

12 Detained over Robbery, Kidnapping Charges

JALALABAD - A dozen individuals have been arrested over their alleged involvement in robberies and kidnappings in Nangarhar and Ghazni provinces, officials said on Saturday.

Police rescued an 8-year-old kidnapped boy and detained two kidnapers in Batkot district of Nangarhar, police chief Sayedgul Aqa Rohani told a press conference here.

The boy, Shahidullah, hailing from Achin district, has been currently living with his family in the 1st municipal district of Jalalabad, the provincial capital. Rohani said five individuals involved in robberies were detained along with



three pistols in the 3rd municipal district of Jalalabad city. The robbers had confessed to their crimes to during police interrogation.

According to Rohani, police had separately recovered two Kalashnikovs, intoxicating drugs and four masks from a vehicle during a patrol in Surkh Rod district of the province.

In Ghazni, a five-member group of thieves, who snatched one million rupees from a moneychanger a week back, was apprehended by police in the provincial capital, Ghazni City.

Crime investigation branch chief Mohammad Qahir ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

1 Person Killed, 2 Injured as Blast Targets District Governor Van

JALALABAD - At least one person was killed and two others injured as a bomb blast struck the vehicle of a district governor in the eastern Nangarhar province on Saturday, a spokesman for provincial governor Attaullah Khogiani confirmed.

"Governor of Batkot district, Hajji Ghalib Majahid, was probably on the way to office today in the morning rush hour when an explosion obviously a sticky bomb targeted his vehicle killing his driver and injured the governor along with a bodyguard,"

Khogiani told Xinhua. Earlier another official on the condition of anonymity said that the attack on district governor was a roadside bomb organized by militants.

Investigation has been initiated into the case to determine the nature of the blast and bring to justice the culprits involved in the attack, Khogiani asserted.

Neither Taliban nor Islamic State militants who are active in parts of Nangarhar province have claimed responsibility for the attack. (Xinhua)

Badakhshan Police Claim Seizing 123kg of Drugs

FAIZABAD - Twenty-five kilograms of heroin and 98 kilograms of opium have been seized by police in Kishim district of northeastern Badakhshan province.

Badakhshan counter-narcotics head Col. Suhrah Rasooli told Pajhwok Afghan News on Saturday the drugs had been placed skillfully in a truck that was intercepted at a police check-point in the district.

Rasooli said one person detained in connection with the drugs was being investigated by police. However, he did not reveal the identity of the suspect.

Rasooli also didn't provide any information about where the drugs had been loaded to the truck and where were being taken to.

The official said police had confiscated 51 kg of heroin, 98 kg of opium and 9486 kg of ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Commander among 5 Taliban Killed in Farah Drone Strike

FARAH - Five Taliban militants, including a local commander, have been killed in a US drone strike in the Khaki-Safid district of western Farah province, an official said on Saturday.

District chief Abdul Khaliq Noorzai told Pajhwok Afghan News the drone strike took place on Friday afternoon in Diwal-i-Surkh locality.

He said was Haji Jabbar, a key Taliban commander in the area, among the dead. The Taliban have not yet commented on the drone strike. (Pajhwok)



Taliban Blamed for Killing two Civilians in Faryab

MAIMANA - The Taliban on Saturday shot dead two civilians seized from a passenger bus in the Sherin Tagab district of northeastern Faryab province, an official said.

The district's administrative chief, Syed Luqman Kharik, identified the victims as Ghulam Sakhi and Naqibullah, residents of Torat Kol and Pogani areas of Sherin Tagab.

A poor man with four children, Sakhi's wife passed away eight years back. He planned a second marriage, said a

resident of locality, who voiced shock over his killing. He wondered what the militants had gained from Shaki's killing. An elder of the Pogani area said Naqibullah was 25-year-old, a common man who recently went to Balkh province to get a visa for Iran.

Taliban leaders in Faryab said they were unaware of the killings. However, they acknowledged a man civilian Niamatullah had been killed by a Taliban group without informing the top leadership. (Pajhwok)

Kapisa Police Official Survives Bomb Attack in Kabul

KABUL - The deputy police chief for central Kapisa province on Saturday survived a bomb attack that injured a driver in capital Kabul, an official said.

Crime branch chief at 101st Kabul Asmayee Zone Police, Col. Feraidon Ubaidi, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place when a magnetic bomb affixed to the police official's vehicle went off at around 9am.

Four people, including the Kapisa deputy police chief, were traveling in the vehicle when the blast occurred. The police official survived the blast that injured only his driver. The injured person was ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

1 Civilian Killed, 3 Injured as Rockets Fired by Militants

ASSADABAD - At least one civilian was killed and three others injured as five rockets fired by militants slammed into residential areas in Assadabad, the capital of Afghanistan's eastern Kunar province, 185 km east of Kabul on Saturday, deputy to provincial police chief said.

"Anti-government insurgents fired five rockets onto Assadabad city this morning leaving one innocent civilian dead and injuring three others," ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Teenage Rape Victim from Balkh Seeks Justice

KABUL - An 18-year-old girl, who claims to be sexually assaulted by a district police chief and three other armed men in northern Balkh province, has asked President Ashraf Ghani to provide her justice or she would burn herself.

The victim named as Maryam arrived in capital Kabul four days ago. She told Pajhwok Afghan News an armed man entered their house at night and threatened her with death.

"It was night and the month



of Ramadan. I was sleep at home. My father had gone to Mazar-i-Sharif for treatment of my younger brother. My another bother and a sister were sleeping in our room. I saw one armed man standing close to my bed and he warned me of death if I shouted. He took me with him by force." ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Journalist Nematullah Zaheer Buried in Wardak

KABUL - Afghan journalist Nematullah Zaheer, who was killed in an IED explosion in Helmand this week, was laid to rest in Wardak on Saturday following a prayer ceremony in Kabul.

Zaheer, who had worked for Ariana news, died when the vehicle he was traveling in hit a roadside mine near Lashkargah on Friday.

Zaheer's body was brought to Kabul by plane on Saturday. Dozens of journal-



ists and friends carried his body to Kampani in Kabul where a prayer service was held. Zaheer's body was then taken to Sayed Abad district in Wardak, his home province, where he was buried.

"He had never rejected my requests. When I asked him to do something, he was always willing and said I will do so," said ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Exploring new territory with a friend or lover can be invigorating and could even pump new life into your relationship if it's lost some of its spice. You are in the mood to experiment while innovative Uranus in your pioneering sign stimulates pleasurable Venus in your 9th House of Adventure. Although your day won't likely go as planned.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



It might not be such a simple task to keep your feelings in check today. In fact, you may be on the lookout for new forms of emotional connection when progressive Uranus trines sexy Venus. Fortunately, the practical Capricorn Moon can bring you back down to earth, but it may not be enough to convince you to accept the status quo.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Freethinking friends make perfect allies in activities that can ultimately energize your spirit. Luckily, a harmonious trine between delicious Venus and maverick Uranus allows you to establish valuable connections without losing your sense of independence. Regrets are easily left behind today as you are released from previous agreements, giving you a chance to exercise your right to work and play in ways that are meaningful to you.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Your friends may be extremely surprised by your unconventional behavior if you don't suppress some of your passions today. Nevertheless, you're being challenged by your unfulfilled needs to step out into the open in full view of others. Although you might take your own sweet time to reveal your feelings, you can't resist the desires of your heart for long.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You can make your radical ideas seem more compelling today by putting your heart into your presentation. People will praise you for your originality as you explore new forms of self-expression, fueled by a smooth trine from unorthodox Uranus to playful Venus in your 5th House of Creativity.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You are very clear about what you want today. Although you wish everyone would intuitively know what you need while the Moon is moving through your 5th House of Love, you must come up with the words to explain your position. Nevertheless, the presence of vulnerable Venus in your 4th House of Home and Family encourages discretion rather than communication. But life is too short to hide your feelings.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You're open to unusual forms of play today and your uninhibited approach attracts new people who find your fun-loving personality alluring. The cosmos is giving you permission to experience pleasure without commitment now. You can live comfortably in the moment and share your newfound sources of joy with equally open-minded individuals.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You're eager to explore new ways to break up the routine of your daily life and free yourself from old patterns. However, the earthy Capricorn Moon helps to settle your energy in spite of your current rebellious attitude. Nevertheless, the unfulfilled potential for positive change fills the air and encourages you to take a chance and reinvent yourself.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You are all set to break a few social rules today because you believe you can have a blast without getting into too much trouble. A smooth trine from sensual Venus in your sign to wild Uranus encourages you to experiment with your sense of identity. Radically changing your appearance might attract extra attention and make your day more fun. Although you may think anything goes.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You're excited to sink into your fantasies today, but tend to keep your mental explorations to yourself. Seductive Venus in your 12th House of Secrets harmonizes with wild and crazy Uranus, activating desires that are normally suppressed. A long-standing romantic possibility can spark the air with excitement even without saying a word. Although you might be attracted to something or someone that exists only within your mind.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

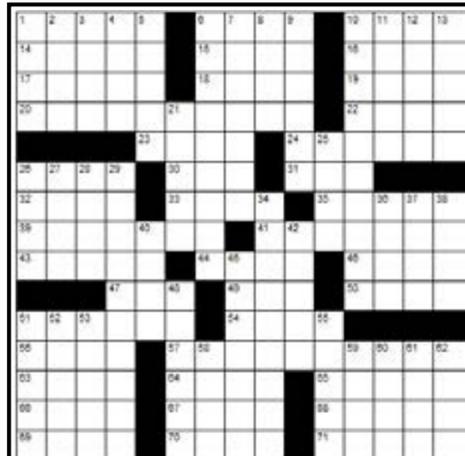


You are quick to respond to unconventional sources of fun and are willing to try an irreverent approach to overcome someone's resistance. A brilliant Venus-Uranus trine inspires you to seek the enthusiastic support of your peers. Experimenting with alternative ways of interacting with others could produce surprising results today.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Unexpected twists and turns can lure you off the beaten path today as unusual desires inspire your spontaneity. You might enjoy defying the rules now, but a momentary pleasure might cost more than you want to pay. Nevertheless, you're likely to enjoy yourself while the fun lasts as vivacious Venus forms a sweet trine with rebellious Uranus. Although irresistible cravings embolden your behavior.



Across

- Alpha's opposite, 6. Fog, 10. Saturate, 14. A radioactive gaseous element, 15. Against, 16. Hodgepodge, 17. Growing old, 18. Leveling wedge, 19. Half-moon tide, 20. Written material, 22. Melody, 23. The original matter (cosmology), 24. Andean animals, 26. Insulation, 30. Genus of macaws, 31. Hankering, 32. Chills and fever, 33. Cans, 35. Celebrates, 39. Wailer, 41. Weblike, 43. Muse of love poetry, 44. Sow, 46. Lascivious look, 47. European peak, 49. Delay, 50. Being, 51. Stimulating drink, 54. Barely managed, 56. Prospector's find, 57. Not oriental, 63. Ammunition, 64. Bit of dust, 65. "Odyssey" sorceress, 66. Boyfriend, 67. Not amateurs, 68. Leg joints, 69. Male offspring.

Down

- By mouth, 2. Wise men, 3. Modify, 4. Departed, 5. Mad, 6. Proficiencies, 7. Cold-blooded, 8. Blend, 9. At an opportune time, 10. Baby's soft spot, 11. A part of the small intestine, 12. Tropical vine, 13. Runs, 21. Winged, 25. Not right, 26. Baseball great, Ruth, 27. Food thickener, 28. Bluefin, 29. Possessing a hard shell, 34. Stealthiest, 36. Fastens, 37. Anagram of "Seek", 38. Arid, 40. Puncture, 42. Nosed (out), 45. Voter, 48. Cue, 51. Tattles, 52. Juliet's love, 53. Flack, 55. Packs of playing cards, 58. Daughter of Zeus and Demeter, 59. 3 times 3, 60. Tall woody plant, 61. Breezed through, 62. Not more.

Yesterday's Solution



blood, brother, carnal, carry, close, competition, contests, core, directive, engineer, essence, express, foods, great, heist, knock, large, lark, limit, loin, lunch, makes, male, meteor, method, model, needs, person, prime, program, quest, rare, redeem, rise.

