

Reconciled Rebels Return to Battlefield in Takhar

TALOQAN - Dozens of reconciled Taliban insurgents have rejoined their comrades after getting government privileges in north-eastern Takhar province, an official said on Saturday. The insurgents, who rejoined the Taliban, are now currently engaged in clashes with security forces in Darqad, Khwaja Ghar and some other districts, Takhar police chief Noor Mohammad Hakimi told Pajhwok Afghan News. "The insurgents were encouraged by the government to put down their weapons and reconcile, but they betrayed and returned to their group and have been recently fighting



against security forces. Four of them were killed last week by security forces," he said. Provincial High Peace Committee head in Takhar, Mamoor Hassan, confirmed Hakimi's account and said he was also worried about the insurgents' recent act. He said insurgents joining the peace process were given monthly stipends and residences for a period of time. "The High Peace Council does not give us budget when we need it and that's why some reconciled insurgents were killed by their ex-comrades and others returned the battlefield," he added. (Pajhwok)

Pro-Gov't Leader Shot Dead

KUNDUZ - A pro-government leader had been killed in an armed attack in Afghanistan's northern province of Kunduz, a local official said on Saturday. "A group of armed militants on Friday evening laid an ambush near the house of Noor Mohammad Kakar in Qalay-i-Zal district, killing Noor on the spot," district Governor Mahbullah Sayyedi told Xinhua. The killed leader's son was also killed in the latest targeted attack against tribal leaders and influential figures, according to governor. He blamed Taliban militant group for the attack. The civilians considered to be supporting government, civilian government employees, religious leaders, tribal elders and people involved in peace and reconciliation efforts came under attack in targeted killings. ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Kerala Massacre: Call to Punish Living Perpetrators

ASADABAD - Families of the 1,260 civilians killed in the Kerala village of Asadabad, the capital eastern Kunar province in 1979, have once again demanded the government punish the perpetrators of the mass killing. The inhabitants of the area say the Kerala massacre took place on April 20, 1979, when 1260 people were killed by the Soviets-backed communist regime of the Khalqi branch of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDDPA). A resident of Kerala, Maulvi Obaidullah Ba-



hari, said his 10 relatives, including his father and three paternal and six maternal uncles, were killed in the massacre. He said they had repeatedly demanded prosecution of the killers but that never happened. Some of the murderers were still alive but they were never tried, he said. He told Pajhwok Afghan News they had been asking every government for punishing the perpetrators, but no one heard ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Taliban's IED Planter, Terrorist Attacks Organizer Arrested

JALALABD - A Taliban group member who was involved in planting Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was arrested during a military operation of the Afghan intelligence operatives in Nangarhar. The National Directorate of Security (NDS) said Fazlullah was actively involved in planting IEDs and organizing terrorist attacks in Kot district. A statement by NDS said Fazlullah was arrested during an operation and several explosives and weapons were confiscated from him during the raid. According to the NDS, the weapons and explosives seized from Fazlullah included a pistol, a rifle, IED

remote control, 2 grenade fuses and some other explosives used for making of IEDs. The Taliban insurgents and militants belonging to the other insurgent groups are frequently using Improvised Explosive Device (IED) as the weapon of their choice to target the security forces. The IEDs are the main contributors to the casualties of the Afghan security forces but are also considered as a key factor in growing civilian casualties. At least 600 civilians were killed and 1,343 others were wounded in the first quarter of 2016, the United ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

UNAMA Guard Kills One Colleague, Injures Another in Kabul

KABUL - An Afghan guard fired at his colleagues in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) on Friday, killing a security guard and wounding another staff member, officials said. "The United Nations in Afghanistan confirms that a security guard at one of its compounds in Kabul was killed today in a shooting incident," a statement from the UN mission said. One



UNAMA staff member was also injured in the incident, but his wounds are not life-threatening. "The circumstances around this tragic incident are still being investigated." UNAMA extended its condolences to the family of the victim and wished the injured staffer a speedy recovery. What prompted the attack is yet to be known. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Suicide Bomber Hits NATO Convoy near Kabul

KABUL - The NATO-led military coalition in Afghanistan said a suicide bomber struck one of its vehicles north of Kabul Saturday but caused no casualties to its personnel. The attack occurred in Bagram district, which hosts the largest U.S. military airbase in Afghanistan, about 55 kilometers from the Afghan capital. "Resolute Support can confirm that one coalition vehicle was struck by a personnel borne IED (improvised explosives device) this morning in



the vicinity of Bagram. Despite Taliban claims and reports in the media, there were no injuries to coalition personnel involved," said a statement the NATO-led coalition released in Kabul. Claimed responsibility Earlier, a Taliban spokesman, Zabiullah Mujahid, claimed responsibility for the suicide car bombing on a convoy of ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Taliban Gunmen Kill Tribal Elder in Kandahar

KANDAHAR CITY - Taliban militants shot dead a tribal elder in a targeted killing in the capital of southern Kandahar province on Saturday, an official said. The elder, Hidayatullah, was shot dead in the Aino Mina area around 10am, the governor's spokesman, Samim Khpalwak, told Pajhwok Afghan News. The attackers fled after the crime but security

forces had launched a hunt to arrest them, he said. A Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, said Hidayatullah worked for the spy agency, the National Directorate of Security (NDS), and Shah Wali Karzai, a brother of former president Hamid Karzai. However, Khpalwak said the elder had no government job. (Pajhwok)

4 IS Militants Killed in Drone Strike

JALALABAD - Four militants of the Islamic State (IS) had been killed in a U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan's eastern province of Nangarhar, the provincial government said on Saturday. "The drone strike occurred in Kamkai village, Achin district late on Friday. The bombing also destroyed a heavy gun of the IS fighters, but caused no casualties among the villagers," it said in a statement. The Afghan security forces have beefed up security operations against militants recently as spring and summer known as fighting seasons are drawing near in the country. Achin district bordering Pakistan has been the scene of heavy clashes between IS militants and security forces backed by pro-government local militiamen over the past couple of months. The militant group has yet to make comments. (Xinhua)

Sar-I-Pul Clashes Leave 5 Dead, 10 Wounded

SAR-I-PUL - One security man and four insurgents were killed and another three security men and seven rebels were wounded during separate clashes in northern Sar-i-Pul province, the governor said on Saturday. Mohammad Zahir Wahdat told a press conference here that four Taliban fighters were killed and seven others wounded during a security operation in Shiram locality of Sar-i-Pul city. He said seven villages were also cleared of insurgents as a result of the operation. After the operation, he said, the rebels stormed security check posts in Sozma Qala district, killing one security personnel and injuring three others. Two military vehicles were also destroyed during the ensuing clash. However, Syedullah Danish, deputy provincial council head, said two military tanks and many security check points and some ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



It's wonderful to be so positive about your current activities but you must be careful today so you don't blow through your resources. Often, your waves of excitement can come and go quickly, tempting you to spontaneously expend your energy while it lasts. However, the expansive Sagittarius Full Moon brightens your 9th House of Future Vision.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Responding to changes in interpersonal dynamics is especially exhausting when the enthusiastic Sagittarius Full Moon overwhelms your 8th House of Intimacy and Transformation. Typically, you prefer a more methodical approach to navigating through your life. Unfortunately, there's no time to waste now, so muster up your courage and find a way to flow with the current energy.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



No extra coffee for you this morning; your life is already popping and you have a better chance of enjoying the high-frequency buzz if you remember to set healthy limits. Nevertheless, you're sorely tempted to say yes to the next invitation because everything sounds fantastic while the Sagittarius Full Moon expands the energy of your 7th House of Others. Unfortunately, each avenue of exploration leads to a world full of possible distractions.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Avoiding your normal routine enables you to take a risk today when impulsive Mars ignites the Sagittarius Full Moon in your 6th House of Work. Thankfully, your common sense will most likely prevail before you climb too far out on a limb. If you go after your heart's desire, don't be afraid of falling short of your professional goals.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You know what you must do now and you're okay about doing it, even if it means you must put your creative self on the line. Still, you may be left with a tight feeling in the pit of your stomach because something is out of balance. Although the extroverted Sagittarius Full Moon emboldens your 5th House of Self-Expression, you might not be able to initiate action. Even if you are extremely busy.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Absorbing so much new information in a short amount of time can be quite the dilemma. You prefer incoming data to arrive at a regulated pace, allowing you to efficiently process each bit of news and then manage what's next. Unfortunately, you could be deprived of this luxury now if you can't slow the energy down. Fortunately, the philosophical Sagittarius Full Moon illuminates your 4th House of Roots, helping you get back to the basics.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You may wish to minimize the unpredictability and chaos people bring into your life while the boisterous Sagittarius Full Moon lights up your 3rd House of Immediate Environment. Although others might seem too high-strung now for your easygoing style, you will still likely miss the exhilaration once you retreat. Thankfully, recognizing your ambiguity helps to relieve your current frustration.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You don't feel threatened by an emotionally intense interaction that's lurking in the shadows. The Sagittarius Full Moon joins warrior Mars to strengthen your 2nd House of Self-Esteem, helping you understand the connection between communication and intimacy. But someone else's avoidance of an issue is enough to make you want to scream now.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Kicking back to relax seems nearly impossible today because you don't want to miss anything while you're taking a break. Combative Mars joins the Full Moon in your sign, heightening your concerns that someone could gain a competitive edge if you retreat to rest. On the other hand, you don't have enough energy to do battle with anyone over a minor difference. Stop trying to second-guess what you should or shouldn't do.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan.19)



You have a compelling story to tell today, but finding the right person to listen is a real challenge while the Sagittarius Full Moon activates your 12th House of Privacy. You are understandably resistant to opening up your heart to just anyone; it needs to be someone who supports your dreams. But your current words may elicit an unexpected reaction that derails your original agenda.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

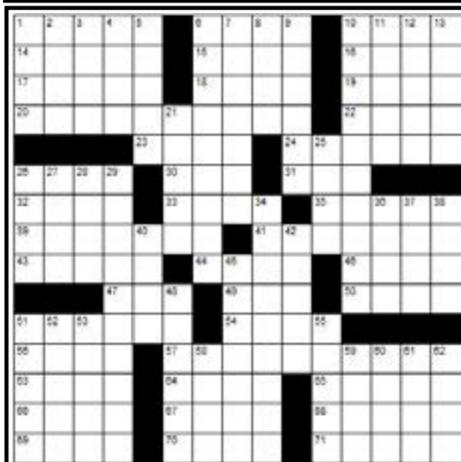


Your progressive plans require the participation of others, but it could get messy trying to convince them to join your cause. It's hard to understand why anyone would resist the possibility of creating a memorable event, but your idea of a good time isn't necessarily the same as everyone else's now. Ironically, the Sagittarius Full Moon shines in your 11th House of Social Networking.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You may seem like a mother hen today as you try to protect your friends and family by gathering them under your wings. The idealistic Sagittarius Full Moon impassions your 10th House of Public Responsibility, enticing you to let your own responsibilities slide while you help another person who needs your assistance. Remember, even performing compassionate deeds has its limits.



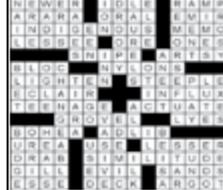
Across

1. Type of hat, 6. Competent, 10. 500 sheets, 14. Practical, 15. Aspersion, 16. Therefore, 17. A financial examination, 18. Palm starch, 19. A female domestic, 20. Demoralized, 22. Small island, 23. Fizzy drink, 24. High regard, 26. Unwackable state, 30. Small rounded bread, 31. Drunkard, 32. Dry, 33. Greek letter, 35. Expire, 39. Nouveau-riche, 41. Strong and proud, 43. Slumber, 44. Whirl, 46. Cover with plaster, 47. Mesh, 49. Directed, 50. Catch a glimpse of, 51. Hits, 54. Again, 56. South American country, 57. Squadron, 63. Winglike, 64. Nipple, 65. "Bye", 66. French for "Head", 67. Arid, 68. Schemes, 69. Clairvoyant, 70. Terminates, 71. Twilled fabric.

Down

1. Group of two, 2. Decorative case, 3. Purges, 4. Radar signal, 5. Abominable snowmen, 6. Diligent, 7. Conspicuous, 8. Olympic sled, 9. Wears away, 10. A payment of money, 11. Delete, 12. Lissome, 13. Modulator/ demodulator, 21. Batman's sidekick, 25. Alone, 26. Hats, 27. By mouth, 28. Bog, 29. Gambler, 34. Disaffects, 36. Desserts, 37. Trim, 38. Evasive, 40. Type of sword, 42. Ceased, 45. Poster, 48. Sleeping sickness carrier, 51. Arguments, 52. Donnybrook, 53. Angry, 55. Cloaks, 58. Observed, 59. Doing nothing, 60. Teller of, untruths, 61. Not short, 62. Being.

Yesterday's Solution



arrears, attribute, bawdy, better, brown, chaste, cheek, cheer, clean, clover, dirty, dross, filth, frenzy, galore, group, impetu, ous, inside, instant, jumble, later, manners, money, peer, piano, quote, sank, saucy, since, snack, speak, spirit, taste, teas, toed.

