

# Security Personnel, Civilians Among 31 Dead in Farah



FARAH CITY - Twenty insurgents, eight security personnel and three civilians have been killed and 21 rebels injured during clashes in the Bala Boluk district and Farah City, the provincial capital of western

Farah province, officials said on Tuesday. Maj. Gen. Dawlat Waziri, spokesman for the Ministry of Defence (MoD), said militants stormed security forces check-posts in the Shewan area of Bala

Boluk and Khethwan area of Farah City. Eight security forces, 20 assailants were killed, three security forces and 21 assailants were injured in the overnight fire fight, he said. ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Four Suicide Bombers Killed in Kandahar

KANDAHAR - The insurgents had planned to use a Humvee bomb to target the district council building and police headquarters. At least four suicide bombers were killed on Monday night in Kandahar before reaching their target, local officials said Tuesday. Kandahar police spokesman Zia Durrani said the bombers were arrested in Maroof district of Kandahar province. Durrani said the suicide bombers had planned to target the district council building and police headquarters using a Humvee vehicle. "Police identified them ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

## Deadly Shrine Bombing Plot Foiled in Kabul City

KABUL - The Afghan security forces have foiled a deadly bombing plot to target the worshippers in a shrine in Kabul city, the security officials said late on Monday. The Criminal Investigation Department officials confirmed that the security forces discovered an improvised explosive device from a shrine in the first police district of the city in Shudai Saleehin. The officials further added that the militants had placed the explosives and were looking to detonate the bomb with a remote control among the worshippers.

According to the officials, the explosives were discovered during an operation conducted based on a tip-off in Sufi Ashqari shrine. The anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the report so far. This comes as the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) today released a special report documenting a sharp increase in attacks against places of worship, religious leaders and worshippers, including attacks against Shi'a Muslim places of worship and congregations. According to the report, since 1 January 2016, UNAMA has recorded 833 civilian casualties (261 killed and 572 injured) in 42 attacks targeting places of worship, religious leaders and worshippers. Civilian casualties from these types of attacks since the beginning of 2016 represent nearly double the cumulative total documented between 2009 and 2015. (KP)

## Pakistan Fires 340 More Shells into Kunar

ASADABAD - Pakistani forces have fired 340 more mortar shells into eastern Kunar province from across the Durand Line, an official said on Tuesday. Maj. Gen. Jumma Gul Himmat, the provincial police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Pakistani army was firing shells into four bordering districts of the province since Monday. He said the districts struck by missiles included Dangam, Sheltan, Khas Kunar and Marorai. No one was hurt in the incident but it caused huge financial losses to people. Himmat said that about 40 families had fled their homes from Sheltan district and some families from others districts as result of the mortar shells. On Monday, Pakistani military fired 148 rockets into Kunar province that left one civilian injured. (Pajhwok)

## Pakistani Soldiers suffer Casualties in Militants Attack

PESHAWAR - The Pakistani soldiers suffered casualties in the latest attack by the militant groups along the Durand Line, the security authorities said late on Monday. The Inter Services Public Relations, media wing of the Pakistani military, in a statement confirmed the attack. The statement further added that two soldiers were killed and four others were wounded in the attack carried out by the militants from the other side of the line from Afghanistan. According to ISPR, a group of militants from across the border (Kunar province, Afghanistan) attacked a checkpost in Mamond tehsil of Bajaur Agency with heavy weapons. The soldiers killed in the attack have been identified as ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## Truck Overtakes in Samangan, Leaves 2 Dead

AIBAK - A truck skidded off the road and overturned near the capital of northern Samangan province on Tuesday, leaving two persons, including the driver, dead, an official said. Col. Abdul Razaq, Samangan traffic department head, said the accident took place on the Samangan-Baghlan highway in Kotal area near Aibak, the provincial capital, at 7:00am. The vehicle was en route to neighboring Baghlan province. Two individuals were killed, including the driver, said Razaq, blaming the incident on reckless driving. Dr. Ali Reza, an official at the Emergency Hospital, confirmed receiving two dead bodies from the site, saying the victims belonged to southern Kandahar province. (Pajhwok)

## Some Ghazni Districts Get 1st Snowfall

GHAZNI CITY - Two districts in the southern Ghazni province received the first snowfall of the season measuring 35 centimeters, has blocked the roads connecting the districts with the provincial capital. The first snowfall was received by Malistan and Jaghato districts in Ghazni. People living in the districts are happy with the early snowfall this year, but also worried about the roads getting blocked if the snowing continues. Abdul Wakil, a resident of Andar district said, "I am here in Jaghato where large amount of snow has fallen, the roads are blocked and we cannot go to Ghazni city, the provincial capital." He said that the snow was 35 centimeters in thickness and has resulted in many cars getting stranded along the way. Sayed Ali, the resident of Malistan district, told Pajhwok that the snowfall this year is earlier than the expected arrival of the season. "We are happy for this snowfall and it may close more routes if continued falling," he said. Mohammad Arif Noori, the Governor's spokesman, also said that the snowfall this year has come earlier than the general onset of the season in the province. He said that some roads in the two districts were blocked but later reopened with assistance from the local people. He reaffirmed that the authorities are fully prepared for clearing the roads after the possible heavy snowfalls. Malistan, Nawar, Jaghori and Jaghato are the colder districts of Ghazni where snow starts falling a little earlier than the onset of winters in the whole country. (Pajhwok)

## Resign if Unable to Curb Graft, Balkh Officials Told



MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Some government officials in northern Balkh province have acknowledged their inability to stop what they say "growing corruption." Some officials even burst into tears while acknowledging their helplessness to prevent corruption from happening and others accused the provincial government of not supporting the anti-corruption drive. Provincial Council (PC) members and civil society activists suggested authorities should step down if ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

### Outlook Horoscope

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



**Aries** Understanding someone else's perspective isn't always the easiest thing for you to do. Although you might grasp the meaning of their words, practicing compassion can be an intellectual activity rather than an emotional experience. However, you are poised to make a breakthrough today as the reflective Libra Moon travels through your 7th House

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



**Taurus** Your coworkers rely on your sense of fair play today as they try to untangle a complicated issue that's affecting other employees. You are known for your pragmatic approach to problem solving. However, you also feel an intuitive connection with the underdog in the current conflict now that Chiron the Wounded Healer aligns with your key planet Venus.

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



**Gemini** You possess an excellent sense of timing today when it comes to getting what you want. The diplomatic Libra Moon's presence in your 5th House of Self-Expression enables you to say the right thing, but knowing when to stop talking is essential. In fact, you're so smooth now that others might not even realize there is a negotiation in process. Your current charm comes with a warning.

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



**Cancer** You are looking at the wide world through your picture window, safe and secure in your protected corner of the universe. Although you accept the limitations of your current circumstances, you wonder what it would be like to throw caution to the wind and buy a one-way ticket to an unknown destination.

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



**Leo** Your schedule seems to slip out of its constraints today, no matter how much attention you give it in advance. Whether you run behind because of circumstances beyond your control or a misunderstanding leads to delays, you might need to abandon your previous agenda and fly through the day by the seat of your pants.

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



**Virgo** You're trying to maintain your reputation for being efficient today, but everything you do seems to take more time than allotted. You can't tell if you underestimated the complexity of a task or if you're working slower than normal now. Either way, there's a problem if others are dependent on your production schedule. Rather than allowing discouragement to hijack your day while you obsess about your shortcomings.

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



**Libra** Making up your mind is often challenging because you can naturally see both sides of an issue. Finalizing a decision is even harder today now that the moody Moon is visiting your ambivalent sign. But another layer of complication is added when you realize that neither available option works for you.

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



**Scorpio** Trusting the blessings that arrive at your doorstep now can be an uphill battle. You have an eye for realism and usually spot trouble before it arrives. Unfortunately, you may be so good at unearthing what's hidden that you turn a perfectly lovely situation into a swamp full of alligators.

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



**Sagittarius** You're eager to do something enjoyable with your friends today, and you're willing to be the ring-leader if necessary. But you may have a hidden agenda in wanting others to participate in your activities because you believe they will support you no matter what kind of mischief you manifest. However, you're probably reading the energy wrong.

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



**Capricorn** Your public image is important to you because you sincerely wish to be taken seriously by your peers. Although you normally strive to be known for your competence, you're more interested now in appearing fair to all parties involved. You are happy to temporarily brush aside your authority and power today so you can become the consummate diplomat.

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



**Aquarius** You may explore a variety of possibilities to learn more about the world in which you live. You're motivated now to improve your position at work and you think that additional education could be your ticket to advancement. Although there is an obvious link between your schooling and your job, more knowledge isn't the only thing that will impact your career trajectory.

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



**Aquarius** You may explore a variety of possibilities to learn more about the world in which you live. You're motivated now to improve your position at work and you think that additional education could be your ticket to advancement. Although there is an obvious link between your schooling and your job, more knowledge isn't the only thing that will impact your career trajectory.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-56 indicating starting positions for clues.

Across clues: 1. Nanny, 5. Dreadful, 10. Kiln-dried grain, 14. Ancient marketplaces, 15. Petulant, 16. Largest continent, 17. Affirm, 18. Decorative, 20. Adjust, 22. Female protagonist, 23. Lyric poem, 24. Tapestry, 25. Large warships, 32. Previously, 33. Small boat, 34. What we sleep on, 37. Midway between white and black, 38. Past tense of "will", 39. Whip, 40. Mayday, 41. Heart artery, 42. Strainer, 43. Loan shark, 45. Thin piece of wood or metal, 49. Mineral rock, 50. A childhood disease, 53. Impressive, 57. Rigid, 59. Gambol, 60. Carry, 61. Notions, 62. Sea eagle, 63. At one time (archaic), 64. Basic belief, 65. A romantic meeting.

Down clues: 1. At a distance, 2. Relocate, 3. Region, 4. Prostitution, 5. Orbital high point, 6. Frayed, 7. Merriment, 8. A D-Day beach, 9. An acute inflammatory disease, 10. Country estate, 11. Active, 12. Tropical vine, 13. Stories, 19. Delete, 21. Doing nothing, 25. Cysts, 26. Hairdo, 27. Foot digits, 28. Disdain, 29. Fancy, 30. Dental filling, 31. Detachable container, 34. Hemorrhaged, 35. Overhang, 36. One who colors cloth, 38. Court, 39. Evaded, 41. Enough, 42. Arid, 44. Not highest, 45. Strike, 46. Adult male singing voice, 47. Flat floating vessels, 48. A small island, 51. Way out, 52. On the left or right, 53. Wings, 54. Gumbo, 55. Pepper, 56. Type of sword, 58. Tall hill.

Yesterday's Solution: A crossword puzzle grid with the solution words filled in.

TRANSITPERSON  
EGOODBYETHING  
SINDEPENDENTI  
INFLICTLOOREO  
COATINGEIOAI  
RSAUCYESNESSD  
EYROTCIVPHVEA  
XTEHELBAWENER  
ETATSKWOLLAWS  
NEDINIETORPKX  
GRYWCRIMESUOH  
LPNUTUREMEHCS  
ATNEMNREVOGMK