

Helmand: Over 700 KG Drugs Seized, 5 Suspects Nabbed



LASHKARGAH - At least five smugglers have been detained in southern Helmand province with more than 700 kilograms of narcotics in their possession, an official said on Wednesday.

The Helmand Police Chief, Brig. Gen. Abdul Ghafar Sapai, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the drugs were seized by the special counter-narcotics police personnel in the Rijgabar Desert area of Garamsir

district. Gen. Sapai said that 690 kilograms of opium along with nearly 20 kilograms of heroin was seized. Five suspected drug smugglers were nabbed in connection with the smuggling attempt. (Pajhwok)

ANA Soldiers Among 8 Killed in Kunduz Clash

KUNDUZ CITY - Two Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and six Taliban insurgents have been killed during an overnight clash in a Qala-i-Zal district of northeastern Kunduz province, an official said on Wednesday.

Deputy police chief Col. Mohammad Safar Akbari told Pajhwok Afghan News militants attacked security check-post in Afghan-Mazar area on Tuesday night.

He said two ANA soldiers, six militants were killed and six soldiers, two policemen and eight rebels wounded.

"Taliban wanted to kill all the soldiers manning in check-post and capture it, but could not execute their plan," he said, adding security forces also recovered and defused some land mines in the area.

Rahmatullah, an inhabitant of the area, also confirmed the clash between security forces and Taliban lasted for few hours, but was unaware about the casualties.

Taliban have so far said nothing about the overnight clash. (Pajhwok)

Afghan Teacher Finds Refuge in NZ after Taliban Threats

WELLINGTON - after death threats from the Taliban against her and her family, a teacher who worked to build a school for girls in Afghanistan has been granted asylum in New Zealand.

The widowed teacher, who is in her early 60s, also feared for her life because she refused a Taliban commander's request to marry her daughter.

Construction workers building the school were intimidated by Taliban militia, the Immigration and Protection Tribunal was told.

The tribunal was told that girls' schools were closed during the Taliban occupation, and the woman had returned to teaching after the US-led invasion in 2001.

With improved security and a more open social environment she decided in 2004 to build a co-educational school, as girls usually received no education in the area.

"The local Taliban did not want another school built," the tribunal said in its hearing notes. "They warned against the project and began to intimidate the construction workers involved with it."

"When some of the workers were beaten, the appellant called a halt with little more than the foundations completed."

Read the full decision here

In 2014, a Taliban commander approached her brother asking to marry one of the woman's daughters. (RNZ)



Bodies of Woman, Toddler Found Dead in Faryab

MAIMANA - A woman and a minor child have been found dead under mysterious circumstances in northern Faryab province, where another woman was electrocuted, an official said on Wednesday. Both the incidents took place in Khawaja Sabzposh district, the district administrative chief, Abdullah Masomi, said.

He said the two bodies were found on Tuesday, days after they had been killed in Zindani area. The area is under Taliban control.

A local Taliban commander Haji Amin said his men had seen the bodies. The woman was about 25 years old and the baby child some six months old. Amin said he had no idea about the circumstances leading to the gruesome murder, but they were investigating. (Pajhwok)

Parwan Blast Kills, Injures Senior Education Officials

CHARIKAR - Deputy head of the Education Department of central Parwan province has been killed, while the department Head injured in roadside blast, an official said on Wednesday.

Crime Branch Chief Farhad Hashami told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident happened at around 11:00pm on Tuesday night on Chal Metra Road in Charikar, the provincial capital.

The roadside bomb struck the vehicle in which Deputy Head of the Education Department Atta Mohammad Matin and the Department Head Zalmai Shaheed were on board and moving toward their residence after attending a function.

Hashami said Zalmai Shaheed had been shifted to Kabul for treatment and his health condition was not critical. (Pajhwok)

9 Militants Killed in Helmand, Kapisa Violence



LASHKARGAH/MAHMOOD RAQI - Nine Taliban insurgents have been killed, including a notorious commander, in central Kapisa and southern Helmand provinces, officials said on Wednesday.

In Helmand, police spokesman Abdul Salam Afghan told Pajhwok Afghan News that US forces targeted a vehicle carrying militants in Camp Khalid area of Sangin district on Tuesday.

Six militants onboard the vehicle were killed and their weapons and ammunition destroyed in the airstrike. Mullah Jabar, a notorious commander, was among the dead, said Afghan.

However, Qari Yousaf Ahmadi, Taliban's spokesman, claimed tribal elders travelling in Sangin were targeted by the US forces and rejected casualties to their fighters.

In Kapisa province, three militants were killed and a fourth wounded during a gun-battle between gunmen loyal to a former jihadi commander and Taliban militants in Tagab district on Tuesday, police said on Wednesday. (Pajhwok)

2 Governor's House Guards Kill Each other in Ghazni



GHAZNI CITY - Two police guards shot dead each other after a verbal clash inside their living room at the governor's house in southern Ghazni province, an official said on Wednesday. Ghazni police chief Brig. Gen. Mohammad Zaman told Pajhwok Afghan News that the two policemen shot and killed each other after they clashed verbally on Tuesday night. "We broke the door of the room where the two lived. Both of them had died," he said, adding the reason behind the incident was yet to be known, but an investigation was underway. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You're not satisfied with the love that's available in the real world, so you create an image of relationship perfection in your fantasies. On one level, this is a quick and easy solution to any frustration you might experience, but there's a cost to living in your dreams. Imagining happiness rather than manifesting it can magnify the emotional distance between you and a romantic partner.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus It appears as if you have caught someone's eye now and you're flattered by the attention. Although you may be attracted to your admirer, you might not be ready to jump into a relationship. Whether you're already involved or your focus is elsewhere, you're under no obligation to take this flirtation any further.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini No matter how much work is packed into your schedule today, you could make it all vanish in the blink of an eye. Unfortunately, as powerful as your fantasies are now, denial doesn't change what will be waiting for you when you return from your daydreams. But your imagination can be put to good use by practicing creative visualization. Just remember that once you envision your project list completed.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer Your day may get off to a slow start, build to an easy pace and end with a powerful crescendo. Thankfully, you're swimming in your element as six planets in water signs validate your feelings and soothe your soul. Ironically, there is little uncertainty in your life now, even though your imagination plays a powerful role in determining your behavior.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo Your needs are quite complex now, making it difficult to put them into words. Nevertheless, you're willing to try, even if your mixed signals leave people more confused than ever. But you are speaking your truth and your cryptic messages are accurate representations of your inner world.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept 22)



Virgo You are captivated by someone's magic today and there's little you can do to put him or her out of your mind. Although you might attempt to run evasive maneuvers, love will find its way into your heart. But instead of building protective walls for emotional safety, open all channels of communication now. Don't make the mistake of trying to precisely define the interpersonal dynamics because they could elude description.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra It's impossible to get a straight story out of anyone today, or so it seems. Those coworkers who are usually the most trustworthy appear to be talking out of both sides of their mouth now. Honestly, you're just looking for some solid facts you can bank on. However, if you can't find the information you seek, you could always make it up.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You possess the magical power of creation today. Although this gift is neither easy to come by nor is it simple to use, you are the master of your destiny. It's almost like you can live in your ideal world now by simply proclaiming it to be as you wish. But you might have to learn the hard way that there are no free lunches.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius Surprisingly, you are more private than anyone today, but may still come out of your shell when all the external factors are just right. In fact, under the perfect circumstances you are likely to wax poetic into the wee hours of the morning. The presence of a romantic interest amplifies your heartfelt desire for a spiritual connection.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You might believe you're the luckiest person in the world because you have such an amazing group of people that you are proud to count as your friends. However, your rich fantasy life enables you to avoid relationship obstacles, since you can just make them disappear in your mind today.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

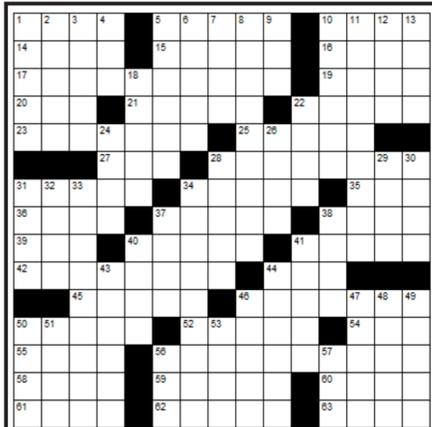


Aquarius You can conjure up idealistic visions of your future success, but it's challenging to find anyone else with similar goals now. You wish you could establish a mentorship program that gives people more opportunities to manifest their dreams. Although you really don't want to strike out on your own today.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces Although you might not be able to escape from the watchful eye of an authority figure today, you're happy to maintain a dual set of goals in order to keep your dreams alive. It's possible that no one truly understands your aspirations, yet you don't want to waste energy trying to explain what motivates you to help change the world. Instead of allowing reality to encroach upon your visions.



Across

1. Countercurrent, 5. Astern, 10. Hairdo, 14. Unusual, 15. Aromatic seeds, 16. College girl, 17. Image breaker, 19. Tall woody plant, 20. Chief Executive Officer, 21. A quantity of no importance (archaic), 22. Jazz ostinatos, 23. Bad-mouth, 25. Pee, 27. Spelling contest, 28. In a slangy manner, 31. Hair net, 34. G-string, 35. Foot digit, 36. Acquire deservedly, 37. Holler, 38. Lyrical, 39. Brightest star, 39. 52 in Roman numerals, 40. Corroborates (archaic), 41. Blockheads, 42. Deviation, 44. Church bench, 45. Some tides, 46. A style of roof, 50. Fragrant oil, 52. Ellipses, 54. Born as, 55. Colored part of an eye, 56. Extremely angry, 58. Eat, 59. A pungent stew, 60. A light shade of red, 61. Hens make them, 62. Typewrote, 63. Frosts,

Down

1. Genus of heath, 2. Small freshwater fishes, 3. Sag, 4. Hankering, 5. Frame, 6. Protrusion, 7. Nursemaid, 8. Tube-shaped like a reed, 9. Explosive, 10. Temporary, 11. Surrendered as a penalty, 12. Coral barrier, 13. Poems, 18. Rowed, 22. Jewelry, 24. Black, in poetry, 26. Delivered a tirade, 28. Demonstrated, 29. Corporate image, 30. Not nays, 31. Consciousness, 32. Found on a finger, 33. Aligning, 34. A mystical belief system, 37. Transport commercially, 38. Solemn pledges, 40. Celebrity, 41. Compacted, 43. Stops, 44. Pale, 46. Official tree of Canada, 47. Prank, 48. French for "Queen", 49. Packs of playing cards, 50. Assistant, 51. Trigonometry (abbrev.), 53. Voice Over Internet Protocol, 56. Emote, 57. Consumer Price, Index,

Yesterday's Solution

AMAH AWFUL MALT
 FLORA POSITIVE ASIA
 AIVER GRAMMENTAL
 REALIGN HEROINE
 ODE ARRAYS
 BATTLESHIPS
 AFFORE CANOE BIED
 GREY WOULD FLAY
 SOS AORTA SIEVE
 MONEY LENDER
 STRIP GREY
 MEASLES AWESOME
 INFLEXIBLE SKIP
 TOTE IDEAS ERNE
 ERIST TENET DATE

abuse, dore, agriculture, airy, bash, bench, betray bother defeat, display dominate, eagle, fascination, fever, finger, frustrate gags, gape, grade, hands, hidden honor, land, laugh, lies, loyal, mace, page, poet

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