

500 Volunteers to Help Maintain Muharram Security

KABUL - The Kabul Garrison says as many as 500 youngsters are ready to keep security for religious places during Muharram mourning days alongside security forces.

Lt. Gen. Afzal Aman Aman, acting director general of the Kabul Garrison, on Thursday told a press conference here that the Afghan National Army (ANA) in collaboration with Afghan National Police (ANP) and National Directorate of Security (NDS) would be part of special security measures from Friday for the Muharram days. "Terrorists are hell-bent on disrupting such religious and traditional festivals, but our decision is strong and Inshallah they won't be allowed to conduct any kind of subversive activities."

He said for ensuring security in Muharram days, some civil society organizations had come forward, offering 400 to 500 youngsters for maintaining security alongside security personnel. Aman said: ...*(More on P4)...*(15)



Americans who Served in Afghanistan all Praise for Hospitality

KABUL - A number of Americans who have served in Afghanistan say they are awaiting the moment to see a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan. A statement from the Presidential Palace in Kabul said a number of Americans met President Ashraf Ghani in New York on Thursday. Hamdullah Mohib, the Afghanistan ambassador to the United Nations, briefed the president about the Americans who had served in Afghanistan, saying about one million Americans had worked in various fields in the war-torn country. He said the Americans who had worked in Afghanistan were still all praise for their treatment and hospitality by the Afghans.

He said these Americans had a special love for Afghanistan and the Afghans and some Americans remained to do business and other activities. He specially mentioned Americans who purchased dresses made in Kabul and saffron produced in Afghanistan. Later some Americans hailed efforts of Mohib at strengthening relations between the peoples of the two countries. Expressing their love for Afghanistan, the Americans told President Ghani: "we are awaiting the moment to see a stable, peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan under your leadership." *(Pajhwok)*

Speakers Express Polarised Opinion on New US Strategy

KABUL - Many institutes on Thursday stressed the need for national unity, slamming the new US policy for Afghanistan and asking militant groups to join the peace process.

Representatives of the Afghanistan Political Parties House (APPH), civil society groups and community council issued the call at a gathering in the capital Kabul

on Thursday. Mohammad Omar Ayar, a senior member of APPH, said: "Some figures using foreign resources posed as representatives of different tribes, religious groups and regions. "Such elements are engaged in destructive activities including efforts to create divisions among the people and promote discrimination; they do so ...*(More on P4)...*(17)

Hekmatyar Declares Amnesty for those who fought with HIA



KABUL - In his meeting with the tribal elders of Herat and Badghis provinces in Herat province, Hekmatyar said "We pardon all those who have fought against Hezb-e-Islami Afghanistan (HIA) and extend the hand of brotherhood and invite for the tolerance for each other as we do not the previous bitter experiences to be repeated."

Hekmatyar further added that to reach to a compromise and gather under a na-

tional axis is the only way to get rid of the ongoing situation.

According to Hekmatyar, all the parties and groups have been invited to gather under a single roof and put an end to the ongoing differences and the ongoing miserable situation.

In the meantime, Hekmatyar claimed that except Hezb-e-Islami all the other parties are operating with the motives to serve a specific ethnic ...*(More on P4)...*(18)

12 Taliban Killed, 17 Wounded in Kunduz Battle

KABUL - A dozen Taliban militants were killed and 17 others wounded during an hours-long gun-battle with security forces in northern Kunduz province on Friday. The Taliban attacked security posts in Gul Block and Takhta area of Dasht-i-Archi district at about 3pm and the ensuing clash lasted until noon, Kunduz intelligence chief Brig. Gen. Syed Amir Shah Sadat, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said one security personnel was killed and three others were wounded in the attack. While 12 attackers were killed and 17 others wounded as the forces returned fire, Sadat said.

He said nine bodies of the rebels remained on the scene and security forces lost four machineguns, three Kalashnikovs and one armored tank to the battle. A second tank of security forces was torched.

The Taliban have so far said nothing about their attacks in Dasht-i-Archi district. *(Pajhwok)*

Dozens of Villages Cleared of Taliban in Logar

KABUL - Military officials in Logar province said Friday at least 32 villages were cleared of the Taliban in Mohammad Agha district during a military operation carried out by government forces this week. The officials said 12 Taliban fighters including a key commander of the group, Khalid also known as Hanzala, were killed in the operation.

According to Logar police, the Taliban had threatened Kabul-Logar Highway by establishing strongholds in parts of Mohammad Agha district, but the threat was thwarted during the operation.

"The military operation was kicked off three days ago in 32 villages of Mohammad Agha district and all areas were fully cleared of militants," said Ahmad Naemzai, the ...*(More on P4)...*(16)

3 Civilians Killed in Special Forces Raid on Jalalabad Home



JALALABAD - Afghan Special Forces killed three civilians during a raid on a home in the capital of eastern Nangarhar province, witnesses said on Friday.

One of the witnesses told Pajhwok Afghan News on the condition of anonymity that the special forces mistakenly raided a wrong home.

He said the forces opened fire at people who had gathered at the home. The dead included a Nangarhar customs official, a driver of former president Hamid Karzai and another official.

However, he did not explain if the victims were guests at the home or members of the family. The governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, said the incident took place last night.

He said the raid had resulted in casualties, but he had no figure. Pajhwok tried to seek comment from security officials particularly the special forces, but to no avail. *(Pajhwok)*

2 Killed As Taliban Attack ALP Commander Home

SAMANGAN - Father of a local police commander and one Taliban attacker were killed and the commander and a woman were wounded during a clash in northern Samangan province on Friday.

The clash that lasted two hours broke out after a group of Taliban waged an armed assault on the local police commander Nur Mohammad Sangaryar's home in Daikund village of Dara-i-Sauf Paen district at about 7am, the district police chief said.

Abdullah Zafari told Pajhwok Afghan News that one Taliban attacker and the father of Sangaryar were killed and Sangaryar and a woman were wounded in the clash.

The Taliban fled after more Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel arrived in the area.

Sangaryar is a former Taliban member who reconciled with the government last year. *(Pajhwok)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You can't escape the watchful eye of someone who loves you now. But there aren't any reasons to be paranoid, since no one is out to get you. In fact, you may discover that your path widens if you doggedly stick to your initial agenda. Nevertheless, you still prefer to do your work within a partnership today. Productivity prospers when two minds think as one.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus Your legendary stubbornness precedes your arrival on the scene today. But someone's unwillingness to accommodate your needs is more surprising than annoying at first. Nevertheless, you're not so fast to jump into the situation and impose your solution onto others because you don't want to fight to prove your dominance.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini You're known for your adaptability, not your tenacity. However, you have a firm handle on your calendar today with very little wiggle room for change. Your willingness to meet someone halfway quickly fades when you realize your own lack of flexibility. Nevertheless, even a meager attempt to make something happen now is met with a smile and the beginnings of a collaboration.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer You have a message to convey today, and won't likely be swayed from your previously established agenda. The fixed Scorpio Moon is camped out in your 5th House of Love and Romance, turning even the most casual conversations into ones filled with flirtation and innuendo. Thankfully, you can consciously slow things down if an interaction heats up too quickly.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo You may struggle with someone very close to you about who is in control now. A family member or a partner could attempt to hijack your day by changing plans without discussing it with you first. The truth is you might not be so angry if you were consulted before it was a done deal.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept 22)



Virgo You're uncharacteristically difficult to pin down today. It's as if you don't want to admit the truth because you believe it could be used against you later on. Instead, you are fixated on using lots of details to distract others from your unwillingness to answer their questions. Once you make it through the first round of conflict, everything should begin to settle down. H. Jackson Brown Jr. wrote, "Sometimes the heart sees what is invisible to the eye."

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra Your optimism is contagious today, and your friends can't help but smile when they are in your presence. Nevertheless, your confidence could quickly turn to uncertainty if you bite off more than you can chew. Rather than blaming people and places, examine your own personal history to uncover the source of similar previous events.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You're unabashedly dreaming out loud today, and the recipients of your disclosures might believe they know you much better because of what they learn. However, it's nearly impossible to know if your revelations are personal or if they originate from deep within your collective unconscious. Nevertheless, your message, whether individual or global, is still highly relevant.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius Your friends can spot your overabundant confidence from a mile away. But you have little information to share now, because you want to keep your feelings private while you're still processing them. Take all the time you need; honestly, you're under no obligation to say anything at all. Greek philosopher Xenocrates wrote, "I have often regretted my speech, never my silence."

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You have a very fixed notion about the road that's leading into your future. But you're not interested in defending your plans against the judgments of those who call themselves your friends. You don't understand where their criticism is coming from now, and you can't help but wonder if they are simply jealous of your aspirations.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Aquarius You may raise your voice to get your point across today, but your bark is bigger than your bite. Nevertheless, it's wise to tone down your words, lest they sound overly aggressive. Conjure up the past and explore whatever originally hooked you into following your passion. But instead of pursuing that train of thought now.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces Your dreams are complicated today, but you don't want to send them packing back into the night. In fact, you wish you could bring the fragments of memories and glimpses of other dimensions into the mundane world. Feeding off the psychological juice and spiritual buzz of the images emerging from your unconscious inspires your creativity. Unfortunately, the more you try to define the details of your visions, the more they fade.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-60.

Across: 1. Sharpened, 6. Diva's solo, 10. Keg, 14. Jagged, 15. A small wooded hollow, 16. Portent, 17. Noteworthy, 19. Not a single one, 20. Take for granted, 21. Autonomic nervous system, 22. Circuit breaker, 23. Onyx, 25. Fathers, 26. Bright thought, 30. Reposed, 32. Puzzler, 35. In some way, 39. Within a building, 40. Swiss city, 41. Hairdresser, 43. Desired, 44. Bury, 46. Makes a mistake, 47. Accumulate, 50. Applied to a wall or canvas, 53. Nonclerical, 54. Container, 55. Less difficult, 60. Guy, 61. Affording grounds for legal action, 63. Not odd, 64. Tropical tuber, 65. Shrimp-like crustacean, 66. A musical pause, 67. Distinctive flair, 68. Pantywaist

Down: 1. Sister and wife of Zeus, 2. Mining finds, 3. French for "Names", 4. Brother of Jacob, 5. Skin layer, 6. American Dental Association, 7. Refund, 8. Sickness, 9. Beers, 10. Self-assurance, 11. French for "Love", 12. Feel, 13. Leg joints, 18. Beer barrel, 24. Arrive (abbrev.), 25. Seminal fluid, 26. Colored part of an eye, 27. Effort, 28. Countercurrent, 29. Minor, 31. Roman robe, 33. Groin, 34. At one time (archaic), 36. Inheritor, 37. Not under, 38. Bankrolls, 42. Applied to the skin, 43. A law enforcement agency, 45. Slogan, 47. Birch relative, 48. Purple shade, 49. Assistants, 51. Prefix meaning "Modern", 52. Armored battle wagons, 54. Diminish, 56. Indian dress, 57. Nile bird, 58. L L L L, 59. Depend, 62. Charged particle

Yesterday's Solution

RAVE	GORGE	TEAM
LIBS	ARARA	RANTI
PER	HULL	ZER
FLD	DOOZY	WIELD
SESSION	HOOKS	
HOLD	DOT	TORE
HOLO	DRUGS	ENIA
ALBE	WEENY	LOUP
FIR	PAVED	LAPSE
TOCCATA	ATW	
HALTS	ESTATES	
AGISM	TASSE	ODE
REIK	BACTEREMIA	
SAFE	ETHOS	CELL
ERIS	DEEPS	PUSES

actor, after, bear, befall blame, bleat, bracket, bring, burst, cabs, cell chime, defer, dense, empty, energy, exact, fable, feet, happy, hoax, horror, labor, lace, leap, literature, lodestone, lunch

ETBURSTENERGY
LMESTATEMENTL
BIYKLABORITRZ
MRTHCNULRATWD
ARPECALBEMIEE
ROMTRARLKDKDC
IRETFABB EARHN
DEFERTTSNCOAE
FABLEAPUHRTP
ESNEDRDIROCP
TCAXEGMOZEAYA
MHMATERIALOXP
LODESTONEMALB