

# ANA Soldiers Among 57 Dead in Clashes: MoD

KABUL - Six Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and over 57 insurgents have been killed during clashes with security forces in different parts of the country, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said on Wednesday.

A statement from the MoD said militants suffered heavy casualties in the last two days clashes in four different provinces.

In Chaharsada district of Ghor province, as many as 31 rebels were killed while 17 others killed in Jawand district of Badghis province. One rebel was died in



clashes with security forces in Posht Road district of Farah province.

The statement said eight militants were killed in Shindand district of Herat province and ten others wounded in the four provinces, the statement noted.

It said that during the clearing operations conducted in these provinces, security forces seized huge cache of weapons.

The statement, however, said that six ANA soldiers died as a result of mine explosion that struck their vehicle. (Pajhwok)

## Natural Gas Power Station Being Built in Mazar-I-Sharif



KABUL - A natural gas power station is being constructed at a cost of \$75 million in northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif, officials said on Wednesday.

The station would jointly be constructed by privately-owned Ghaznafar Group and World bank (WB). An agreement about the building of the project was signed by officials of ministries of mines, energy and water and finance and representatives of Ghaznafar Group and WB in Kabul.

Mohammad Ismail Ghaznafar, chairman of the Ghaznafar Group, said the project's primary procedures would be completed in three months and then a contract would be signed. "After signing contract

the company will take six to nine months to complete."

Ghaznafar added 40 per cent of the cost would be paid by his company while the rest was being paid by a member of the WB's International Finance Corporation (IFC).

The initial capacity of the station, he added, would be 50 megawatt electricity but with further investment it would generate up to 1,000 megawatt.

Abdul Razaq Samadi, head of Da Afghanistan Breshna Shirkat (DABS), asked ministry of mines to provide the Shiberghan natural gas with an efficient price to the company so that cheap electricity could be provided to Mazar-i-Sharif residents....(More on P4)...(27)

## Dozens of Inmates Released from Kunduz Jail

KUNDUZ CITY - Thirty prisoners, including two children, three women and 25 men, were released from a prison in northern Kunduz province, an official said on Wednesday.

The release happened following a presidential decree on the eve of Mujahidin's Victory Day. Before their release, the prisoners were kept in congested rooms.



Prison in charge Col. Mohammad Aslam Kohistani said the inmates were kept in lock-up for killing, kidnapping and other criminal cases and they were undergoing jail terms ranging from six months to one year. He said the released men completed their jail term and some benefited from the presidential decree....(More on P4)...(19)

## Clashes Break out Between "Taliban, Daesh Fighters"

JALALABAD - Armed clashes were underway on Wednesday in two districts of eastern Nangarhar province between two rival and anti-government groups that local people said were linked to the Taliban and the self-styled Islamic State.

The clashes broke out on Wednesday noon in Barhind Ranai area of Kot district and Pan Dara area of Achin district, said the provincial government spokesman.

Ahmad Zia Abdulzai told Pajhwok Afghan News the clashes were ongoing and that both the sides had....(More on P4)...(23)

## Govt. Official Kidnapped, Beheaded



FARAH CITY - Suspected Taliban militants beheaded the statistics department director for the Pusht Rud district of western Farah province, where another dead body of a mechanic was found in Shebkoh district, sources said on Wednesday. The statistics department head, Abdul Razzaq, was kidnapped from his home by five gunmen on Monday....(More on P4)...(24)

## Jobless Afghans Leaving Country to Escape Poverty

KABUL - "The poverty and idleness have left me no choice but to leave the country and find a job abroad to support my family in Afghanistan," Najibullah, 29, told Xinhua recently.

Waiting in a queue behind the gate of the Iranian Embassy here to apply for a visa, Najibullah, who like many Afghans, goes by one name, said that he had looked for a job in his home province

of Kunduz over the past three years, but all in vain. "My first destination is Iran, if fortune sides with me in finding a job with a reasonable income I would stay, otherwise I would move to Europe," the job-seeking Afghan said. Although there are no official statistics about the number of jobless people in Afghanistan and the rate of unemployment in the conflict-ridden country, Basir Noori....(More on P4)...(20)

## Helmand Mosque Siege Ends after Police Kill Assailants



KABUL - The Mosque siege in Lashkargah, provincial capital of Helmand, ended Wednesday afternoon when security forces gunned down two assailants who had stormed the building earlier in the day and taken a number of people hostage, officials said.

The incident happened at around 10:30 am when two would-be suicide bombers, dressed in police uniforms, stormed a Grand Mosque where about 50 members of Ulema Council and local security officials were holding a meeting on violence, insecurity and insurgency....(More on P4)...(22)

## 2 Held with 145 Kg Drugs in Nimroz, Jawzjan

ZARANJ/SHIBERGHAN - Police in southwestern Nimroz and northern Jawzjan provinces on Wednesday arrested two alleged smugglers and recovered 145 kilogram drugs from their possession, officials said.

Police Chief Brig. Gen. Mohammad Qasim Jangal Bagh, said the contraband was concealed in the track and recovered by police during search at the zero point....(More on P4)...(25)

## 6 Policemen, 4 Civilians Dead in Gun Battle

LASHKARGAH - Two militants stormed the governor office in southern Helmand province on Wednesday, forcing their way inside the facility but were engaged by the police and the ensuing battle left 6 policemen, four civilians and an insurgent dead, an eye witness and an official said. 2 rebels were shot dead and 6 policemen were also killed while three civilians wounded in the firefight, sources....(More on P4)...(26)

## Flash Flood Kills 11 in Ghor

CHEKHCHARAN - Hamidullah Dadfar, director of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), said Wednesday that 11 people have been killed in a flash flood in Ghor province.

Four people died in Shahrak, four in Du Layna districts and three others in Ali Yar area of Ghor Capital, Dadfar said.



According to Dadfar, over a hundred homes and thousands of acres of land were damaged in Tuesday's flash flood and that dozens of livestock have also been killed.

Dadfar said traffic was also affected on Ghor-Herat Highway because of damage caused to the road. (Tolonevs)

## Unknown Men Kill Woman, Slit Her Child's Throat

KABUL - A group of unknown men allegedly killed a woman and slit her one-year-old child's throat in Lab-e-Jar area, Kabul city on Monday.

The incident allegedly took place on Monday afternoon at the victims house, which is only a few meters away from two police check points.

The victim's husband Mohammad Nadir claims that on Monday a group of unknown men entered his house and attacked his wife and child.

Nadir said: "I have never had any enemies and I am not in debt to anyone. Also, my wife was not young."

Najib, the victim's nephew said: "Look at our house. Two police check points on either side of my house. If police cannot help people then what are the police for? What is government for? A woman killed in her own house and a child's throat cut... where is the law in this country?"

Meanwhile, doctors treating the child....(More on P4)...(28)

## Terror Group Busted in Herat: Spy Agency

KABUL - A group of terrorists was arrested while busy making bombs during a raid in western Herat province, the spy agency said on Wednesday.

The terrorists were arrested red-handed while making bomb in water gallons, mag-



netic bombs and other IEDs, the National Directorate of Security....(More on P4)...(21)

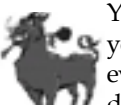
### Outlook Horoscope

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



Your waiting period is over—or is it? You might rush headstrong into a new project or a new relationship, only to discover that all the pieces aren't in place. You may have to do a quick assessment and modify your plans. Unfortunately, it's going to take more quick fix to get everything right. Don't give up; committing to a goal is more important than ever, even if your timetable still needs revision.

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



You're done with being in charge; and now you're ready to step out of the spotlight. However, your change of strategy has nothing to do with lessening your commitment. In fact, you can be more effective by working behind the scenes. Keep your shoulder to the wheel and your eyes on the prize. Success will be yours if you stop worrying about what others think of you.

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



Your enthusiasm is uncontainable until suddenly you see the elephant in the center of the room. Although its presence is a game-changer, reconstructing the past is a waste of time, you should get busy and decide what you're going to do next. It may be an uphill battle at first, but time is on your side as long as you don't panic. You enjoy a good puzzle more than most; figure this one out and you'll be a winner before you know it.

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



You might think that if you just put your head down and work harder you'll meet all your obligations without making any extra waves. However, obstacles may appear on multiple fronts today, preventing you from moving forward. It takes a special kind of courage to look directly at the source of a problem, yet that's exactly what's required.

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



You may feel wildly romantic, but someone's serious demeanor prevents you from acting on your emotions. Although you might believe your happiness is tied to realizing your current fantasies. Back away from the intensity of your passion so you can see the bigger picture now. Releasing your attachment to immediate gratification makes brings a deeper level of satisfaction in the not-so-distant future.

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



You're ready to kick some butt today but your uncharacteristic fierceness may dissipate in the face of resistance. Paradoxically, the stronger you come on to others in the pursuit of your professional goals, the more obstructions you encounter. You could exhaust yourself trying to prove that you mean business. Don't suppress your enthusiasm; instead, channel your passion into your work.

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



Letting everyone know how you feel isn't all that complicated unless you stop to consider how they might react. Obviously, you prefer to play nicely with others and are not inclined to go out of your way to push anyone's emotional buttons. However, your feelings shouldn't be denied just because they are inconvenient. Maintaining a harmonious alignment between your behavior and your heart is valuable.

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



It's time to shake up your routine, especially if your daily habits are not helping you to reach your full potential. You need to listen to your inner rhythms so you can march to your own drumbeat. However, there are additional people involved and this presents a dilemma. The first step toward harmony is to be aware of the differences between your values and the beliefs of others.

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



It doesn't surprise you much when people criticize your choices because your lifestyle doesn't always conform to their expectations. However, the tables may be turned today as others see a more serious side of your personality. The funny thing is you might actually feel cheerful as you take on a project that makes your heart happy. But your relentless drive to produce results could be misinterpreted as an unwillingness to have fun.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



The energy doesn't lighten up today as you continue to struggle to meet looming deadlines. Your first instinct is to bury your emotions, leaving you more mind space to concentrate on the work at hand. Unfortunately, you still could bite off more than you can chew, dispersing your energy rather than focusing it. Reevaluate your commitments early in the day and adjust your schedule as needed.

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



You could be so excited about the variety of possibilities that you lose sight of your real goals. But in your haste to squeeze more into your day, you might inadvertently create impediments to your progress. Avoid the temptation to put lots of irons in the fire. It may feel counter-intuitive, but your smartest strategy now is to eliminate all non-essential activities.

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



You might be working harder than you expected, you have very specific goals in mind now and will do nearly anything to achieve them. Unfortunately, you can't sustain the high level of energy you are currently expending. You might be tempted to shift into overdrive today in order to make better time. However, there are no shortcuts to success; you are running a marathon, not a sprint.



#### Across

- Agreement, 5. Spread out, 10. Trailer trucks, 14. Emanation, 15. Nigerian monetary unit, 16. Dwarf buffalo, 17. Unmoving, 19. A step on a ladder, 20. Pig, 21. French for "Our", 22. Vernacular, 23. Helps, 25. Noise, 27. Former North African ruler, 28. Daydream, 31. Give birth to, 34. A cutting tool, 35. 2,000 pounds, 36. Chopping tools, 37. Kings of the jungle, 38. Ward (off), 39. Buff, 40. Remove errors from, 41. Evanesces, 42. Smudge pot, 44. Letter after sigma, 45. 100 to a dollar, 46. Sully, 50. Death notices, 52. Seasonings, 54. Born as, 55. Extinct flightless bird, 56. Likeness, 58. Dash, 59. Sharpshoot, 60. By mouth, 61. Only, 62. Everglades bird, 63. Writing implements.

#### Down

- Ottoman title, 2. Cars, 3. Steep rugged rocks, 4. Make lace, 5. Bigheaded, 6. Trousers, 7. Teller of untruths, 8. Apprehending, 9. Cheer, 10. Eager, 11. Flooded, 12. Chime, 13. Palm starch, 18. Map within a map, 22. Attraction, 24. Midmonth date, 26. Clods, 28. Muzzle, 29. Area, 30. Terminates, 31. Flying mammals, 32. Test, 33. Murderous, 34. Blocking, 37. Past tense of Leap, 38. Roman deity, 40. Lairs, 41. The language of Persia, 43. A type of organic compound, 44. Pill, 46. Balderdash, 47. Accustom, 48. 4-door car, 49. Scoundrels, 50. Poems, 51. Western tie, 53. Arab chieftain, 56. South southeast, 57. Not bottom

#### Yesterday's Solution



anger, aroma, attend, baton, concern, debris, delve, energy, every, exotic, expert, fight, forge, fudge, goes, great, group, never, offices, online, opinion, peach, peak, reign, round, sandwich, spoon, stare, strange, through, total, trend, urban, women.

