

Top Taliban Leader Killed by Pakistani Taliban Militants in Kunar

KABUL - A top leader of the Afghan Taliban insurgents has been killed by the Pakistani Taliban militants in eastern Kunar province of Afghanistan, it has been reported.

The incident has reportedly taken place in the vicinity of Sarkano district with the slain Taliban leader identified as Ubaid.

According to the local media reports in Pakistan citing informed sources, Ubaid was killed two days ago by the militants of Jamaat-ul-Ahrar faction of Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan.

Last week the Pakistani armed group allegedly killed an Afghan Taliban local leader Zabita Jalal that caused tension between the two sides in the area, according to Daily Times.

The Taliban militants group has not commented regarding the report so far.

Ubaid was believed to be a prominent Taliban leader who was in the wanted list of the ...*(More on P4)...(17)*



152 Taliban Eliminated in Kunduz Last Month: Gen. Qadiri

KUNDUZ CITY - At least 152 Taliban insurgents have been killed and 70 others wounded during operations in northeastern Kunduz province last month, an official claimed on Sunday.

Brig. Gen Noorullah Qadiri, newly appointed commander of the 20th Pamiir Zone, told Pajhwok Afghan News the offensives were conducted by security forces in the northeastern zone, particularly in Kunduz, last month.

He said the operations caused huge casualties to the militants, including some of their key members. Several insurgent hideouts were also destroyed, the commander added.

Qadiri said the security situation in Kunduz was currently satisfactory and plans were being devised to clear more Taliban-controlled areas. He announced a clearing operation would be launched soon in three newly-formed districts.

Residents of Kunduz, who are optimistic about the current security situation in the province, want the government to purge more areas of militants.

Shafiqullah, a resident of Kunduz, said: "The security environment is better, but large areas are still under Taliban's control; we want the government to clear these areas as well."

However, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid denied the rebel casualties and claimed civilians had been killed and wounded and their houses destroyed as a result of air raids by the security forces. *(Pajhwok)*



8 Police, 6 Taliban Killed in Ghazni Clash

GHAZNI CITY - Eight police and six Taliban insurgents have been killed during an hours-long clash in Deh Yak district of southern Ghazni province, an official said on Sunday.

Police spokesman Fahim Amarkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News the clash erupted on Saturday night when militants attacked an Afghan Local Police check-post in Rabt area of the district.

In the ensuing clash, eight police and six militants were killed and four police and as many Taliban rebels were wounded as the gunbattle stretched into Sunday morning.

A resident of the area said the militants captured a security check-post. Zabihullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, claimed the fighters overran a post and killed 10 police personnel and only one fighter was wounded. *(Pajhwok)*

Afghan-Austrian Artist Hopes to Promote Art in Afghanistan

KABUL - An Austrian born artist whose father was originally from Afghanistan said he immediately felt at home when he arrived in the country. An artist who was born in Austria has returned to his father's country of birth to promote conceptual and performance arts in Afghanistan.

The artist, Rahman Hak-Hagir is Austrian but his father is an Afghan. Although he has never lived in Afghanistan he said he is familiar with the social challenges the country faces and wants to share his knowledge with Afghan artists.

Hak-Hagir has created dozens of amazing artworks in the past few years.

Hak-Hagir said his father went to Austria before the invasion of the Soviet Union.

"I totally fell in love with my father's country. And I felt at home from the first day and I am very happy that I finally was able to come here and experience Afghanistan and especially Kabul and the people," said Hak-Hagir.

Hak-Hagir not only is a photographer, but he mixes theater, music and visual arts and his work includes a short film in which he describes the concept of immigration in a very simple language. *... (More on P4)...(18)*

15 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Uruzgan Airstrikes: MoI

KABUL - At least 15 Taliban insurgents were killed in Afghan Air Force (AAF) airstrikes in central Uruzgan province on Saturday, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said in a statement on Sunday. In addition, 11 other insurgents were wounded.

The airstrike took place in Khas Uruzgan district after the AAF targeted two

insurgent strongholds, read the statement.

"Two bases of the insurgents, three vehicles, nine motorbikes and some weapons were destroyed in the airstrikes," it said. However, the statement did not provide further details.

The Taliban has not yet commented over the attack. *(Tolonews)*

Teenage Girl Found Dead; ANA Soldier Killed in Faryab

MAIMANA - A 19-year-old girl was found dead on Sunday in the capital of northwestern Faryab province, where Taliban insurgents killed an Afghan soldier, officials said.

Police said the young woman's body was found in the limits of the 3th police district in Maimana city early in the morning.

They said the victims could not be identified and her body was currently kept in the Afghan-Turk Hospital."

Dr. Samir Enayat, public health director, said the 19-year-old woman had been raped and then strangled to death with a rope.

Sayed Hafizullah Fitrat, top human rights official in Faryab, confirmed Enayat's account and asked detective and security organs to arrest those behind the murder and bring them to justice.

Separately, an Afghan National Army soldier was killed by suspected Taliban militants in Islam Qala area of Sherin Tagab district on Saturday night.

The slain soldier Amanullah, 25, was a resident of Astana Baba district *(Pajhwok)*

22 Militants Killed in Jawzjan Province



SHIBERGHAN - At least 22 militants have been killed and 26 others wounded over the past two days in Jawzjan province as cleanup operations have been continuing, an army official said on Sunday.

"Afghan national army launched military operations in parts of Jawzjan province two days ago to clean up the areas from insurgents," General Abdul Dayan, deputy commander of 209 Shaheen Corps told Xinhua, adding that 22 militants

have been killed, 26 injured and five others arrested during the ongoing crackdown. One army soldier also lost his life, while another injured during the operation, he said.

Jawzjan province with Sheberghan as its capital 390 km north of Kabul is among relatively restive provinces where Taliban and Islamic State group are active, often carrying out attacks against the security forces. *(Xinhua)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You're excited about all the possibilities that await you this week. As bored as you can get with familiarity, you're still eager to jump back into the routine of work. However, your enthusiasm may not last as long as you expect, especially if someone entices you with what appears to be an amazing opportunity.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus There is very little room for deviation today as you focus on revealing your heart's secrets. However, you're not interested in professing idealistic love or dreaming about unrealistic scenarios. Instead, your laser-like thoughts are aimed at manifesting goals in a pragmatic way.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini You don't like feeling limited in your options, but the more you assess your current situation, the fewer choices there are than you originally thought. You might become so frustrated that you abandon any pretense of rationality today. You often wing it and get by fine, making significant decisions on the fly. Nevertheless, you have a chance to step up to a new level of productivity by maintaining an analytical, rather than an instinctive approach.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer You are like a talk radio host today, sounding as if you're wildly interested in whatever others are saying. However, you're operating with an agenda of your own now, and each person you interview becomes a pawn in your scheme to promote your point of view. Getting carried away with your self-importance won't further your cause.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo Your obsession with the material world can be useful when it comes to managing your resources, but it might also distract you from the most important issues. However, the intensity with which you approach handling your finances could be counterproductive now, especially if you attempt to involve someone else in your personal decision-making process.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept 22)



Virgo Your thoughts could collapse under their own weight today unless you stop taking your goals so seriously. Fortunately, you're able to use your insight productively to redirect your internal process toward a positive result. Channel your energy into self-reflection and self-expression now, for you are the source of all that happens in your world. Deepak Chopra wrote, "Our biological rhythms are the symphony of the cosmos, music embedded deep within us."

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra Your emotions are hidden behind a veil of good cheer today, and others might not have a clue about your true feelings. However, you may be keeping your thoughts secret for a good reason, especially if you believe you're not being treated fairly by someone who sees you as a threat. Instead of expressing your anger directly now.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You are a tough one to fool because you can see right through another person's mask. Your psychological x-ray vision immediately tells you if someone is telling the truth or if you're being played. You're short on patience now, so you are unlikely to cut someone a little slack while they figure out their story. Nevertheless, avoid jumping to conclusions today, even if you

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius Your master plan for professional success has taken nearly everything into account. However, circumstances still diverge from your strategy as unexpected twists and turns bend reality. It might be disheartening to discover that much of your preparation is of little value now that so many things have changed forever. Don't let sloppy thinking slip back into the equation while you recreate a new approach that's more relevant to the current landscape.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You excel when working within a well-defined structure because it empowers you to calculate all your options and make the best choices. However, without those established boundaries in place, you may vacillate between wrapping your brain around all the facts while trying to grasp the big picture.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Aquarius A working partnership can be very complicated now, and it's a challenging task to untangle all the interrelated threads. However, it's imperative that all financial dealings are clearly agreed upon before moving forward. Additionally, it's wise to be specific about the division of duties because an unresolved issue will likely come back to create real havoc down the road.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces It's no fun to discover that you are oversimplifying the solution to a relationship dilemma. Instead of listening to what is being said, you tend to only hear what you want someone to say now. Nevertheless, it's less disruptive in the long run to acknowledge your differences sooner than later. Thankfully, you don't need to come to an absolute agreement on every issue, but it's still better to know where the lines are drawn.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting points for clues.

Across clues: 1. Seats oneself, 5. Cartoon bear, 9. Mongolian desert, 13. Lawn mower brand, 14. Wash out with a solvent, 16. Black, in poetry, 17. "Smallest" particle, 18. Make fun of, 19. Catch a fish, 20. Measuring instruments, 22. Supervisors, 24. Plenty, 26. Extraterrestrial, 27. Strong and proud, 30. African foxlike animal, 33. Issuing commands, 35. Fish broth, 37. Purchase, 38. Russian emperors, 41. Atlantic food fish, 42. Toward the outside, 45. Edge of an area, 48. Panic, 51. A four-sided spinning top, 52. Old photo color, 54. Terror, 55. Unreadable, 59. Go by car, 62. Midday, 63. Unsophisticated, 65. Holly, 66. Central points, 67. Santa's helpers, 68. If not, 69. Ear-related, 70. Lairs, 71. Collections.

Down clues: 1. Male deer, 2. Greek letter, 3. Cave dweller, 4. Any unspecified person, 5. Nevertheless, 6. Margarine, 7. Exotic jelly flavor, 8. Reflexive form of "It", 9. Tartarus, 10. Double-reed woodwind, 11. Rude person, 12. Writing fluids, 15. Creepy, 21. Blend, 23. Transmit, 25. Hissy fit, 27. Part of the outer ear, 28. Spew, 29. N N N N, 31. Squadron, 32. Task, 34. Chitchat, 36. Bucolic, 39. 16 1/2 feet, 40. Ride the waves, 43. Insecticide, 44. Remnant, 46. Require, 47. Personal journals, 49. Express a thought, 50. Humorously vulgar, 53. Not dead, 55. Data, 56. Plunder, 57. Hubs, 58. Not odd, 60. Sleeveless garment, 61. Former lovers, 64. S.

Yesterday's Solution crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

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