

Bamyan Historic Sites Need Protection, Maintenance

BAMYAN CITY - Cultural activists in central Bamyan province say they are concerned about a dilapidated condition of historic sites as some people use ancient caves as stable. Bamyan is one of Afghanistan's historically rich provinces known for the world-renowned Buddha statues carved out thousands of years ago. Band-i-Amir is another beautiful area with a translucent water reservoir. It is the first-ever National Park of the country. According to local officials, the number of tourists declined in recent years due to growing insecurity in Bamyan and neighboring provinces. To realize Bamyan's tourism potential, the activists insist on beefing up security.



The activists also accuse government authorities of negligence in protection and maintenance of historic sites. They warn if proper attention is not paid, the sites may be extinct. Ali Raza Hussaini, a cultural activist, told Pajhwok Afghan News that heavy rains, natural disasters and the lack of maintenance and care had caused damages to historic sites in the province and the sites faced the danger of extinction. "The Qul Akram locality where some ancient caves exist is registered with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, but local residents keep their household animals in the caves," he said. The 5th ... (More on P4)... (13)

12 Taliban, Daesh Rebels Dead in Nangarhar Raids



JALALABAD - Twelve Taliban and Daesh militant have been killed during separate military operations in parts of eastern Nangarhar province, a statement from 201st Selab Military Corp said on Saturday. Security forces conducted airstrikes on rebels' positions in Achin and Kot districts late on Friday leaving seven Daesh rebels dead, the statement said. Separately, five Taliban were killed during security forces operation in Chaparhar district, Niama-tullah Noorzai, the town's administrative chief said. He said civilians and security forces suffered no casualties during the operations. Militants also not comment over the incident. (Pajhwok)

Some Circles Wanted Uruzgan Collapse: Official

KANDAHAR - Local security officials say some circles wanted the central Uruzgan province to fall into insurgents' hands for their own interests. Gen. Daud Shah Wafadar, 205th Attal Military Corps commander in the south, alleged this during a meeting with security forces in Uruzgan province. Without naming anyone, he said some circles wanted the collapse of Uruzgan for their personal interests. "Some 89 security posts were left to be captured by militants without resistance under a deal, the figures involved in



the deal wanted to hand over Tirinkot to Taliban, but we prevented them," he said. He said these figures thought they could do whatever they wanted to, but added there was a law and government could... (More on P4)... (14)

Delivery of 141 Weapons to Taliban Stopped in Herat City: NDS

KABUL - The delivery of at least 141 different types of weapons to the Taliban insurgents in western Herat province was stopped by the Afghan intelligence operatives. The National Directorate of Security (NDS) said the weapons were loaded professionally in a truck and the group was looking to deliver them to its fighters in Herat province. According to a statement by NDS, the cache included at least 51 Ak-47 assault rifles, 19 automatic weapon, 71 pistols and various other types of ammunition and explosives. NDS further added that the truck was seized by ... (More on P4)... (15)

Prison Official Killed in Taliban Attack near Salang Tunnel

KABUL - Five people were killed in a Taliban ambush close to Salang Tunnel in Khenjan district in Baghlan early Saturday morning, security officials said. Three children were also wounded, officials added. According to security officials, Najmuddin Andarabi, a Pul-e-Charkhi prison official, had been traveling to Kabul with his family when the Taliban attacked his vehicle near the northern end of Salang Tunnel. Clashes meanwhile are ongoing in the area and the Salang highway has been closed to officials. (Tolonews)



Andarabi, along with two women and two men were killed, officials said. Clashes meanwhile are ongoing in the area and the Salang highway has been closed to officials. (Tolonews)

6 Taliban Held in Balkh Governor's Led Operation

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - A six-member group of Taliban has been arrested during security forces operation in Shor Tapa district of northwestern Balkh province, an official said on Saturday. Monir Farhad, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the operations were launched on Friday morning and continued until late night. He said, Taliban's deputy governor's brother for Balkh, two brothers of the group's district chief, one landmine maker and two other Taliban gunmen were among the arrested individuals. He said Governor Atta Mohammad Noor headed the operation in which nine vil-



lages were cleared of insurgents. Taliban have not commented about the incident. (Pajhwok)



Afghan farmers work in their field in Ghazni province, Afghanistan. The overall agricultural production, the backbone of the national economy, dramatically declined over the past couple of years due to drought as well as persistent fighting and instability in rural areas, despite the fact that only twelve percent of the land is arable and less than six percent currently is cultivated. (Xinhua/Sayed Mominzadah)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You may encounter some hurdles and some helpers along your way today as you're pushed to a breaking point. You feel so much pressure to make your next move that you're ready to split, abandoning your responsibilities entirely. However, obstacles are meant to provoke a reassessment of your professional goals and family obligations.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You can't help but wonder if it's worth the effort as you try to patch up a disagreement today. It might feel as if the energy is unfairly stacked against you and there is no way to escape the heat. Nevertheless, an unexpected development in communication later this evening can catalyze exciting changes if you are willing to take a risk and express your deepest feelings.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You're eager for changes in your financial situation, but you might be hitting a logistical wall now. You may need to reorganize debt, reduce expenses or renegotiate an agreement before you get to cash in on the potential rewards ahead. You realize that improvement won't come overnight, but demanding Pluto is pressuring the Moon in your 2nd House of Self-Worth and it feels as if you must take drastic measures right away.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Although your self-esteem can suffer if you don't get what you want, your tenacity motivates you to fight for what you think is yours. It has been said that the most distinguishing feature of the Crab is its pincers that don't easily let go. However, sometimes releasing the past is necessary, though it's particularly challenging with the Moon back in your sign.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Tensions at home may bog you down in a power struggle today. Unfortunately, trust is elusive as the sensitive Cancer Moon opposes possessive Pluto. Nevertheless, you can avoid a major conflict if you're willing to face the root cause of your discontent instead of simply blaming others.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You might have felt deprived of emotional satisfaction last week when trying to build bridges just created frustration. The gulf between you and others seems to widen today, but the gift of resolution is lurking in the shadows. Unfortunately, the odds are not yet on your side. However, progress becomes more likely throughout the day if you're brave enough to aim directly into the center of the fog that separates you from the truth.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You are in for an intense surprise when a routine conversation leads to an irksome disagreement at home or at work. It's no fun if you feel less appreciated than you deserve. Nevertheless, it's healthier to address issues directly with the patience and maturity that's necessary to correct any current misunderstandings or previous mistakes. Although you can't go back and change your past, you can commit to do your best in the present moment.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Things get off to a slow start today, but you can build momentum if you stick with your original agenda. You might feel personally rejected if you think your opinions are not being heard. Resentful Pluto's opposition to the Moon raises additional friction, potentially sending you into a tailspin if you begin to doubt yourself.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Your patience with an authority figure is extremely limited today, prompting you to stand up for your rights or those of someone else. Expressing your beliefs might feel dangerous, yet the price of silence may be even greater than you realize. Although people appreciate your kindness, don't let their needs influence what you tell yourself. One hundred percent honesty requires acknowledging what others try to avoid.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You're unusually sensitive to rejection now, but can gain a new perspective on love by softening your resistance. Still, relationships are strangely foreboding as Pluto opposes the Moon in your 7th House of Partnerships. Unexpected upsets or sudden twist of fate may derail your plans later this evening when the Moon squares unpredictable Uranus. Your best strategy is to cultivate flexibility and shake off the need to be in control.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Your cautious optimism draws you out into the real world. But you don't particularly enjoy the pressure brought upon you by powerful Pluto today. Surprisingly, the stress may be relieved as you leap over the stubborn obstacles by adopting a radically new perspective. Your optimistic slant enables you to be a beacon of confidence for others, even when the going gets tough.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



People seem to oppose your ideas for no apparent reason today and cooperation grows more and more elusive. But don't fold under someone's insistence, because it's better to reconnect with your inner strength and push harder now for what you believe is right. Hold your ground; if you can overcome your hurt feelings and lower your expectations, the outcome will still be an amazing one.

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Across

1. Hesitates, 6. Contributes, 10. Website addresses, 14. Bay window, 15. A formal high school dance, 16. Ark builder, 17. A sloping mass of loose rocks, 18. Dad, 19. Hoodwink, 20. Branched lighting fixture, 22. Being, 23. Extent, 24. Sable, 26. Copied, 30. Color, 31. A type of evergreen tree, 32. Gown, 33. Probabilities, 35. Small African antelope, 39. Rust, 41. Distrustful, 43. Sand bar, 44. Have the nerve, 46. Fee, 47. Chief Executive Officer, 49. Neither ____, 50. Terminates, 51. Ends a sentence, 54. Anagram of "Buds", 56. Press, 57. Emissions, 63. Tibetan monk, 64. Warbled, 65. Blacksmith's block, 66. French for "State", 67. Location, 68. Condition, 69. Accomplished, 70. Beers, 71. Hollowed out.

Down

1. Pear variety, 2. Ogive, 3. Former Italian currency, 4. Avid, 5. Sleights, 6. Clapped, 7. Emptied, 8. Numbskull, 9. Insincere, 10. Protect by insurance, 11. Get out of bed, 12. Expire, 13. Gloss, 21. Ancient Hebrew vestment, 25. Many millennia, 26. Circle fragments, 27. Milne bear, 28. River of Spain, 29. Displace, 34. Forages, 36. Computer symbol, 37. Hairless, 38. Ailments, 40. Margarine, 42. A tea-like beverage, 45. A moderately slow tempo, 48. Black Sea port, 51. Stacked, 52. Muse of love poetry, 53. Ancient empire, 55. Hiding place, 58. Letters, etc., 59. Within, 60. Egg-shaped, 61. Anagram of "Tine", 62. Sleigh.

Yesterday's Solution

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

abstract, breath, broken, business, daily, debate, dispute, first, force, fussy, house, incentive, injure, intricate, largest, much, number, peace, plight, pops, puzzle, rent, ripen, risky, scrape, sets, slit, spark, staff, straw, stubborn, that, thumb, tree, video, whole.

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