar in general terms regarding where delegates came from, and that organisers offered advice. Norway has facilitated, hosted, and brokered peace agreements before, with varying degrees of success. The Foreigner asked Ms ...*(More on P4)...(28)*

# 10 Taliban Eliminated, 8 Detained in Warduj Raid

FAIZABAD - At least 10 Taliban militants were killed and eight others, including a shadow district governor, arrested in the Warduj district of northeastern Badakhshan province on Friday, a local official claimed. The insurgent fatalities came in Yakhsher area during a predawn police operation, which led to the detention of Taliban-nominated district Chief Maulvi Abdullah along with seven associates. Dawlat Mohammad Khawar, the Warduj district administrative head, told Pajhwok Afghan we ...*(More on P4)...(30)*

# Mob Justice: Circumstances Surrounding Farkhanda's End

KABUL - A clamor by a handful of young men "a girl has burnt the holy Quran" was more than enough to make people running toward the door of Shah-Do Shamshera shrine in the heart of Kabul on Thursday afternoon (March 19). In the blink of an eye, dozens of men, mostly young boys, thronged the shrine where a woman -- wear-



ing a long black abaya and jeans -- was already being tossed around by angry men in their early twenties. They were beating her in the head with sticks, calling her with obscene and vulgar words while shouting "Allah-o-...*(More on P4)...(25)*

## Outlook Horoscope

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

Your mind is strong and focused today, Aries. As a result, you're probably feeling especially physically robust. Sudden insights could earn you some satisfying acknowledgement, not to mention the respect of someone important to you. Your intuition level is high and apt to serve you well now, particularly where work and health are concerned. Make the most of it!

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

Expect to spend much of your day alone, Taurus. Information obtained from books or videos, perhaps involving history, philosophy, or religion, might inspire you to look deeper into a subject and turn it to your own advantage. You might decide to take a trip or return to college. There's also the chance that you could be inspired to write or otherwise express your ideas and feelings.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Some strange dreams could stimulate your imagination and start you on new avenues of exploration. You might at some point play detective. What you seek is likely to be within your psyche. Don't be surprised if you learn new things about yourself that you hadn't been aware of before. You could also find your psychic faculties increasing.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Reading could take up a lot of your time today, Cancer. Books on psychology or the occult sciences might seem interesting, particularly as your intuition is operating on a higher level than usual. You might not want to talk about what's coming up for you, but that's OK. You will need to make sense of it first before you can share it with clarity.

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

Your mind is likely to be on your finances today, Leo, and you may be searching for previously unknown ways to advance yourself. Colleagues or friends could help steer you in the right direction. When it comes to jotting down possibilities, trust your intuition, as it's operating at a very high level. List your possibilities and then let it stew for a few days before going over them again.

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

Increased communication with a close friend or lover, more on a subtle than verbal level, could bring you closer and enrich your relationship. Quiet time spend together today could generate a new sense of closeness. Images and ideas that come from deep within you can contribute to your creative self-expression. Write down any insights so you can refer to them later. Work from the heart.

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

Today you might crave solitude, Libra, perhaps for meditation or to contemplate your current situation. You may feel you're at a crossroads and need to decide which way to go. This could involve the next step in your material progress or self-expression, or it might involve your spiritual path. Emotions from the past could well up, but this is a positive development. Don't fight it.

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

You might spend a lot of time in conversation with friends who share your interests. Their insights could lead to new insights on your part, Scorpio, and vice versa. This process could bring all of you closer together. Good news could come through the mail, email, or phone regarding goals you've been trying to reach. You're also likely to send out a lot of communications yourself.

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

Paperwork involving finances, Sagittarius, perhaps personal, perhaps involving your employer's funds, or both, is likely to need some intense attention during the day. This doesn't necessarily imply anything negative. In fact, just the opposite. It does mean that some careful planning or budgeting is going to be required in order to make the most of your current situation.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

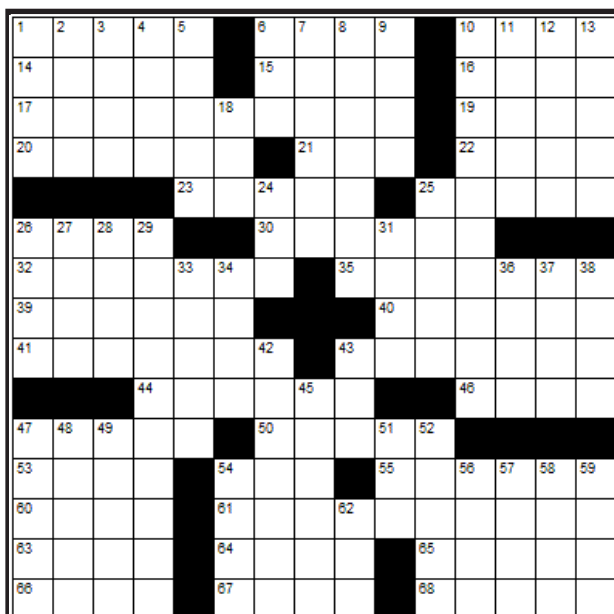
Today you may want to spend your free time alone, contemplating various ideas, Capricorn. Spiritual or metaphysical philosophies from ancient cultures or foreign lands might be more appealing than usual. Reading about them at this time could approach obsession, but this is OK. Whatever you learn today is likely to contribute greatly to your personal growth and perhaps self-expression.

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

Today, Aquarius, your mind may turn toward deep subjects. You could explore the sciences, psychology, the occult, or metaphysics. You will probably discover some new facts or ideas that could keep your mind occupied for hours. Needless to say, you will spend much of your time alone exploring these themes. You might also want to write down your insights and revelations to study later.

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

A sudden upsurge in your intuition could have you feeling more in tune to the thoughts, feelings, and desires of others, Pisces. Your communication is going to be clear and open as a result. You're likely to grow closer to everyone dear to you, especially your romantic partner. Don't expect everything you pick up to be positive. Others have their issues. Let them know you understand.



### Across

- 1. Coarse edible red seaweed, 6. Buckeye State, 10. Breezed through, 14. Labor group, 15. Fecal matter of animals, 16. Govern, 17. Variation, 19. Angers, 20. Torrid, 21. G, 22. Clock sound, 23. Desire, 25. Gossips, 26. Gave temporarily, 30. Scheme, 32. Including everything, 35. Pertaining to vivid recall, 39. Ventilate, 40. Shooting star, 41. Next to the forehead, 43. Intercede, 44. Highly seasoned fatty sausage, 46. A pouch in some birds, 47. Lowest point, 50. Tomorrow's yesterday, 53. 1 1 1 1, 54. Faster than light, 55. Reposed, 60. Blow off steam, 61. Written material, 63. As well, 64. Air force heroes, 65. Lustrous fabric, 66. Clairvoyant, 67. Writing implements, 68. A framework of beams,

### Down

- 1. Clothing, 2. Module, 3. Vitality, 4. Couch, 5. Foe, 6. Lyric poem, 7. Famished, 8. Infuriate, 9. Curved molding, 10. Mathematics, 11. Papal court, 12. Choose by voting, 13. Davenport, 18. Type of whiskey, 24. American Sign Language, 25. Handed over, 26. Unit of bread, 27. Always, 28. Roman emperor, 29. A type of semiconductor, 31. An indefinite period, 33. Fragrant oil, 34. Loyal (archaic), 36. Rip, 37. Greek letter, 38. Team, 42. Framework of strips, of wood 43. Central, 45. Unfrozen, 47. Exploded stars, 48. Anoint (archaic), 49. Compacted, 51. Arrive (abbrev.) 52. It makes dough rise, 54. Flutter, 56. Sun, 57. Ballet attire, 58. Twin sister of Ares, 59. Lairs, 62. S

### Yesterday's Solution

MINUS PLAINS ABLE  
IDEA LUMINO LAIR  
NEEDLEFISH ARMS  
JAM INTRU ERGOT  
ASSISTS ULLAMA  
SIPY AVERSIVE  
GOWLS MITS NEW  
OGRE ICONS METE  
ALLI PRONG KUDOIS  
RESCUING GET  
GORSO PLANTING  
SABRE MARY CE  
NEAP FIGURATIVE  
URNS OZONE ALES  
BODE BEGET GYRE

acorn, alive, bachelor, bless, caper, dare, diary, doubt, dream, empty, erupt, extreme, flavor, fleet, grant, grate, great, grocer, health, honey, horse, leash, loot, mirth, models parent, partner, perspective, queen, rate, rescue, rile, spouse

PARTNERADIARY  
EXTREMEMLOGNR  
RILEASHGIIUOG  
SVISIONORRVBZ  
PBACHELORATE  
EHXUMODELSTHS  
COOEQYDFRNEEP  
THANKURGEUIAO  
IFLEETERATPLU  
VTODAYAENCQTS  
EMPTYPMANFOHE  
GROCERRTWORRY  
CAPERGNBLESSN