

# Daesh Claims Credit for Pakistani Diplomat's Murder



PESHAWAR - The Khorasan chapter of the Islamic State (IS), a Middle Eastern terrorist outfit also known as Daesh, has claimed responsibility for the killing of a Pakistani diplomat in Afghanistan.

Rana Nayyar Iqbal, an employee of the Pakistan Consulate General in Jalalabad, was shot dead by unidentified gunmen near his residence in the Nangarhar capital on Monday evening.

In a message on its website Aimaq, the insurgent group claimed credit for killing Nayyar Iqbal. However, Daesh did not say why it had murdered the 62-year-old consulate staffer. ...*(More on P4)...*(14)

## Helmand Man Builds Solar-Powered Water Pump



KABUL - A man in the southern province of Helmand has designed a solar-powered water pump which is able to pump water by using only sunlight. Dad Mohammad, 25, who designed the device, said he wants to invent such devices in order to help people in underdeveloped provinces. He said this can be used for agricultural purposes and for pumping clean drinking water in remote areas where there is no electricity. He said local people have shown a great interest in the pump. "The idea came to mind when I saw the residents had no access to electricity and the people were purchasing Pakistani and Chinese water pumps - but this water pump ...*(More on P4)...*(15)

## No Side to Win Afghan War: Reform Movement

KABUL - The Afghanistan Reform Movement (ARM) on Wednesday expressed concern over increasing insecurity, corruption and grabbing of government land, demanding fundamental reforms in government organs. Members of ARM, a coalition of several political parties and civil society organizations, told a press conference here that the deteriorated security situation, grabbing of government lands, corruption and discrimination against tribes had badly affected the masses. Abdul Hadi Hedayat, ARM head, said dozens of Afghan youth were intentionally being killed on a daily basis for unknown reasons. "The conflict is ongoing in many provinces, joblessness and youth's ...*(More on P4)...*(16)

## New Zealand PM Promises Probe into 2010 Baghlan Raid

KABUL - The prime minister of New Zealand has promised an investigation into the killing of Afghan civilians in an airstrike by Kiwi soldiers, a media report said on Wednesday. Six civilians were killed and 15 others injured in a 2010 raid by the New Zealand Special Air Service in northern Baghlan province, allege journalists Nicky Hager and Jon Stephenson in their book. According to the New Zealand Herald, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said her government would look further into allegations about SAS actions in Baghlan. To the query if her government would investigate the allegations, the premier replied her party had voiced serious concerns about the alleged civilian casualties. ...*(More on P4)...*(20)

## Uprising Commander, Wife Killed in Faryab

MAIMANA - Taliban shot dead a former militia leader and his wife in Pashtunkot district of northern Faryab province, an official said on Wednesday. The incident took place in Surkhab area of the district on Tuesday night, the provincial police headquarters said. Abdul Jalil, 37, a public uprising group commander, with his wife, Zulaikha, 31, had been displaced to Maimana city after the collapse of Surkhab area. The couple returned to their previous home on Tuesday. Hayatullah Surkhabi, Pashtunkot police chief, said Abdul Jalil had been serving in public uprising and recently tied the knot with Zulaikha, a widow and mother of three children. After knowing about the return of Jalil, Taliban launched a search and found them last night and killed them both. *(Pajhwok)*

## After 10 Years Delay, Asphalt of 60-Km Road Begins

FARAH CITY - Work on asphalt of a 60-kilometer road has been launched in the Pashtunkot district of western Farah province, an official said on Wednesday. Asphalt of the 123-km road was initiated in 2007 by the Quest Construction Company, with financial assistance from Iran. Public Works Director Salim Farahi told Pajhwok Afghan News: "About a 63-km part of the road has been asphalted, but work on the remaining 60-km stretch has been suspended for 10 years due to insecurity." He said asphalt of the 60-kilometer road -- connecting Pashtunkot district centre with the provincial capital -- began on Tuesday. *(Pajhwok)*

## All 15 Militants Gunned Down in Wardak Base Attack: Police Chief



KABUL - The provincial police chief said that at least 15 insurgents had tried to infiltrate the base during a suicide bombing attack, but that all were killed. Wardak Police Chief Fahim Qaim, said Tuesday that all 15 militants were killed by Afghan security forces in a Taliban attack on an Afghan National Police (ANP) training center in Dasht-e Top area of the province. Maidan Wardak police chief said at least 15 militants attacked the base, but that security forces killed all attackers. No casualties were reported among Afghan forces. "About 06:00 pm local time enemies of Afghanistan's people wanted to attack Afghan National Police (ANP) training center in Dasht-e Top area and wanted to get inside but security forces, worked well together, and ended the attack which was a big achievement," said Qaim. "The enemy first detonated (explosives in a) vehicle at the entrance gate ...*(More on P4)...*(19)

## 22 Rebels Eliminated in Ghazni Offensive



GHAZINI CITY - At least 22 insurgents were killed in an air and ground offensive in the Khogyani district of southern Ghazni province, an official said on Thursday. The last night operation left another 10 rebels, including a commander, wounded, the official said, but the Taliban rejected the fighters had suffered any casualties. Ghazni governor's spokesman, Mohammad Arif Noori, told Pajhwok Afghan News 22 insurgents were killed and a rebel commander named Dr. Khalil was among 10 others wounded ...*(More on P4)...*(17)

### Outlook Horoscope

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



**Aries** You believe you have a wonderful plan today, but you're not quite sure how all the pieces will fit into place. It's so easy to share your feelings with someone special that you might not consider all the factors that are converging on the current circumstances.

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



**Taurus** You can tell that pleasure is yours for the asking today but, ironically, you may not know who to ask. Nevertheless, you're so motivated by the idea of indulgence that you're still willing to start your quest. On the surface, your path to fulfillment could seem straightforward yet grows more complex once you begin.

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



**Gemini** In a perfect world, you could harness your colorful creativity and channel it into your job. You might even gain recognition for your self-expression. However, in the real world, you may end up frustrated if you assume you'll be able to mix work and play without provoking trouble. Nevertheless, you can reduce the pressure to perform by changing the rules of the game.

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



**Cancer** Although your dreams inspire you to strive for success, you might lack the fiery ambition to do something about making them come true. Unfortunately, inaction isn't a viable option now, because it leads to dissatisfaction later. Thankfully, there is a middle path that enables you to find peace of mind today.

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



**Leo** You're eager to step into the spotlight today and put on a show that will delight your audience. You might think that you can play nearly any role you wish, but others won't be as convinced if your character is too far removed from reality. The most important factor now is your imagination.

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



**Virgo** You can list the pros and cons of working closely with someone else now, but you can't decide if collaboration is worth the extra stress. It's as if your vision is warped simultaneously by your dreams of success and your fears of failure. Unfortunately, rational analysis won't help you cut through the current clouds of illusion. In fact, clarity may remain elusive today, no matter what you do.

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



**Libra** Your friends and associates may misinterpret your actions today, leaving you unsure of where you stand. But you're less concerned about carrying out your plans than you are about maintaining a solid relationship with your support network. If you become aware of a growing gulf between you and others, your self-confidence could suffer.

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



**Scorpio** Connecting with like-minded folks who share your goals is at the top of your agenda today. However, you may be so driven to succeed that others find you too overbearing for their comfort. You can lay on the charm whenever you choose, but your motives will still be obvious enough that people might see through your mask.

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



**Sagittarius** You're not necessarily doing anything differently today, but everyone may see you as a natural-born leader. You're comfortable making choices when others falter, especially if you know that you're acting on behalf of the group, not just your own interests. Show your true colors instead of suppressing your take-charge instincts now. But monitor your actions for any trace of selfish activity for the sake of integrity.

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



**Capricorn** You are like a four-star general on the battlefield of business today, whether you're defending hard-earned territory or stepping into a new market. You possess a sharp instinct for outwitting the competition and your strategic decisions are second to none. However, you could lose your sense of perspective since each winning activity adds to your sense of invincibility.

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



**Aquarius** A trivial setback could be enough to catalyze a crisis of confidence today as you recollect a failure from your past. Although retrospection is useful as a tool for self-development, it can also become a hindrance if it becomes obsessive. Thankfully, it's your choice: either slip back into familiar sentimental memories or look ahead toward the excitement of the unborn future.

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



**Pisces** You prefer to make a big splash in a small pool today, rather than creating insignificant ripples in the universal ocean. Often, you're able to lose yourself in a crowd or disappear within a school of fish. However, you want to be noticed now, and won't take no for an answer. Thankfully, you are a shapeshifter and can appear to others nearly any way you choose. Deepak Chopra said, "Find the place inside yourself where nothing is impossible."

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-63.

Across: 1. Box, 5. Hemp, 10. Stigma, 14. Walk in water, 15. Tycoon, 16. Threesome, 17. Imprecise, 19. Adult male sheep, 20. Band booking, 21. Aware, 22. Autocratic, 23. A ceremonial staff, 25. A sharp curve, 27. Nevertheless, 28. Discretion, 31. To scour, 34. Selected, 35. Hearing organ, 36. Provisions, 37. Young hog, 38. Sounds of disapproval, 39. Yes to a sailor, 40. Corrupt, 41. Assail, 42. Brothel, 44. Gender, 45. Suffered, 46. Gondolier, 50. Iron or steel, 52. Lascivious looks, 54. Card with one symbol, 55. Among, 56. A superficial person, 58. Not pre-recorded, 59. Relative of a giraffe, 60. Misled, 61. Bit of gossip, 62. Anxious, 63. Gentlewoman.

Down: 1. Hurried swallows, 2. Terror, 3. Motto, 4. Record (abbrev.), 5. Fetish, 6. Driller, 7. Food thickener, 8. Ruthless in competition, 9. Beer, 10. A light touch, 11. Insensitivity, 12. Goals, 13. Optimistic, 18. Provide food for, 22. Portend, 24. Combustible pile, 26. Dethrone, 28. Record player, 29. Birthday or cheese, for example, 30. At one time (archaic), 31. Anagram of "Cabs", 32. Knockout, 33. Repetitive, 34. Befitting a young child, 37. A period of discounted prices, 38. Words, 40. Express in words, 41. Monster, 43. Crown, 44. Incursion, 46. Toots, 47. Craze, 48. Performed, 49. Poverty-stricken, 50. Timbuktu's land, 51. Send forth, 53. Dash, 56. Point, 57. Total.

Yesterday's Solution: SCRUB, CODE, BITES, ERASE, ABEL, ALIEN, TORIS, BONA, EITE, SPIRITLESS, TUTS, EW, TEEMS, UNDIGO, PLITER, MOIRE, THICKENER, PURR, SEALS, MEMO, SNEAK, TEST, KIWIS, PENSE, YEASTY, SKITIF, FEE, WING, UNDISPUTED, EDEN, LORN, INURE, PLEA, LVIT, NABOB, TELL, YAPIS, GUEST.

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