

High Mother-Child Mortality Rate Claimed

FEROZKOH - Pasaband district residents in western Ghor province complain lack of adequate doctors is the main reason behind surge in mortality rate among patients, with some losing their dear ones in front of their eyes.

Pasaband district is 175 kilometres far from the provincial capital with around 100,000 inhabitants.

Majority of youth population in the district face with unemployment. Some have left for neighboring countries in search of jobs while others are busy in agriculture sector.

There is only one health clinic in the district's centre with five other small health facilities ...*(More on P4)...(15)*



Woman, in-Law Sentenced to Death in Murder Case



MAZAR-I-SHARIF - A primary court on Wednesday sentenced to death a woman and her in-law at an open hearing for killing her spouse in northern Balkh province.

The 19-year-old woman, Raki, had murdered her husband, Akhtar Mohammad, with the help of her husband's brother, Safiullah, three months ago inside their home in the Nehr-i-Shahi district, local officials said.

The two had been arrested by police soon after the murder and had since been under investigation.

The court in Mazar-i-Sharif, the provincial capital, handed down the capital punishment to the two accused at an open hearing.

Judge Mohammad Shoib Mehdi ruled the woman had jointly killed her spouse with Saifullah, the victim's brother. He said the two had been found guilty of the murder and adultery and they had confessed to their crimes.

He said the two would serve a 10-year jail sentence for adultery and hanged for the murder

under clauses 427 and 390 of the criminal law.

Safiullah said Raki had told him that her husband had sexual problem and that he had been in a land dispute with his brother and feared he might kill him.

He said he killed his brother after his wife served him poisonous food. "I regret that. At the time I had mental illness."

Raki also pleaded guilty and said she was unaware of the country's laws and again claimed her husband was sexually dysfunctional. "As a woman, I had been left with no option."

The two urged the government to pardon them and lessen their punishment. The judge said the accused had the right to appeal against the verdict.

A tribal elder, Haji Mohammad Shoib Qarizada, who attended the hearing, said such courts were beneficial in reducing crimes.

However, he said adultery cases should not be decided in public because they had negative impact on the youth. *(Pajhwok)*

Students Among 8 Dead in Fresh Bout of Violence

QALA-I-NAW/FIROZKOH - At least six people have been killed during a clash between two tribal elders in Jawand district of north-western Badghis province, an official said Wednesday.

Badghis provincial council member Naser Nazari told Pajhwok Afghan News that six people were killed



and two others wounded when two tribal elders traded gunfire last night.

The tribal elders Sayed Ullah and Gul Agha clashed as a result of their personal enmity, he said.

Sayed Ullah was a former provincial council member and Gul Agha was a former employee of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, he said.

Separately, two school students were killed in Ghor province. According to a statement from the Ministry of Education, two students were killed by unidentified gunmen in Dulina district of late Tuesday.

The students were on their way from school to home when they came under attack, the statement added. The ministry condemned the incident and urged people, Ulama and influential to workout strategy for the protection of students and teachers. *(Pajhwok)*

Kunar Police Chief Survives Bomb Attack



KABUL - The police chief for eastern Kunar province escaped unhurt in a roadside bomb attack that injured his three bodyguards in the Sarobi district of central Kabul province on Wednesday. "The incident took place at around 1:30pm when our convoy was heading to Kunar from Kabul," Syedkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said the bomb struck the vehicle of his bodyguards, injuring three of them. *(Pajhwok)*

4 Security Officials Among 9 Dead in Clashes



MAIMANA, FIROZKOH - At least five insurgents and four security personnel were killed in northern Faryab province, an official said on Wednesday.

Maj. Muhammad Raza Raza, spokesman of the 209 Shaheen Corps, told Pajhwok Afghan News clashes between militants and Afghan security forces took place in Kata-aw-Lang, Bashalmast, Bulandghor and Zohuri areas of Qaisar district.

He confirmed three rebels died and two others wounded in the firefight and a local policeman wounded.

But Nizamudin, a police commander in Qaisar district, stated four Taliban including Mullah Faizullah and Mullah Torjan were killed and four others suffered grievous injuries. Two policemen, he said were wounded in the ensuing battle.

Separately, in Badga area of Girziwan district of Faryab province, two security personnel and one insurgent dead in the exchange of gun fire while two rebels and a police official received injuries. But Taliban spokesman Qari Yousuf Ahmadi claimed killing four Afghan soldiers in Khwaja Sabzposh district of the province. *(Pajhwok)*

Solar-Powered Project Launched

KABUL - The Ministry of Energy and Water on Wednesday launched solar-powered generation grid on experimental basis amid hopes that the initiative would reduce pressure on national power grids.

Ghulam Farooq Qazizada, acting energy minister, while inaugurating the maiden pilot project said the project was the first of its kind in Kabul.

He added the advantage of solar-based energy was that it reduced de-



pendency and pressure on government power grids.

Qazizada said the project would have the capacity of generating 3 kilowatt energy and would be supported by Germany. "It may not be a big project, but it is a first step in solar-based energy sector." ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

2 Soldiers Dead in Firefight between Afghan, Foreign Forces

JALALABAD - One Resolute Support service member and an Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier died on Wednesday in a brief exchange of gunfire in the governor's house in Jalalabad, the capital city of eastern Nangarhar province, an official said.



A statement from the Resolute Support mission said: "An incident in Jalalabad today resulted in the death of one Resolute Support service member."

However, it is the Reso-

lute Support policy to defer casualty notification to the relevant national authorities. "The incident is under investigation and further information will be made available as appropriate," the brief statement said.

But police Chief Brig. Gen. Ahmad Sherzad told Pajhwok Afghan News an ANA soldier was killed by foreign ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Police Detain 6 Alleged Drug Traffickers

KABUL - Police have arrested six alleged drug traffickers from different parts of the country during the past week, a statement from the Criminal Justice Task Force (CJTF) said Wednesday.

The suspects, the statement said hail from Parwan, Takhar and Nangarhar provinces. The police have recovered 25 kilograms of heroin, 85 kilograms of hashish, seven cell phones and four different kinds of vehicles.

Most of the arrested are from Parwan and Nangarhar provinces. Currently, the suspects are being interrogated. *(Pajhwok)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You might believe that you can zip through your day without encountering any problems at all, but it won't take long for your imagination to run into reality. Luckily, it will take more than a minor setback to eat away at your confidence. Unfortunately, having a brilliant idea doesn't mean you can turn it into a successful plan unless you're committed to giving it hundred percent.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Your previous responsibilities take precedence over everything else today, so don't take on more chores unless it's absolutely necessary. If you promise to do something simply because of social or family pressure, you may end up regretting ever saying yes. However, everything should fall into place if your heart is fully engaged - even if it's a struggle at the beginning.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Focusing on relationships is top priority now that the evocative Moon is visiting your 7th House of Partners. The adventurous Sagittarius Moon might inspire you to set lofty goals, especially if you encounter someone who embodies the spirit of big thinking. Nevertheless, don't get so excited about a project that you inflate each other's expectations.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You start the day believing you can finish everything you start without realizing that the Moon's short stay in your 6th House of Employment could actually double your workload. Unfortunately, you might be very impractical with your optimistic assessment today. Luckily, amazing friends come to your rescue when you need it the most.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your friends may be moving too quickly for your liking today. It's not that you can't keep up with them; it's just that you are bored of engaging in clever conversations or trivial pursuits without anything meaningful to show for the time spent. Unfortunately, going along with the group can backfire now, prompting you to express your dissatisfaction.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Your optimistic expectations won't guarantee that people will deliver exactly what you want. It might even be your boss or someone in power that lets you down today. Although you are quick to sort out the complex dynamics, it's still challenging to let go of your previous hopes. Distance yourself from disappointment by remembering that the actions of others are beyond your control.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)

A current relationship may hit a speed bump today when it becomes apparent that you each want something different. Even if you both talk about compromise, neither of you are in the mood to negotiate now. Unfortunately, it's tough to sustain a heart connection while you are disagreeing about basic values. Don't make matters worse by trying to force a resolution where there is none.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

A coworker's erratic behavior today may be enough to drive you to the edge of crazy. Although a friend is only trying to offer support, everyone's solutions are so far off target that enlisting assistance is not worth the effort. You might be left feeling like no one truly understands your needs now. Don't bother trying to justify what you want.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You wish you could set logic aside to chase your dreams, but it's smarter to use any tools available now to resist the temptation to overreact to every single whim. The Moon's current visit to your enthusiastic sign might be overwhelming if you are flooded with contradictory emotional messages. Instead of responding irrationally, carefully observe your changing moods until they reveal a larger theme. Being patient

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

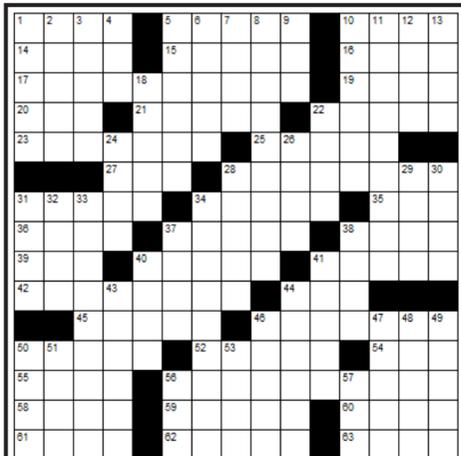
The pursuit of love won't be very satisfying today if an unobtainable goal leads you around like a carrot on a stick. You could waste precious time running down an unreachable dream if you don't pay attention to the bigger picture, too. However, the world becomes a friendlier place when your heart is aligned with the messages you are sending others. You don't have to lower your standards.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You need to socialize today because your connections with others nurture your soul. However, previous commitments require so much energy that you might not have enough time to cultivate your friendships. Your quiet frustration could morph into anger, but there doesn't seem to be any sensible outlet for your emotions now.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Professional demands require logical planning, yet your heart's wishes could get left out of the equation today. Your water-loving Fish may feel as if you have been suddenly dropped off in the desert with no way home. Nevertheless, there is a significant flurry of activity in your life now, and your individual desires might have to be put on hold so you can manage the complexity of your job.



Across

1. Balls of yarn, 2. Fable writer, 3. Snake, 4. East southeast, 5. Lifted, 6. Not written exams, 7. Competent, 8. Winter and summer, 9. Attempt, 10. Peanut, 11. Heir, 12. Vagrants, 13. Being, 18. Quoted, 22. Creative work, 24. Weightlifters pump this, 26. How old we are, 28. Aspect, 29. Memo, 30. Type of sword, 31. Nib, 32. Stow, as cargo, 33. Hospital attendants, 34. Cause extensive destruction, 37. A flat mass of ice, 38. You (archaic), 40. , Wanes, 41. Moon of Saturn, 43. Lollygag, 44. Whim, 46. Compare, 47. Mature, 48. Poplar tree, 49. Fails to win, 50. Invited, 51. Gumbo, 53. Dull pain, 56. Scribble, 57. Big fuss,

Down

1. Grotto, 5. Cut of beef, 10. Scoff at, 14. Wreaths, 15. Leafy shelter, 16. Burden, 17. Particularly, 19. Units of resistance, 20. Suffering, 21. Small islands, 22. Overweight, 23. Pixies, 25. Become narrower, 27. Crimson, 28. Statuette, 31. A bodily fluid, 34. Small freshwater fishes, 35. Not bottom, 36. Acquire deservedly, 37. Fecal matter, 38. Carry, 39. Contribute, 40. Santa's helpers, 41. Half of six, 42. Shallow draft boat, 44. Compete, 45. Gowns, 46. Sidelong, 50. A large pill, 52. Subarctic coniferous forests, 54. Nigerian tribesman, 55. Analogous, 56. Whippersnapper, 58. Remnant, 59. Different, 60. Expunge, 61. Convenience, 62. Little, 63. 1 1 1 1,

Yesterday's Solution

ODDER, PEEPS, TARP, DOUCE, STAT, EPEE, INERT, AURA, NAOS, WATURALIST, ORAT, BELM, IDEAL, BONSAI, FLOUR, UBOAT, VIATING, LORRY, SIOL, RITILIS, GRIEVO, TIENUOUSLY, VICAR, TAPAS, FINALE, GRAFT, VIN, BRAT, UNPIET, TERIED, LILI, REAR, ABODE, ALSO, ERIS, GOUVE, GLEN, SOLO, ENTER

after, agent, attack, bate, begin, blink, breed, bribe, bright, build, cats, chain, chief, clock, clues, crown, entire, equal, furry, hire, large, later, least, lessen, letter, lore, money, neat, partner, peon, pixels, population, radar, result, sate, scars, school, staff

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