

# Ghor Girl Dies after 'Public Lashing'

KABUL - A 26-year-old girl died following an alleged public lashing by armed groups in western Ghor province after being accused of running away from home. Ghor is where the recent stoning to death of 19-year-old Rokhshana occurred. Shirin Gul, who was from Herat province, had reportedly gone to Shahrak district of Ghor to visit her uncle's family, her immediate family said. Footage of the incident, which has gone viral, shows a man lashing a girl with a whip in public. According to her family and some locals,



Gul died after she was meted out the lashing. Local officials only confirmed the lashing but denied claims the girl died as a result of her injuries. "When we contacted Shirin Gul's father, he confirmed his daughter died from the lashing," said Mohammad Hassan Hakimi, a social activist in Ghor. "Although the police chief of Shahrak district denies this, the victim's father said that his daughter died of the lashing. Although it is not impossible, it should be investigated," she urged....(More on P4)...(12)

## Open-Ties with Regional Countries Can Have Great Achievements: Analysts

KABUL - Political analysts on Thursday said that expanding relations with regional countries can have great achievements in terms of security, economic and politics. Emphasizing on full achievements in President Ghani's trip to Kazakhstan, analysts said that the Afghan government must have a good use from such positions. Fighting corruption, good governance and security are the key issues expected to be discussed between President Ghani and his Kazakh counterpart. Analysts said to consider President's trip to Kazakhstan a great opportunity for attracting Kazakhstan's

cooperation in terms of security. "Kazakhstan can help Afghanistan in terms of security, particularly in equipping Afghan forces," said Nasratullah Istanikzai, teacher of university. "Kazakhstan is a country with facilities that can provide necessary assistance in security issues, especially in fight against terrorist groups," said Latif Nazari, teacher of university. In his two-day visit, President Ghani is expected to meet with his Kazakh counterpart Nur Sultan Nazarbayev, Prime Minister Karim Qajymqan Massimov and other high ranking officials. (ATN)

## Baghlan Family Claims Policeman Killed their Daughter

KABUL - A family in northern Baghlan on Friday claimed that a policeman killed their daughter in Jelga district. The family, who have traveled to Kabul to seek justice, told TOLONews that Sultan, the father-in-law of their daughter, who is a policeman, allegedly killed Zarghona and refuses to appear in court. She was killed in June, her family said, complaining that no action has since been taken by government. Doctors confirmed however that there were signs of thread in the victim's neck. "I was harvesting when I was informed about the death of my daughter," her father Taza Khan said. "I saw signs of thread in her neck." "We tried to send the body to forensic hospital for postmortem but the suspect's family did not let us do so," he added. ....(More on P4)...(13)

## Pedram Blasts Govt, Says it's to Blame for Crisis

KABUL - Latif Pedram, leader of a political opposition party, on Thursday slammed the National Unity Government and accused it of having allowed the country to fall into a state of crisis. Speaking at a meeting of opposition party members, Pedram also said government's inefficiency has resulted in thousands of youths fleeing the country. He suggested that experienced and qualified people be appointed to government in order to help overcome the problems.



He said: "When we talk and when we criticize; we have alternatives for that. It means that there are lots of figures [even in this session] that could fill the posts of the two NUG leaders." According to him, the country is in crisis and he urged the people to stand up against government in a peaceful way. "They [NUG leaders] came forward and signed the Bilateral Security Agreement and after the deal the situa... (More on P4)...(14)

## Five Insurgents Killed in Kandahar Attack



KANDAHAR - Five insurgents were killed and one security force member also died on Thursday morning while a group of militants attacked the office of district chief of Arghandab District, officials said. Provincial governor spokesman Tamim Akhpalwak confirmed the incident and said the five insurgents, equipped with a car bomb, suicide vests and weapons, attacked the district chief building early Thursday morning. According to Akhpalwak one insurgent died when he blew himself up in a car bomb at the entrance gate of the government building. The other four tried to storm the building. However, security forces opened fire and killed the four before they could enter the building. Three of the attackers were killed by one soldier, Sarhadi, who was widely praised on social media Thursday for his actions. One security force member was also killed, and three others injured during the incident, Akhpalwak said. In addition three civilians were also injured, he added. No group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack. (Tolonews)

## NDS Detains Taliban Commander Involved in Attack on Kunduz City

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) has arrested a Taliban commander with his men involved in attack that led to the fall of Kunduz city in September. NDS in a statement released on Thursday states that Ziulhaq and his men Qari Shir Agha, Qandagha, Mohammad Naqib and Wahidullah had recently crossed border into Baghlan province from neighboring Kunduz for attacks. Besides the assault on the key northern city,

the group also carried out terrorist activities in Chahar Dara District of Kunduz province. A footage released by the intelligence agency shows the detained suspects who say they have received terrorist training in Pakistan. Baghlan which borders Kunduz in the northern part of the country has been witnessing deteriorating security situation recently. Nine people sustained injuries in an explosion in its Baghlan-i-Markazi District today. (KP)

## Communication Services Down in Parts of Helmand

KABUL - Officials in southern Helmand province said on Friday that the Taliban has "deliberately" sabotaged a number of telecom towers in parts of the province, resulting in limited communication for residents. "People are not able to communicate with each other," a Helmand resident complained. "Mobile phone services aren't working properly and we can not communicate with our friends and relatives." Journalists and media outlets have also



been affected by the failure in communication services. "This has created huge obstacles for journalists and they are not able to get information on time," a local journalist said. "This has also affected the economy." Provincial council members also confirmed the problem and asked the telecom companies to reactivate their services as soon as possible. They however accused some of the companies of taking... (More on P4)...(15)

## 12 ISIS Militants Killed after Attacking Security Post in Nangarhar

KABUL - At least 12 loyalists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group were killed in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said. According to the local government officials, the militants were killed during a gun battle with the Afghan national security

forces in Achin district. The district's administrative chief Haji Ghalib said the gun battle between the Afghan forces and the ISIS loyalists triggered following an attack on a security post in Abdul Khel area. He said the two sides exchanged fire for... (More on P4)...(16)

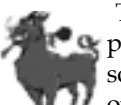
### Outlook Horoscope

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



You're not one to keep your feelings quiet, yet you might overreact today when dealing with someone who seems to be on your case. Unfortunately, you may not realize how overbearing you sound when defending your position. Your smartest strategy is to downplay any anger that surfaces now so you don't frighten others with your tone. No matter how intense your emotions are in the moment.

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



The interpersonal dynamics are more complicated than they appear today. The real reason for a conflict isn't necessarily the obvious one while magnetic Venus squares relentless Pluto, creating discord in love or instigating an argument at work. However, the current disagreement may actually be the designated playing field for a deeper issue that needs your attention.

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



Sharing your unfiltered desires can act as an emotional catalyst, transforming them into healthier expressions of your needs. However, talking about psychological issues isn't that simple, especially if you say one thing while meaning something else. Although you may believe your message is clear, others might not understand your intentions. Nevertheless, taking the time to connect with your peers in a deeper way now enriches your relationships.

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



Someone special wants you to engage in a cathartic process today that has the potential to revolutionize your life. Although your initial reaction may be to run for the nearest exit, a magnetic attraction pulls you back, even if you think it's not a great idea. You could try setting clear boundaries to protect yourself from losing control.

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



You aren't feeling as casual with your heart as you expected today; something has drastically changed and you're more inclined to play to win. You may suddenly realize that you're in over your head as the fervent Venus-Pluto square increases the heat on a romance. Oddly enough, you're simultaneously drawn toward a more metaphysical orientation to love.

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



Uncomfortable feelings trigger serious issues around your basic values and how they conflict with someone else's. Differences seem insurmountable today if you and your partner possess divergent views. Various attempts to convince the other person of his or her guilt are fruitless. Rather than shifting blame to anyone else now, try a more cooperative approach based on mutual respect.

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



There might be hidden truths that need to be spoken today. Or, maybe, someone is keeping his or her true feelings secret. Removing yourself from danger is always wise, but this situation is less about being safe than it is about your fear of being alone. Fortunately, resourceful Venus is in your corner now, enabling you to calm down and figure out how to overcome the resistance.

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



Honoring your integrity is your top priority as you strive to uncover a complex set of emotions that have all but disappeared. However, you're astute enough to realize that sharing all your feelings could be counterproductive now. Stress arises from not knowing how much you should reveal while sweet Venus squares domineering Pluto.

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



Your thinking shifts today as you grow less interested in prolonging a recent drama. Mercury steps into your farseeing sign, drawing your attention toward the intriguing adventures down the road. You may try to avoid negativity or jealousy, but can't get past your feelings in the present moment. You prefer to take the high road and move on, but denial won't solve the underlying problems.

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



Naturally you aim to be practical in all your endeavors, yet circumstances pull you into a heavy emotional stew today where nothing is clear. You could be annoyed with someone who pushes your buttons, but then won't interact with you in a constructive discussion. Even if you are willing to talk about your feelings, you may be at cross-purposes with one another.

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



Everyone seems to be taking your dreams more seriously these days, yet you're afraid this creative phase won't last too much longer. You can stir up an emotional drama with a close partner today, especially if he or she thinks that your long-term plans are illogical. Be careful, because you could become obsessed with a new idea now, even if it ultimately makes little sense.

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



Your attraction to a loved one is complicated by unexpressed negativity today. Or, perhaps you believe others are attempting to coerce you into agreeing with them. Thankfully, you're too clever to be dominated by someone's show of force and you can quickly escape from the clutches of insecure emotions now. Stay vigilant; it may require a few more days until you're able to put some time between you and your past.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68.

Across: 1. A fermented beverage from rye, 6. Goulash, 10. Shower with love, 14. Fable writer, 15. Killer whale, 16. Colored part of an eye, 17. Gremlin, 19. Seats oneself, 20. Ancient ascetic, 21. Big wine holder, 22. Barbershop emblem, 23. Drugged, 25. Monetary penalties, 26. Weight to be borne, 30. Killdeer, 32. Pardon, 35. Performance, 39. Trader, 40. Hit the sack, 41. Invigorator, 43. Failure to be present, 44. Farther along, 46. Writing table, 47. Put off, 50. Relating to form, 53. Not under, 54. What we breathe, 55. Frittered away, 60. Devil tree, 61. Tasteless, 63. Oversupply, 64. Wreaths, 65. Not urban, 66. Being, 67. Religious offshoot, 68. Clobbered.

Down: 1. Cabbagelike vegetable, 2. V V V V, 3. Vipers, 4. Achy, 5. Go on a buying spree, 6. Comes after Mi and Fah, 7. Go places, 8. S. American country, 9. Desire, 10. Demoralized, 11. Heavenly hunter, 12. Name of a book, 13. S S S S, 18. Chief Executive officer, 24. Operative, 25. Fecal matter, 26. Stow, as cargo, 27. Portent, 28. A Freudian stage, 29. Careful, 31. "Action word", 33. Cut, 34. 3, 36. Prong, 37. Circle fragments, 38. Scallion, 42. Candidate, 43. Affix, 45. Scandinavian, 47. Avoid, 48. Iniquities, 49. Unborn offspring, 51. Hole-making tool, 52. Dens, 54. Afflicts, 56. Pond gunk, 57. Tropical tuber, 58. French for "State", 59. Expunge, 62. Eastern Standard Time.

Yesterday's Solution: afraid, atmosphere, basic, bloat, capital, column, combination, county, dream, ebony, fable, glance, hence, humid, idiom, impact, inform, locale, mama, nine, obviously, petty, project, root, rubber, segment, skies, spool, steam, storm, talc.

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