

Afghan Security Forces Flush Taliban out of two Districts

KABUL - The Afghan security forces on Thursday regained control of two districts in Badakhshan province, which had been previously captured by the Taliban radical movement. The Afghan forces liberated a number of villages on the thirteenth day of the battle in the Zebak and Ishkashim districts of the Badakhshan province, which is located near the border of Tajikistan and Pakistan, the TOLNews reported. "The villages of Ishkashim have been cleared of the enemy and around 20 posts of the enemy have been taken by security forces. Two tanks belonging to the enemy were destroyed during the operation," Jalaluddin Yaftali, the head ...*(More on P4)...(18)*



20 Suffer Casualties as Rival Taliban Factions Clash

HERAT CITY - At least 20 insurgents have been killed and injured in a clash between two rival Taliban factions in Adraskan district of western Herat province, local officials said on Thursday. Herat governor's spokesman, Jilani Farhad, on Thursday told Pajhwok Afghan News that insurgents loyal to Mullah Haibatullah, the Taliban's supreme leader, and those loyal to Mullah Niazi clashed in Pir Kholai area of Adraskan district on Thursday afternoon. He said 10 individuals loyal to Mullah Haibatullah were killed and seven others were detained by the other side. Jilani said two of Mullah Niazi's insurgents were also killed during the clash, with the infighting still ongoing. The Taliban have said nothing about the clash so far. *(Pajhwok)*

Hundreds of 'Suspected' Passengers Barred from Traveling North

CHARIKAR - Over the past few days, police in central Parwan province have been preventing passengers, who looked suspects, from travelling to northern provinces. Mohammad Ayaz, Parwan highway police commander, confirmed police had started investigating passengers, who were believed to be travelling to the north for supporting insurgents, since last week based on an order from the Ministry of Interior (MoI). He, without providing specific number, said hundreds of passengers, who looked suspects in police view, had been barred from traveling to the northern countries. Some passengers on the Kabul-Parwan highway welcomed enhanced security checks on the road, but others complained innocent people were intimidated during searches. Eidgul, a passenger from Qara Bagh district of Kabul, said he wanted to travel to northern Baghlan province on a 303 public transport bus, but he was not allowed by police. "The inspection is good if poor people are not tortured. Everyone who becomes suspected in police eye is sent back to Kabul, and it is a big oppression." "I was travelling to Baghlan, where I had an important work, along with my family, but I wasn't allowed. *(Pajhwok)*

In 16 Years, 1st Girls' School Opens in Tagab District



MAHMOOD RAQI - A school for girls has opened in the Tagab district of central Kapisa province after more than a decade and a half, an official said on Friday. Education Director Mohammad Nasim told Pajhwok Afghan News the school, which was set up as a result of efforts by tribal elders, started functioning in Shinkai area on Thursday. "I spoke to the Tagab elders and later arranged their meeting with the governor. This year, we were able to establish the school. Area elders are guarding the school," he said. Fifty girls are currently enrolled in the school, the first to be set up in the area after 16 years, the director said, hoping the number would rise. The school housed in a private residence has five teachers. An independent building for the school would be ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

120 Addicts Rounded up for Rehabilitation in Jalalabad

JALALABAD - Public health officials, helped by security personnel, have rounded up 120 drug addicts in Jalalabad, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province, and admitted them to hospital for treatment. The governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News on Thursday the addicts were picked up from Loya Wyala area between Chaparhar's old bus station and Angor Bagh. Public Health Director Dr. Najibullah Kamawal said



the drug addicts were in bad condition. Residents of the area complained to the authorities against their presence, the official added. He said the rehabilitation centre in the province had the capacity to treat 225 patients. The centre is able to rehabilitate 150 people of old age, 50 people less than 18 years of age and 25 women. ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Kama Teachers Seek Immediate Release of Colleagues

JALALABAD - Teachers in the Kama district of eastern Nangarhar province on Friday demanded the immediate release of their colleagues and distribution of land plots to them. A number of schoolteachers were arrested late on Thursday when they tried to ...*(More on P4)...(21)*



Paktika wells Run Dry as Underground Water Depletes

SHARANA - Water wells in many areas of southeastern Paktika province have run dry due to what residents believe the abundance of solar-powered water pumps for irrigation. A resident of Argun district, Roman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that many people had installed solar-powered water pumps to irrigate their farmland. "Due to the overpumping, the groundwater level has depleted in many areas and has created shortage of drinking water," he said. Similarly, a resident Sharana, the ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

56 War-Affected Families Receive Aid in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Fifty-six war-affected families received food items and auto rickshaws as a result of efforts by the Labour and Social Affairs Department in eastern Nangarhar province. Abdol Hakeem Sherzad, labor and social affairs director, told Pajhwok Afghan News on Thursday the families had been displaced and lost members recently to war. He said 36 war-displaced families were provided food items and other assistance while the rest of 18 were given one rickshaw each by a charity. Dr. Mohammad Alam Eshaqzai, acting deputy ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

There is blue sky in every direction today, inspiring you to believe that anything is possible. Resistance fades and you see no reason to hold back, even if you lack a concrete plan. You're certain you can figure out what to do along the way. Unfortunately, your confidence will only carry you so far. Don't wait until you encounter an insurmountable obstacle, for it could be too late by then to do anything

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You might believe you understand the secret mysteries of the universe today. Nothing escapes your acute perceptions. Nevertheless, you can't exclude people's emotional reactions to your strange behavior. You don't live in a vacuum; you're not isolated from those around you. Ask others how they are doing and actively listen when they tell you.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Your current spending spree is not about money. You're expending lots of energy now without a plan to replenish it. Making matters worse, it seems like everyone is encouraging you to increase your burn rate rather than advising you to save your resources for a rainy day. However, you only hear what you want to hear but it doesn't serve you well if you're only getting half the story.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Your intentions are clear and you can visualize an action-packed day that leads to personal satisfaction. You might start out with high hopes of accomplishing everything on your agenda since your innovative plans catch a wave and immediately impact your progress in a positive manner. However, you're wise to narrow your focus only to the very best of your ideas.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You're tempted to follow every crazy idea and spontaneous whim wherever they might carry you today. But even the most freeform of innovative styles still requires some structure to add gravitas to your creative process. An organized approach to expressing your ideas leads to a larger audience being influenced by your work.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You prefer to move through your day with a wait-and-see attitude. Although flying by the seat of your pants isn't your regular style, a less rigid schedule encourages uninhibited behavior today, without you being obligated to report your activities to anyone else. Nevertheless, you still might feel as if some research will support your work, rather than restrain it. Your analytical gyrations create a metaphysical scaffolding now.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

There's something important you wish to share with your friends today, but you can't predict how they will react. You may have mixed emotions about opening up because you don't want to jeopardize the stability of your relationships. However, your nagging drive to tell the truth overcomes your natural desire to accommodate others.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You could be feeling very positive about your life, even if you run into a serious setback today. Rather than highlighting your shortcomings, obstacles in your path are now meant to show you where your game can be improved. There's no time to be wasted wallowing in self-pity or doubt. You have profound work to do and the sooner you start, the more likely you will get.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your unfettered optimism can drive others crazy today because they don't see the world in the same bright light as you do. Most people are more restrained by their common sense, but you think that's an unnecessary limitation. Nevertheless, your Pollyanna approach to life finally catches up with you now, possibly even stopping you in your tracks.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

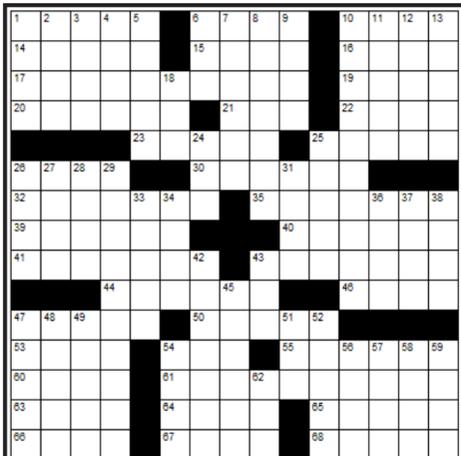
Your high hopes might not be pinned to any particular signs in your world. Instead, you're confident about your impending success simply because you're feeling good today. Although your gut reactions seem more important now than any objective conclusions, you're not one hundred percent positive about your actions. Don't allow fear to win when all you need is a strong dose of courage.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You're having trouble trusting your friends because you can't get a clear read on their thoughts today. You want to believe that your upbeat attitude could melt an iceberg, but the more you turn on your charm, the more people seem to back away now. You don't like feeling isolated from those you love, but there's little you can do about it except continue to be yourself.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You may take a few steps backward in order to escape from the noise of human interactions. Giving yourself a bit of elbow room enables you to see your current circumstances from a wider perspective. But even if you grow more philosophical today, you're not ready to forget your professional goals; they stand in front of you more vividly than ever. You have your work cut out for you.



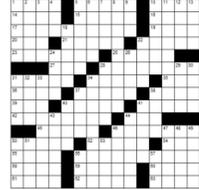
Across

1. Screech, 6. Diva's solo, 10. Geographic illustrations, 14. Burdened, 15. Warbled, 16. By mouth, 17. Belligerent, 19. Roman emperor, 20. Bribe, 21. Mayday, 22. Module, 23. 67 in Roman numerals, 25. Accumulate, 26. Stinging insect, 30. Enclose in, 32. Try, 35. Trap, 39. A religious cult, 40. Criminal, 41. Male ruler of an empire, 43. Modern sing-along, 44. Highly seasoned fatty sausage, 46. Lascivious look, 47. Dapper, 50. Coach, 53. Food thickener, 54. Play a role, 55. Civet, 60. 8 in Roman numerals, 61. Brought low in spirit, 63. Aquatic plant, 64. French for "Head", 65. Sound of contempt, 66. Low-fat, 67. Goulash, 68. Cassettes

Down

1. Applaud, 2. Indian music, 3. Jittery, 4. Relating to aircraft, 5. Peel, 6. Donkey, 7. Dried grape, 8. Bill, 9. How old we are, 10. Significant, 11. Sporting venue, 12. City in France, 13. Small slits, 18. A single-reed woodwind, 24. Animal doctor, 25. An ancient Assyrian city, 26. Undulation, 27. "Smallest" particle, 28. "Cut that out!", 29. Walker, 31. Dwarf buffalo, 33. Type of eel, 34. Swimming hole, 36. Balm ingredient, 37. Garden tool, 38. Pitcher, 42. Anagram of "Chatter", 43. Paraphernalia, 45. Change, 47. Pertaining to the oceans, 48. Spry, 49. Subarctic coniferous forests, 51. Not on, 52. Cut of beef, 54. Does something, 56. Forearm bone, 57. Swill, 58. Arid, 59. Picnic insects, 62. Church bench

Yesterday's Solution



begin, chase, chit, cost-ly, court, create, damage, demon, dent, dose, dress, error, gloss, hello, house, import, leads, legislature, locker, management, more, need, nowhere, nuclear, paint, pope, province, rear, relief, repeat, rope, roust

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