

Flour, Ghee Prices up in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of flour, ghee and Russian gold increased during the outgoing week in the capital Kabul, market source said Saturday. Food Traders' Union head, Fazal Rahman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the price of 49 kilograms of Kazakhstani flour increased from 1,180 Afghanis to 1,245 Afghanis and 16 liters of Khurshid ghee from 1,100 Afghanis to 1,140 Afghanis this week. However, he said 24kg of Pakistani rice cost 1,850afis and 49kg of Pakistani sugar 2,250afis, the same prices of last week's. ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Taliban Leader and 32 Militants Belonging to Red Unit Killed

KABUL - A Taliban leader belonging to the Red Unit of the group was killed during an operation jointly conducted by the Afghan and US forces in southern Helmand province. The provincial government media office in a statement said at least 33 militants including the leader of the group were killed during the operation conducted in Nad-e-Ali district. The statement further added at least 30 militants including the leader of the group were killed during the joint operations involving airstrikes in Nad-e-Ali district. The Taliban leader in command of the Red Unit has been identified as Kamran and had ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

8 Insurgents Killed as Fierce Clashes Erupt in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Eight Taliban fighters have been killed during clashes, which also caused security forces casualties, in southern Ghazni province, an official said on Saturday. Police chief, Brig. Gen. Aminullah Amarkhel, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban attacked security checkpoints in Ghazni City, Deh Yak, Ab Band, Waghaz, and Zankhan districts. He said eight insurgents were killed in the overnight gunbattles. Security personnel also suffered casualties, he added, without providing exact figures. The clashes had ended in all districts except Waghaz, Amarkhel claimed. An inhabitant of the locality, who did not want to be named, said severe clashes were ongoing in Waghaz, where the militants had captured a tank from security forces. Zabihullah Mujahid, Taliban's spokesman, claimed the fighters had overrun Waghaz district, with firefights ongoing in the provincial capital and Deh Yak. *(Pajhwok)*

10 Daesh Militants Killed in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - At least 10 Daesh militants including a senior commander were killed in joint Afghan security forces operations in Chaparhar district of Nangarhar province, the ministry of interior claimed in a statement on Saturday. According to the statement six other Daesh militants were wounded in the operation. During the operation a cache of weapons belonging to the group was also destroyed, the MoI said. No details were given on whether there were any casualties among civilians or security forces. *(Tolonews)*

Senior Taliban Commander Killed in Laghman

KABUL - A senior commander of the Taliban group has been killed along with six other militants in eastern Laghman province. According to the local government officials, the senior Taliban commander killed during the operation has been identified as Faqir Mohammad Khairkha who was killed during an operation on Friday. The officials further added that another Taliban militant was also critically wounded during the operation. The militants suffered the casualties during the Silab-5 operations being conducted in the restive parts of Laghman province, the officials said, adding that the Afghan security forces did not suffer any casualties ...*(More on P4)...(17)*



31 Taliban Rebels Dead in Round-the-Clock Clashes

KABUL - Dozens of Taliban militants have been claimed killed and wounded during a series of clashes with security forces in three provinces over the past 24 hours. Four commanders were among 14 Taliban militants killed during "Operation Selab-5" in the provincial capital and Alingar district of eastern Laghman province, the governor's house said on Saturday. The operation was conducted



in various parts of Mehtarlam and Alingar district last night, a statement issued by the Governor's House said. The statement named the slain ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Several People Killed as Gunmen Attack Bank

GARDEZ - Gunmen entered a bank in Gardez city on Saturday and opened fire, killing at least two people and wounding many more, officials said. An unknown number of attackers struck a bank in Gardez, the capital of Paktia province. The governor's office said at least two people were killed and three more were wounded, with at least three attackers also killed by security forces. An official at the city's hospital said they had received three dead bodies, including two police and one civilian, and had treated 30 wounded people. Officials said security forces were still working to clear the

area, and witnesses reported that fighting was ongoing. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, and the attackers' motives were not immediately clear. Insurgent groups such as the Taliban and Islamic State often carry out attacks in Afghanistan, including in the past on banks, where police, soldiers, and other government employees routinely collect their paychecks. On Wednesday, Islamic State claimed responsibility for a suicide attack on an Afghan state television station that killed at least six people as well as the attackers and wounded 24 in the city of Jalalabad. *(Reuters)*



Taliban Kidnap Legal Advisor for Raghistan District

FAIZABAD - The Taliban have kidnapped the legal advisor for the Raghistan district of northeastern Badakhshan province, officials said on Saturday. Mulavi Abdul Hameed Shahab was forced down his car and taken to an undisclosed location by the insurgents on Friday afternoon, a

district chief said. Amam Ali Hamdard, administrative head of Yaftal Payan, told Pajhwok Afghan News Shahab was kidnapped on his way from Faizabad to Raghistan district in Shai-ber area. A member of the provincial council, Mahboob Rahman

Tulat, said: "I don't think he is being held in Yaftal. In a day or two, it will become clear whether or not Taliban intend to release him." Despite hectic and repeated efforts by Pajhwok, provincial security officials refused to comment on the legal advisor's kidnapping. *(Pajhwok)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

It may seem as if you're starting your day doing those things you intended to do yesterday but never quite got off the ground. Thankfully, the cosmos is giving you a second chance today, so don't wait for a better moment. Although you can ride on the energy generated when the Moon shifts into enterprising Aries, it's easier to get started than it is to finish whatever you begin.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You want to come clean today by sharing your feelings with a close friend or romantic interest. However, opening your heart isn't as simple as it is in books or movies. Each time you start to say something, your words precipitate a defensive reaction. Your tendency is to emotionally withdraw, rather than questioning the reasons behind this dynamic now.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You have so much spring in every step today that you may be bouncing off the walls. Unfortunately, you are so emotionally reactive now that your unbridled enthusiasm could hinder your productivity. The ardent Aries Moon activates your 11th House of Long-Term Goals, but there's no reason to let your irrepressible energy ruin your plans when you can channel it to your advantage.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You may be feeling the pressure as you try to clarify your next move. Red lights are turning green and you are eager to hit the gas pedal. However, you don't know your current location and your GPS can't get a proper signal. Instead of admitting defeat, start asking questions and see who comes up with the best solutions.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

There's no holding you back today; in fact, you're like a bird that's outgrown its nest, free to soar on the winds of change. You might grow nostalgic now as you take a quick trip down Memory Lane. But don't spend too much time reminiscing about the past. Luckily, you're ready to explore new lands without carrying any emotional baggage.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You are fearless when pursuing an emotional connection today. Although you tend to be rather cautious when delving into the realm of passions, the presence of the brash Aries Moon in your 8th House of Deep Sharing emboldens you to sink into the mysterious shadows. However, you could be so intense in your desire for affection that you scare away the very person you want to attract.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Everyone seems overly demanding today and you don't know whether or not you can provide what they want. Naturally, you enjoy making others happy, but you're not willing to engage with someone who is acting mean-spirited. It really doesn't take much effort to be nice. When people treat you like they don't care, believe them. You will rest easier once you make a clear dis-

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You might be right on the edge of a serious conflict, yet you can't figure out how you arrived at this uncomfortable spot today. It's as if you walked into a story that was already written, but you're not interested in arguing with a loved one over whose way to do something is better. Nevertheless, it can be very annoying if someone says they have a superior method.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You are so friendly today that almost no one can resist your charm. Although you're not seeking the depth and intensity that some might require in a conversation, your lighthearted approach offers a sweet respite to even the most serious person. There's no doubt about who you are while the spontaneous Aries Moon activates your 5th House of Self-Express-

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Your ambitious nature may have already prompted you to make big plans for the day. However, you secretly wish you could scrap them and just follow your whims. Fortunately, with a little shuffling you can walk away from an overly structured agenda and just take each twist and turn as it arrives today. Paradoxically, you'll end up accomplishing more with less on your schedule now.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You want to rattle cages and raise eyebrows today. You're on the hunt for something totally out of the box now that the Moon charges into impulsive Aries and your 3rd House of Distractions. The big question is how can you creatively express the absolute uniqueness of being you? Sufi poet Rumi's response was, "I want a trouble-maker for a lover, blood spiller, blood drinker, a heart of flame.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

A plethora of innovative money-making schemes are popping into your head now. You're riding a creative rush, yet good ideas don't turn into practical plans on their own. Unfortunately, methodical thinking doesn't come easily today; it's more natural to jump from one epiphany to another without following through on anything. Ironically, there's no reason to force a potential opportunity into reality.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-71.

Across: 1. Pirate's pal, 6. Affirm, 10. Brass instrument, 14. San Antonio fort, 15. Location, 16. Applications, 17. Sensational, 18. Counterfoil, 19. Flows, 20. Showman, 22. Piece of glass, 23. 53 in Roman numerals, 24. Egg dish, 26. At one time (archaic), 30. Santa's helper, 31. 2,000 pounds, 32. Grizzly, 33. Homosexuals, 35. "Smallest particles", 39. A systematic plan for therapy, 41. Daytime performance, 43. Relative of a giraffe, 44. 2 2 2 2, 46. Close, 47. Autonomic nervous system, 49. Not cold, 50. Feudal worker, 51. Azotic, 54. Bit of gossip, 56. Modify, 57. Hard coal, 63. Dry riverbed, 64. Be worthy of, 65. Fanatical, 66. Not this, 67. Afflicts, 68. What a bee might do, 69. Only, 70. Decay from overripening, 71. Row of shrubs. Down: 1. A landlocked African republic, 2. Astringent, 3. Canvas, 4. Arab chieftain, 5. Alpine call, 6. Attacker, 7. Change into glass, 8. Decorative case, 9. Restart a computer, 10. Paint thinner, 11. Normal, 12. Sesame seed, 13. Something of value, 21. Blockade, 25. Protective ditch, 26. River of Spain, 27. Stink, 28. Epic, 29. Three-party, 34. Not the roughest, 36. 1 1 1 1, 37. Average, 38. Arid, 40. Short skirt, 42. Daisylike bloom, 45. Pare, 48. Dung beetle, 51. Salamanders, 52. Potato state, 53. Related to tides, 55. Fen, 58. Found on a finger, 59. Provisions, 60. Footnote note, 61. Bell sound, 62. Border.

Yesterday's Solution: HALLS WOKIE EATS, AWAIT ARID UPON, HORRIFYING CANE, ALKALI ODE ARIA, TROLL BLACK, SCAR WEEKLY, HATEFUL DIESEI, ERODIES RETTIRE, DEMETER INDULGE, CASERN SOON, CAROL DEKES, AGAR BUS OPPOSE, NADA OGCASITONAL, ETAT LEUD CLUNK, SERE ODES YSESES.

Word search grid with words: AFRICA, CHAIN, DIRT, SUDAN, BFOUNDED, URTMAXIMUMFTO, RNIBIDTSPREEI, VITMURDEHTTCN, ITLIONTIERITT, VUEFDEAGTZULE, ERFRLYDDBBIUBR, EEAPOIURLDOUV, REMEMBERAERNE, HOGARDENSXGTN, CFRONTLSTLAI, VOLUMECLEANLU.