

Killing of Human Rights Defender is A War Crime

KABUL - Responding to the news that Abdul Samad Amiri, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission's acting director in Ghor province, was kidnapped and killed by the Taliban, Amnesty International's South Asia Campaigner, Samira Hamidi, said:

"This brutal act is a war crime. Even as the Taliban claims to be pursuing peace, it continues to kill people in the most gruesome way. Abdul Samad Amiri devoted his life to standing up for the rights of others, those who have no one else to speak for them. Our thoughts are with Abdul Samad's family and his brave colleagues at the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission.

"This tragedy underscores the grave dangers that human rights defenders in Afghanistan face. Threatened by all sides in a conflict that continues to claim civilian lives daily, they are left defenceless. The Afghan government and the international community must provide them with the protection they desperately need and not abandon them." (PR)



Asia Can Lead Global Transformation Towards Low-Carbon and Resilience

BANGKOK - Asia-Pacific Climate Week in Bangkok, Thailand (APCW 2019) wrapped up on Friday, with participants agreeing a set of key takeaways on what steps urgently need to be taken for the region to be able to profit from the advantages of the transition to low carbon and resilience and the worst impacts of climate change.

The compelling social and economic reasons to rapidly shift to low-carbon and resilience were outlined by high-level speakers who warned that current levels of ambition to tackle climate change are insufficient, putting the world on a path towards global warming of more than 3 degrees Celsius.

A key takeaway was that Asia-Pacific Region can lead the global transformation in line with a 1.5 Celsius, climate resilient world. Holding the global average temperature rise is the central goal of the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

Participants at the gathering agreed that the transformation to low carbon and resilience in Asia can be driven not only by governments, but by dynamic subnational regions and cities, an innovative private sector, political leadership and finance. Youth groups played an important role at Asia-Pacific Climate Week, engaging with participants and covering the discussions on social me-

dia accounts.

Over half of the global population of 1.8 billion young people live in the Asia-Pacific region, whose future is at stake.

The messages will be an important input to the Climate Action Summit convened by the UN Secretary-General on 23 September in New York. The results will also help build momentum towards the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) that will take place in Santiago, Chile, 2-13 December 2019.

Countries are currently designing enhanced national climate action plans under the Paris Agreement (Nationally Determined Contribution, or NDCs) and the Summit in New York will be an opportunity for governments and many climate action players to announce new plans and initiatives before the NDCs are communicated to the UN in 2020.

The Bangkok gathering included an "NDC Dialogue" for the Asia-Pacific Region. At the dialogue, government representatives highlighted the importance of providing economic incentives such as the creation of quality green jobs, whilst ensuring there is a just transition to low carbon, with nobody left behind.

Climate change adaptation planning... (More on P4)...(9)

Afghan Forces Retake Badakhshan's District After Four Years

FAIZABAD - Afghan security forces retook the control of Wardooj district four years after it was captured by the Taliban, officials from ministries of Defense and Interior said.

Taliban have suffered heavy losses in the operations, a spokesman for Ministry of Defense, Fawad Aman.

He added that at least 50 foreign militants were killed in the operations.

During this operation, he said, parts of Baharak and Jurm districts were cleared of the Taliban. He said that the Taliban's hideouts and strongholds were destroyed during this operation.

Mr. Aman said that the operations were conducted in Jurm, Baharak and Wardooj districts



four days ago.

"Many areas were cleared of the Taliban during this operation," he said.

Wardooj shares borders with districts of Jurm, Baharak, Ishkashim, Zibak, and Shuhada. It is counted as a strategic district in the northeastern province of Badakhshan. ... (More on P4)...(10)

Taliban's Shadow Governor Among 43 Rebels Killed in Baghlan

PUL-I-KHUMRI - Forty-three militants, including Taliban's shadow governor, have been killed and 30 others wounded during security operations in northern Baghlan province, officials said on Thursday.

A statement from the 217th Pamir Military Corps said the security forces conducted air-and-ground operations across the province over the past few days.

It added the Taliban's shadow governor for Baghlan, Maulvi Obaidullah, the group's intelligence director for the northern zone, Qari Abdul Rahim, and their for Baghlan-i-Marzaki district were among the 43 militants killed. Another 30 fighters were wounded in



the clearing operations.

Six recruitment centres of the Taliban were also destroyed as a result of the operations in Pul-i-Khumri, the provincial capital, the statement added.

Meanwhile, police spokesman Ahmad Javed Basharat told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban's shadow governor was ... (More on P4)...(11)

Key Figures Among 22 Rebels Killed in Maidan Wardak

KABUL - Taliban's Red Unit commander for central Maidan Wardak province was among 22 militants killed by security forces during an ongoing operation in Narkh district, the Ministry of Interior said Thursday. In a statement, the ministry said the Taliban's Red Unit commander, Asim, son of Maulvi Mohibullah, was killed by security forces this afternoon. It said Asim was a resident of Omakhel village in Narkh district. Over the past few days, clearing operations have been ongoing in the Narkh district and so far 22 rebels have been killed and nearly a dozen more injured. The dead included Taliban's shadow district chief for Narkh Mullah Qayum aka Obaid and several other key members. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Sep 7, 2019 - Don't delude yourself, Aries. While it can be a real temptation to see what you want to see, there's danger in doing so. A pipe dream can only last so long. It's never permanent! Rather than playing this kind of trick on yourself, take off the blinders and face what's before you. Even if it hurts, it will likely be far less painful now than later.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Sep 7, 2019 - Do you need a change of pace, Taurus? If things are beginning to feel boring and you're apathetic, chances are that you do. All you have to do is figure out what to shift. If you're home most of the time, change the furniture around. It can make the house seem new. Consider putting up new pictures or bringing in fresh flowers. Switch your schedule around. This will energize you.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Sep 7, 2019 - Mind your physical health today, Gemini. Don't push yourself if you're feeling tired and run down. Seriously consider taking a day off from everything to get the rest your body needs. This can prevent more serious ailments by bolstering your strength and immune system. If you can't take a day off, consider what you'll do when you're forced to take a week because

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Sep 7, 2019 - Something out of the ordinary may appeal to you, Cancer, especially if life seems dull these days. Nothing says you can't indulge yourself as long as what you're considering isn't dangerous or something you'll regret. To bring some excitement into your life, just think through the means of attaining it. Perhaps all you need is to try a new sport or go out this evening.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Sep 7, 2019 - It's a great day to set some goals or review existing ones, Leo. If you don't have a working list, it's time you started one. Brainstorm without censorship. Let your thoughts flow and write them down. Then prioritize the list, add the steps needed to reach each goal, and consider the time frame. Map out your life and go where you want.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Sep 7, 2019 - Make yourself available to someone in need of a friend, Virgo. Don't turn anyone away even if you're busy or under the weather. Chances are the person who comes to you needs the advice and support that only you can offer. Listening doesn't take that much energy, and that may be all that's required. Leave yourself open to others.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Sep 7, 2019 - Take care of yourself if you feel tired, Libra. There's no shame in slowing down or taking a day off if it's needed. If you can spend a day in bed, go for it. This can be more restorative than you know. If some things must get done, delegate or work on a laptop in bed. Take heed when your body tells you it's had enough. Give yourself the rest you need.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Sep 7, 2019 - Music can soothe the savage beast, Scorpio. If you feel rather savage yourself, turn on some music. Dance and sing aloud. You'll be amazed at how this reduces stress and increases energy. Many find it therapeutic when times are tough and emotions run high. Try it for yourself. Expand your listening range to include many musical styles. You'll be glad you did!

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Sep 7, 2019 - If you feel sluggish today, Sagittarius, put on some upbeat music to get you going. Whether it's your favorite tune or the radio, it will help a great deal. Dance a little or sing while you tend to your work. Housework, filing - just about anything goes more quickly with a little rhythm. It also makes it more fun! Bring some enjoyment to your day.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

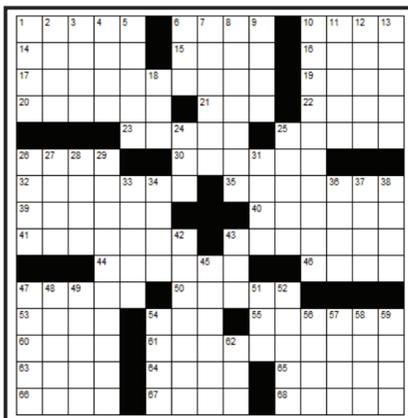
Sep 7, 2019 - Try then try again today, Capricorn. It can feel terrible to fail at something. Sometimes you just want to hide rather than face the possibility of humiliation. If success is important to you, you need to overcome your embarrassment and fear. Most people have to try more than once, especially when striving for important goals. Don't give up. Your goals are worthy.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Sep 7, 2019 - Consider talking with a good friend today, Aquarius. Don't let your pride get in the way of getting the support and help you need. If you've made a mistake or fear you've done something wrong, don't walk around with guilt. Sit down with a confidante over a cup of coffee and share what's happening. Remember that everyone ends up in positions

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Sep 7, 2019 - It might be time to face a recent failure, Pisces. No one is exempt from disappointment, of not succeeding at something. It's part of reaching a goal, no matter who you are or what you've done in the past. Even the most accomplished people have had to face this. You aren't alone in your feelings. Give it another shot. Things will work out.



Across

- Trademark, 6. Breezed through, 10. Streetcar, 14. Not inner, 15. Tardy, 16. Indian music
17. Indigenous, 19. Not fully closed, 20. Jettison, 21. How old you are, 22. Central area of a church, 23. Avoid, 25. Fire residues, 26. Wings, 30. Eager, 32. A type of leather
35. Etch, 39. Jubilant, 40. Antenna, 41. Like a zebra, 43. Support, 44. Silver wattle
46. Absorbs, 47. Collection of maps, 50. Handed over, 53. Violent disturbance, 54. Estimated time of arrival, 55. Afternoon nap, 60. Decorative case, 61. Ownership, 63. Too
64. God of love, 65. Unit of gold purity, 66. Observed, 67. Feudal worker, 68. Soft leather,

Down

- Wild hog, 2. Country bumpkin, 3. "Smallest" particle, 4. Infamous Roman emperor, 5. Go by car, 6. Former boxing champ, 7. 2nd largest country, 8. Knickknack holder, 9. Expunge, 10. Sin, 11. Indian prince, 12. American aloe, 13. Female horses, 18. Solidify, 24. A large vase, 25. Supernatural being, 26. Mimics, 27. A jaunty rhythm, 28. Food thickener, 29. Appraisal, 31. Data, 33. Caps, 34. As just mentioned, 36. Countertenor, 37. Vice President, 38. Makes a mistake, 42. Physicians, 43. Poor, 45. Time of the year, 47. Territories, 48. Name of a book, 49. Wingless bloodsucking insect, 51. East southeast, 52. Flat circular plates, 54. Type of sword, 56. Brother of Jacob, 57. "Your majesty", 58. Tailless amphibian, 59. Initial wager, 62. South southeast

Yesterday's Solution

GLAD SIGMA PILLA
 LOBS TRAILN ASIA
 EVENTUALLY TOMS
 BET OCTAL BOMBS
 ESQUIRE ERIE
 AGO ANCESTRY
 DROSS DUNCE RUE
 RAPL BOGIE GILLA
 EST MOCHA PACER
 WHITEOUT BAT
 CHASM CASTOFF
 BAILIRN EARTRICIA
 ALAL ANTIMATTER
 LENS STOMA WANE
 MESH ASPERN ODDIS

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