

Children among 6 Civilians Killed in Kunduz, Badghis

KUNDUZ CITY - Six civilians, half of them children, have been killed during separate incidents of violence in northern Kunduz and northwestern Badghis provinces, officials said on Monday. Gunmen linked to an illegal armed group ambushed a vehicle carrying their two rivals and civilians in Pul-i-Muhibullah area of Khanabad district at 10am on Monday, the town's administrative head said. Hayatullah Amiri told Pajhwok Afghan News the gun attack left the two targeted persons and three civilians



dead and another three civilians, including two women, injured. Police had launched their investigation into the incident and were trying to arrest the gunmen, the governor's spokesman, Abdul Wadood Wahidi, said. Separately, three children were killed on Sunday evening when a remnant of war explosive went off in the Maqur district of Badghis province. The district's acting chief, Abdul Waris, said the incident occurred when the seven and 12 years old children were grazing their animals. (Pajhwok)

9 Taliban Killed in Security Operations

MAIDAN SHAHR - Nine Taliban insurgents have been killed in security operations in Chak District of Maidan Wardak province. Officials said the operations were carried out in Ambokhak and Seyab areas last night leaving nine militants killed and four others wounded. Militant sanctuaries were also destroyed during these operations by the security forces. Security forces and civilians did not suffer casualties in the operations. Maidan Wardak, located in the central east part of the country is comparatively a restive province. Armed militant groups including Taliban and Hizb-e-Islami are operating in some of its remote areas. They occasionally carry out attacks in the provincial capital as well. Officials said the operations were carried out in Ambokhak and Seyab areas last night leaving nine militants killed and four others wounded. Militant sanctuaries were also destroyed... (More on P4)... (17)

BF Rebuilds Malalay Hospital in Kabul

KABUL - With continued commitment to the country's health sector, the Bayat Foundation (BF) has reconstructed the Gynecology maternity unit of the Malalay Hospital and also donated advanced equipments to the hospital. The chairman of Bayat Foundation, Engineer Ehsanullah Bayat says that the Bayat Foundation has assisted advanced equipments due to a high level of patients referring to the hospital. "The Malalay hospital needed these assistances and the aids by the Bayat Foundation will also further continue," Eng. Ehsanullah Bayat, chairman of BF said. In the meantime, praising the assistance of the foundation, head of the Malalay Hospital said that many of the patients challenges have been eliminated by these aids. Hafiza Amar Khail, head of Malalay Hospital declared that the foundation has also assisted this hospital in the past which was very effective in preventing maternal and infant mortality. "These aids help us to provide more health services to the patients and fortunately with the help of the Bayat Foundation, now we have an equipped operating room in our hospital," Hafiza Amar Khail said. One of the primary activities of the Bayat Foundation is expanding health care in Afghanistan for women and children. Afghanistan struggles with one of the highest infant mortality rates in the world. About 25 percent of children born in the country will die before reaching the age of five. More than half of these deaths result from treatable infections, which make them particularly tragic. To expand access to health care among mothers and their children, the Bayat Foundation has funded a number of hospital projects throughout the country. Altogether, the Bayat Foundation's medical facilities have served hundreds of thousands of patients, and the organization looks forward to watching this number grow. The non-profit Bayat Foundation has assisted Afghanistan in... (More on P4)... (18)

Insurgents Overrun 4 Security Checkpoints in Uruzgan

TIRINKOT - Four security posts in the Charchino district of central Uruzgan province have fallen to the Taliban, officials confirmed on Monday. Second Lieutenant Wali Dad, the district police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the militants had overrun the security checkpoints in Sarab area. He said the insurgent attacks on the check-posts triggered a fierce clash with the security personnel. The gunbattle continued until 6am. One policeman was wounded in an explosion during the



firefight, he said, having no information about casualties among the assailants. The Taliban could capture the entire area if reinforcements were not dispatched from Tirinkot, the provincial capital, the district police commander warned. (Pajhwok)

Abuses Rise Along with Pro-Afghan Government Militias



KUNDUZ - When 30 Kalashnikov-toting men came to Mohammad Miakhil's house demanding he donate a large sum of money and three tonnes of wheat to their Afghan government-aligned militia, he knew it was time to leave. "They gave us two hours to pay," said Miakhil. "If not, they would set our house on fire and kill my family." Miakhil could not afford to hand over such a large portion of his harvest and 120,000 afghanis (about \$1,000), so his family joined the exodus from Khanabad, a district in northern Kunduz province that has become a frontline in the war between the Taliban and government forces. Kunduz has been a battleground before. It was one of the last areas seized from the Taliban during the United States-led invasion in 2001. The Taliban returned in force to the province in 2009, taking over much territory and setting up a shadow government before Afghanistan's military, backed by US and NATO troops, was able to regain ground. The NATO combat mission in Afghanistan was completed at the end of 2014, and the US has drastically scaled down the number of its soldiers in the country. (IRIN)

NDS Prevents Suicide Attack in Samangan Mosque



AIBAK - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) - Afghanistan's intelligence agency has prevented a suicide attack in a mosque in northern Samangan province. NDS has arrested three terrorists who planned to carry out suicide attack in Sarwar-i-Kaynat mosque as well as target other populated areas in Aibak city. A statement issued by NDS on Monday states that Mullah Nazir S/O Khair Mohammad, Zainul-Abadin S/O Sharafuddin and Mullah Rawzatullah S/O Khal Mohammad were arrested red handed with bombs, Kalashnikov, Pistol and ammos. According to the statement Mullah Rawzatullah wanted to carry out the suicide attack in the mosque. (KP)

5 Policemen Killed Mysteriously, 2 Missing in Zabul

KALAT - At least five policemen have been killed mysteriously in the Shah Joi district of southern Zabul province, an official said on Monday. Wazir Mohammad Jawadi, the district chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News that four policemen were killed mysteriously late on Sunday in Kajarkhel area. Two other police personnel have since been missing following the incident in Kajarkhel area, according to the district chief. A delegation has been sent to the area for investigating the incident.



But another official, wishing anonymity, put the death toll at five. He suggested the missing policemen might have been involved in killing their colleagues. No group has so far commented on the incident. Mysterious killings of security personnel, particularly policemen, (Pajhwok)

25 Civilians Killed in Baghlan Conflict: Probe Team

PUL-I-KHUMRI - A president-appointed investigation delegation that travelled to northern Baghlan province on Monday said 25 civilians, including women and children, lost their lives in two months to the ongoing conflict in the province. The delegation, led by Borders and Tribal Affairs Minister Mohammad Gulab Mangal, comprised representatives from the ministries of defence and interior, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) and the Attorney General Office (AGO). Mangal told Pajhwok Afghan News the security situation in Dand-i-Ghori and



Dahan-i-Ghori localities was concerning and that clashes between government forces... (More on P4)... (19)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You're not going to let anything bother you today, or so you think. Your swashbuckling strategy might actually work for a while, but it's unfeasible to maintain your cavalier attitude if someone's inconsiderate actions offend or threaten you. Even if you choose to ignore the sleight, addressing your unresolved feelings is less complicated now than if you wait until later.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You're quite positive about your life's direction today and may even ignore a conflict in your calendar so you can maintain your current peace of mind. You're concerned that others will judge you unfairly, but it's impossible to bury your head in the sand while the introverted Cancer Moon squares chatty Mercury. It's healthier to face a potential problem in your schedule.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Although you might be tenaciously clinging to fears about your finances today, you could be putting on a show of confidence so others won't see past your charming demeanor. Wanting to present your life in a complimentary light is perfectly understandable, but don't try to fool yourself even if you are dazzling others with your fancy footwork. Managing your money needs to be a top priority.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You seem rather distracted today, yet it's wise to acknowledge your feelings and express your needs while the evocative Moon is back in your sign. You're beginning a whole new emotional cycle now, yet your attachment to the past prevents you from fully embracing the future. Patience is one of your strengths; just don't turn it into an exercise in procrastination.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You may appear to be quite agreeable in all that you do today, but you still have your own agenda cooking on the back-burner, nonetheless. Instead of trying to persuade anyone that you're onto something big, you might choose to simply hide your true intentions from others now that the reflective Moon is lurking in your 12th House of Privacy. The fact is there's no need to explain your decisions.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Everyone seems to be relying on you for something today and you don't want to let anyone down. Although various commitments are pulling you in many directions, you desperately want to narrow your focus and do one thing at a time. You have high expectations for the quality of your experiences, but find it impossible to relax when you're under too much pressure. Perfection is not required.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You might not be as emotionally available as others expect these days, but you're doing significant work within the confines of your mind. Do the best you can to maintain appearances to give yourself the room you need to continue your inner journey. Remember, today's creative ideas fuel your intentions for the days ahead. Set boundaries if people keep interrupting your reverie.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your desire to support someone else's plan doesn't mean you have to relinquish your own dreams. Unfortunately, you may feel pushed into an uncomfortable emotional box if you believe that people are taking unfair advantage of your flexibility. Try not to blame anyone for their shortcomings; just focus on your own reactions instead of what others did or didn't do.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

An intense relationship issue with a powerful person may turn into an outright conflict today as clashing points of view demand your intervention. Nevertheless, direct confrontation won't produce a clear winner now, so minimize unnecessary drama by refusing to cross swords or words with anyone. Instead of wasting precious time arguing about who is right and who is wrong, explore common ground so you can accomplish more.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

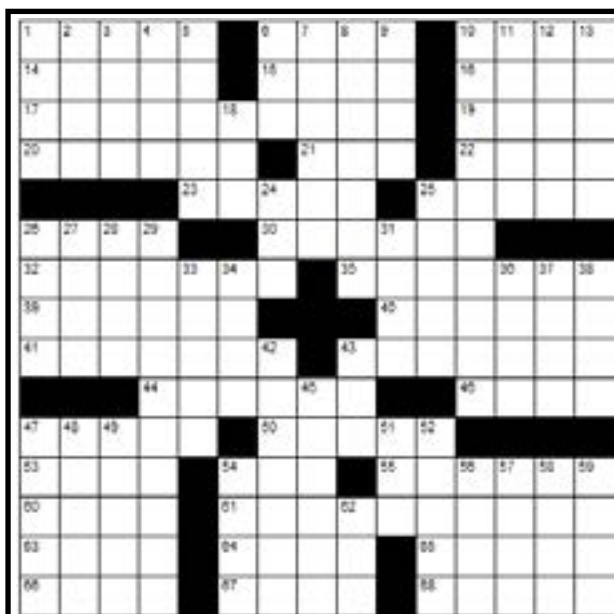
You're as busy as a beaver today and happy that you have a variety of things to do on a day off. Nevertheless, you're not thrilled if people are overly dependent on you. You don't like running all over the place to bail out others when you secretly wish you were addressing your own needs. Although you can't ignore your personal relationships, you can reshuffle your priorities so that your goals take precedence.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Crosscurrents at home require your undivided attention today. You're up for nearly anything and your positive attitude will ultimately hold you in good stead. But your eagerness could set up an unhappy situation where you are stretched so thin that you cannot enjoy yourself, no matter what you're doing. Stay aware of your energy level so you can maintain a sustainable pace and, ultimately,

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

A relationship dilemma may be interfering with your ability to laugh while everyone else around you is busy having fun. Or perhaps your emotional needs are in conflict with your current social obligations. Either way, you must find a sensible course of action that allows you to remain in touch with your feelings without believing that you must fix everything right away. Resolution will come in time if you don't try too hard to play.



Across

- 1. Ottoman title, 6. Physiques, 10. Bearing, 14. Hurt, 15. Diva's solo, 16. Cocoyam, 17. Booming, 19. Fastens, 20. Detects, 21. G, 22. "Where the heart is", 23. Fit out again, 25. Scintillas, 26. F F F F, 30. Have in mind, 32. Banister, 35. Invigorate, 39. Big step, 40. Decipher, 41. Poster color, 43. Demesnes, 44. Extreme cruelty, 46. Gave temporarily, 47. Religious splinter groups, 50. Property claims, 53. End, 54. Dowel, 55. Narcotic, 60. Boorish, 61. Decorative, 63. Indian music, 64. Give temporarily, 65. Coral island, 66. Anagram of "Lyme", 67. Unique, 68. Hemp cords.

Down

- 1. Taps, 2. Pang, 3. Cold-shoulder, 4. Female chickens, 5. Viper, 6. Tavern, 7. Beginning, 8. Kitchen set, 9. Wise one, 10. Organized, 11. Dimwit, 12. Swelling under the skin, 13. Snouts, 18. East southeast, 24. A tree fruit, 25. Arm of the sea, 26. At one time (archaic), 27. Destiny, 28. Strong and sure, 29. Backwash, 31. Terminates, 33. Notions, 34. Egghead, 36. Cast a ballot, 37. Biblical garden, 38. Where a bird lives, 42. Control surface on a plane, 43. An uncle, 45. Indicate, 47. Pungent Indian dish, 48. Normal, 49. Shelf, 51. French for «Name», 52. Lance, 54. Game on horseback, 56. Within, 57. At the peak of, 58. Story, 59. L L L L, 62. One or more.

Yesterday's Solution



again, appear, array, astronomy, awake, believe blank, bundle, center, charge, child, closer, cores covert, , deport, energy , fable, false, figure, found, grade, heart, keen, loan, lonely, manage, public, rate, shatter, signal, spare, tare, tricky, true, witch.

