

Afghan Hindus, Sikhs are Not Celebrating Diwali this Year

KABUL - The Afghan Hindus and Sikhs say they will not celebrate this year's Diwali festival due to deadly incidents took place in the country recent months. The festival was not held last year either due to a deadly incident in Kabul. Hindus and Sikhs living in Kabul said that the death of 14 Hindus and Sikhs in Nangarhar bombing July, assassination of former Kandahar police chief Gen. Abdul Raziq and Helmand parliamentary elections candidate Abdul Jabar Qahra-man are some of the violent incidents that have left them with no option rather than canceling the celebration of the festival. Diwali is a Hindu festival with lights, held in the period October to November. "How can we celebrate our happiness while everyday sol-



diars, ordinary people and elders are killed?" asked Narinder Singh Khalsa, Hindus and Sikhs representative. The Hindus and Sikhs said their safety has been fragile in the recent years as according...*(More on P4)...(14)*



Policeman among 3 killed in Jawzjan clash

SHEBRGHAN - A policeman and two rebels have been killed and three others wounded in a Taliban attack on security posts in Aqcha district of northwestern Jawzjan province, officials said Thursday. Col. Mohammad Ayub, police chief of Aqcha district, told Pajhwok Afghan News that insurgents stormed a number of security posts in Kulahbaf area of the district on Wednesday night. He said six people were killed or wounded in the battle that continued for around two and half an hour...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Taliban's Red Unit Commander Among Several Dead, Wounded in Faryab Clash



KABUL - A clash broke out between the Taliban militants and the Afghan National Defense and Security forces in northern Faryab province of Afghanistan, leaving several militants dead, including a commander of the Red Unit of Taliban. The 209th Shaheen Corps of the Afghan Military in the North in a statement said Thursday the clash took place today morning at around 5:20am local time in Dawlatabad district. The statement further added at least twenty militants were killed during the clash with the security forces, including a Red Unit commander of the group...*(More on P4)...(17)*

11 ALP Personnel Killed in Kunduz, Nimroz Clashes

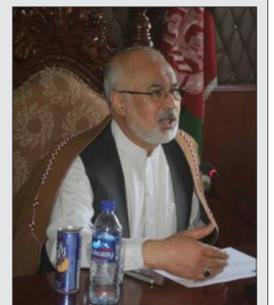
KUNDUZ CITY/ZARANJ - Eleven Afghan Local Policemen (ALP) have been killed as a result of clashes in northern Kunduz and southwestern Nimroz provinces, officials said on Friday. Aminullah Ayedin, the Provincial Council member, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban attacked government infrastructure in the Qala-i-Zal district on Thursday night. Nine ALP personnel were killed and 10 others injured during the overnight clash. A security source wishing anonymity acknowledged the casualties of local security personnel in the clash but was unaware of the exact figures. Separately, one policeman was



killed and another injured during the Taliban attack on check-post in the Dilaram district...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Mohammad Arif Shah Jahan Resigns as Maidan Wardak Governor

MAIDAN SHAHAR - The Governor of central Maidan Wardak province has resigned from his post, an official said on Friday. The governor Chief of Staff Ahmad Zia Abdul Zai said Mohammad Arif Shah Jahan rendered his resignation on Thursday to the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG). The reason behind Shah Jahan's resignation could not be ascertained. Deputy Governor Eng. Taj Mohammad Umari would be looking after the affairs of the province as acting gover-



nor, he said. Shah Jahan in the past served as the governor of western Farah province for more than one year. (Pajhwok)

Paktia Labor Director Suspended in Corruption Inquiry

GARDEZ - An appellant court in southeastern Paktia province has suspended the provincial labor and social affairs director over corruption charges, an official said on Thursday. Attaullah Fikree, director of the court, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the labor director, Mahbob Salamzai, was suspended after he was found involved in corruption in a 3.1 million afghanis pro-

ject. He said the accused had been refusing to appear before the attorney's office and had claimed the documents of the relevant project were missing. He said the labor and social affairs director and three workers of the department had been suspended. "It was a vocational and technical project on which approximately three million afghanis were spent, but the project

could not be properly implemented." "When the prosecutor and the court ordered investigation, the director did not attend the judicial sessions," he continued. But Salamzai said his predecessor wanted to embezzle the money without implementing the project, but he frustrated his move. He said he would appear before the court, but his job had been suspended. (Pajhwok)



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Although your current mood is somewhat reserved and modest, you probably feel tempted to strut your stuff every once in a while. However, if you try to show off today, Aries, you may not be very pleased with your reception. It's natural for you to want to impress people, but you must try to do it with genuine qualities and simplicity. That's true good taste!

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Obviously, you have an important role to play, Taurus. The mood today may be somewhat frustrating, but the way you handle it will earn you rewards and recognition in your workplace or at school. Your strength, self-control, and stability made the difference between success and failure. You can and should be proud of yourself.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



- You will feel as though your back is against the wall, Gemini. And this particular wall is impeding your progress. Others will ask you questions and ask for your opinion. You may want to tell them the "truth" as you understand it, and you could be tempted to do so humorously. Humor isn't your forte right now. You can always try, but for now a sensible approach is the best one.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Today is likely to be a bit gray, Cancer. You won't be able to see how you can get out of your current situation. You may have some financial or physical problems at the moment. If this is the case, it's because you don't rely enough on your abilities and good sense to pull you through. It's possible that you don't take care of your body as well as you should. That's easily remedied.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Today is going to be a great day for you, Leo. You aren't one to embrace rules, constraints, or restrictions of any kind, preferring instead to reside in a fantasy world where no limitations apply. Have you considered that it's possible for you to join the rest of us here on Earth and still retain your liberty and ideals?

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



It's important that you abandon the myth that you don't have any gifts or talents, Virgo. Consider thinking about your talents in the same way you think about your body. When you exercise, eat right, and get plenty of rest, your body responds. Your talents are no different. They need care and nurturing, too.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



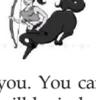
Now is the time to be thinking about your professional orientation, Libra. You may need to get some more fun in your life and experience pleasures that you've never had before. You have a certain tendency to separate the two worlds of work and play, but there's no need. In fact, your work will prosper once you discover ways to make it more playful.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



If you have children, their difficulties may remind you of your own, Scorpio. Or it may simply be that their education brings back memories of yours. Are you holding onto an issue from a period in your life that still bothers you? This would be a good moment to ask yourself the question. Ask it, then answer it and put it to rest once and for all!

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



In a series of days that have tested your patience to the limit, here comes the moment of truth that could make or break you. You can expect a high-pressure day when you will be induced to express your deepest motivations. A confrontation with an authority figure could trigger an outburst. Do your best to remain levelheaded, Sagittarius.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Are you hankering for a little fun and longing for a little experimentation and perhaps even childish play? Tempting as these prospects are, you will have to ignore them. Capricorn, you simply don't have the time, at least not today. You will be too busy coping with numerous little emergencies that crop up and having to justify your decisions throughout the day.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

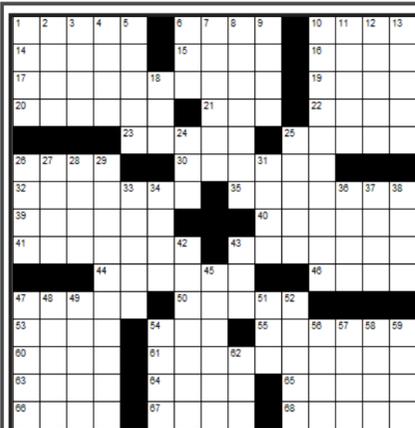


The mood may be oppressive today, Aquarius. After meeting the challenges of the past several days, you're now in need of some well-deserved peace and quiet! Alas, the authorities are unwilling to give it to you. You can expect to be unceremoniously deposited at your desk. Work, it seems, won't wait until you've had a nap. Why not plan an exotic vacation?

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



This isn't a day for sensitive people like you, Pisces. In fact, the one who shouts the loudest and bangs on the table the hardest is likely to come out the winner today. The air of violence will also have an effect on you. You will be somewhat upset, very thin-skinned, and much more vulnerable than usual. It would be wise to try to stay away from commotion if you can.



Across

1. Narrow-waisted stingers, 6. Carve in stone, 10. Tanks, 14. In progress, 15. Lacquered metalware, 16. Pearly-shelled mussel, 17. Wishful thinker, 19. City in Peru, 20. Found at the end of a pencil, 21. Bleat, 22. French for "Black", 23. Four-wheeled toy cart, 25. Wards (off), 26. Sharp intake of breath, 30. A type of bivalve, 32. Disheveled, 35. Palatable 39. Evening event, 40. Relating to the lips, 41. Becoming gradually narrower, 43. Roars 44. Environment, 46. Feudal worker, 47. Awkward, 50. Faultfinder, 53. Defrost, 54. French for "Summer", 55. A reddish brown, 60. Invigoration, 61. Variation, 63. Always, 64. Gloomy, 65. Genus of heath, 66. Declare untrue, 67. Unique, 68. Discourage,

Down

1. Walk in water, 2. A long way off, 3. Kind of bean, 4. Seedcases, 5. Scatter, 6. Estimated time of arrival, 7. A boyish girl, 8. Clean, 9. Sister and wife of Zeus, 10. Defenseless, 11. Negatively charged particle, 12. Shy, 13. Rise rapidly 18. Historic period, 24. Snagged 25. Relating to a fetus, 26. Burst of wind, 27. Dwarf buffalo, 28. Gambol 29. Autocratic, 31. Story, 33. Excellence, 34. Rind, 36. Life stories, 37. A field of grass, 38. If not 42. Verbiage 43. Small rounded bread, 45. A strikingly beautiful woman, 47. Insert, 48. Audacity, 49. Stranger, 51. Anger, 52. Healed, 54. Cocoyam, 56. Arid, 57. Hissy fit, 58. Behold, in old Rome, 59. Rip, 62. Cook in hot oil,

Yesterday's Solution

SMOG EVADER LISLE TUBA SIREN SITUB ISOMETRICS LOGO ESE REGAL MADEN DIVISORIA ALONG THEM DREADING OASES PRAWN EEN THAW PRONG ESAU ILL WAIST BATTIS CYCLONES DOT TTIKES NURSERY GAUGIE THERE OUDO AMAR WEAVERBIRD DIRT ASHES ALAE SAYS TISARS YIELD

scale, scowl, seer shield sire, slump, sorrow, spin washing wide, whisper crocus, curse, dies, dismal drive, expedition, fees feet grief, guide, hunch, legend, owner parachute, party, passport quell, refuge, regard

