

Afghanistan Defeats Ireland by 138 Runs in ODI Match



KABUL - The Afghan National Cricket Team thrashed Ireland by 138 runs in the first One Day International (ODI) match in Sharjah on Tuesday to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. The Afghan cricket players Nasir Jamal and Rah-

mat Shah notched half centuries to lead their team to 238-9 in their 50 overs after they were put in to bat by Ireland, while Rashid Khan added 48. Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Zadran, the 16-year-old off-spinner of the national team, was the chief archi-

tect of the victory, returning magnificent figures of 4 for 24 in his 10 overs.

Mujeeb accounted for Paul Stirling, Andrew Balbirnie, Gary Wilson and Kevin O'Brien to cripple Ireland, which never looked on track in the chase once the new Afghan star picked up four of the first five wickets.

Mujeeb's returns were the joint-best for an Afghanistan bowler on debut, matching Shapoor Zadran's 4 for 24 against the Netherlands in Amstelveen in August 2009.

Six out of the top seven Irish batsmen failed to reach double-figures, and even Porterfield, who fought till the 23rd over despite no support from the other end, couldn't carry on for too long. Porterfield's 35 off 63 balls was the only bit of resistance from Ireland, and had it not been for Stuart Poynter's unbeaten 27 off 42 balls from No. 8, Ireland might not have reached the three-figure mark.

It wasn't just Mujeeb and Rashid Khan, the star leg-spinner, also returned 3 for 28, but Mujeeb had only left the lower-order wickets for him to pick, which he did expertly after having made a telling contribution with the bat in the first half. Dawlat Zadran, meanwhile, picked up two wickets. The second match is also in Sharjah on Thursday. (Tolonews)

'Maqur Police Chief Behind Mysterious Murders, Drugs'

GHAZNI CITY - The residents of Maqur district of southern Ghazni province on Wednesday protested against the district police chief, accusing him of his involvement in drug smuggling and mysterious murder cases.

Around 200 residents protesting against Maj. Haji Mohammad blocked the Kabul-Kandahar highway against traffic for three hours. Khan Mohammad, one of the protestors, told Pajhwok Afghan News that mysterious killings had recently increased in the district



and the police chief had a hand in most of the cases. Holding a paper in his hand, Mohammad said: "This is the list of 23 people of the district who were killed during the period of this police chief. He is involved in most of the murder cases." He said he had also met with Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah and other... (More on P4)...(18)

Disabled Afghan Girl Makes Incredible Paintings



KABUL - "Shayestah's only desire is to meet president Ghani and give him a portrait she made of the of the president," said her mother Breshna.

Shayestah, 14, is a disabled Afghan girl who paints beautiful paintings using two of her toes.

Shayestah's paintings reflect the violence against the women in the country. Her paintings were displayed in an exhibition in the western province of Herat.

Residents in Herat have said that the disabled people have a lot of talent and the capacity to work and build a better future.

Shayestah so far has painted over 200 works. "She started

painting on paper when she was only four years old," said Breshna Alfi, her mother.

"Sometimes we see incredible talent in disabled persons who produce work better than those who have complete health," said a disabled person in Herat Omid Haqjo. "Shayestah has proved that she is able to produce incredible work despite being disabled. Our best assets are those which have been created by the disabled persons," said Rawok, a civil society activist in Herat.

"Shayestah's only desire is to meet president Ghani, she wants to give him a portrait she made of the of the president," said her mother Breshna. (Tolonews)

British Govt. Plan to Deport Afghan Challenged

KABUL - The looming deportation of an Afghan who worked as an interpreter for the British Army for two years is to be challenged in the United Kingdom high court, a newspaper reported on Wednesday.

On Thursday, the Royal Courts of Justice will hear the bail plea for Hafizullah Husseinkhel. The High Court has granted an injunction prevent-

ing his removal from the UK. The Independent said Husseinkhel had been told he would be expelled from the UK within days after the Home Office handed him removal papers and sent him to a detention centre near Oxford.

Paul Turner, of Imperium Chambers, a barrister representing Husseinkhel, is contesting his removal on the arguments that he placed his life

at risk serving the Crown and leaving the UK would place him in danger.

While hailing the court instruction, Turner accused the Home Office of still acting unlawfully by keeping the Afghan in detention. The 26 years old worked for the British Army between 2010 and 2012.

After receiving death threats from the Taliban, he and arrived in... (More on P4)...(19)

MoI Torchers Nine Tones of Seized Drugs in Kabul

GHAZNI CITY - The Ministry of Interior (MoI) on Wednesday torched over nine tones of drugs seized by the special counter-narcotics forces during various operations in the country.

Criminals from whom the drugs were seized have been punished with some of them sentenced to 20 years in jail, the MoI said.

"We have a joint team working there and it is very strong. It can be an example of joint cooperation between the Ministry of Interior and the office of the Attorney General of Afghanistan," the minister of interior, Wais Ahmad Barmak, said.

"Drugs are linked to insecurity, corruption and instability and are one of the biggest source of terrorism nationally and internationally," said the Deputy Minister of Counter Narcotics, Abdul Khalil Bakhtor.

According to the MoI, over 150 smugglers have been arrested in connection with the drug trade, 24 of them were women. (Tolonews)

Carpet Industry Dwindling in Kunduz



KABUL - Kunduz carpet industry owners call for the government's serious support for the sector.

Members of the Carpet Weavers' Union in Kunduz say a lack of markets for the local carpets has negatively impacted the production of many carpet factories in the province.

The union members said they exported up to 120,000 square meters of carpets abroad every year but, according to them, the number has been critically reduced this year.

The industry owners called for government's serious support for the sector.

"The home-made carpets, particularly from Kunduz, do not have market. There is few customers for them. The carpet industry owners have left Kunduz to other provinces and even some of them have gone out of the country," said Abdullah Kalantari, head of the Carpet Weaving Union in Kunduz.

"Unfortunately our exports reduced since 2007 and 2008. There is no opportunity of exhibitions to send our products to Europe and other countries," said Nasiba Holkar, chairperson of Women's Affairs Directorate in the province.

A lack of required support, lack of raw materials, standard carpet processing machines, and scarce facilities for washing and packaging of the home-made carpets are the reasons which have raised the cost of the products. This situation has affected the quantity of the products in the country - particularly in Kunduz - factory owners said.

Kunduz officials said they will continue their efforts to support the industry and boost its marketing out of Afghanistan.

"The governor's office is committed to building an industrial park for carpet industry owners in Dasht-e-Abdan area in Kunduz... (More on P4)...(20)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You may throw away your current strategies today because you realize where they fall short of your initial expectations. In fact, you believe you can accomplish more by spontaneously reacting to each moment without clinging to any old assumptions. Nevertheless, there are gems buried in your previous plans, making it counterproductive to dispose of them entirely.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus Exploring your feelings opens new paths for self-discovery today, but you must be willing to travel into unfamiliar territory. Thankfully, your resistance fades now, allowing you to delve into mysteries that were recently out of bounds. However, you won't get very far if you stubbornly insist on going solo since opportunistic Jupiter accentuates your 7th House of Relationships.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini You could easily be swept up by the enthusiasm of people working on a large-scale project. In fact, you might need to set your original plans aside in order to fulfill your commitments to the group. Although you are easily distracted by every fascinating idea you learn about, you won't make progress if you spread yourself too thin.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer Your undying optimism can inspire others to shift into gear and work toward a common goal today. However, you still must do your part in creating a supportive environment that fosters the group process rather than individual ambitions. Dropping your ego at the door enables you to keep your need for acknowledgment to a minimum, paving the way for true teamwork.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo Your creativity is on fire today, encouraging you to proudly display your artistic or literary talents. However, you could run into trouble if you try to push your production capabilities too far past their regular limits. Nevertheless, it won't hurt to pick up additional supporters wherever possible who can help you grow your audience.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Virgo You're so quiet today that others might not realize how much you are contributing to the group effort. Nevertheless, you continue to work behind the scenes without the urgency to set yourself apart from everyone else. Thankfully, your current confidence fuels your ability to maintain a healthy perspective and be an effective team player. Indian yogi Sadhguru said, "Collaboration is far more powerful than competition.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra Talking with your friends can be constructive today as long as you bring the conversations back to practical matters. Although nearly any subject is fair game, you're likely to explore all the ways you can increase your cash flow while loquacious Mercury agitates exuberant Jupiter in your 2nd House of Income. But net worth and self-worth often travel as a pair.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You want to demonstrate your leadership skills today and expect others to be duly impressed with your commitment to excellence. However, you may try so hard to win their favor that you lose sight of what's actually relevant. You might not know when to stop talking as chatty Mercury in happy-go-lucky Sagittarius conspires with excessive Jupiter in your sign.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius You are a study in contradiction today and find it challenging to express your emotions in a consistent manner. Oddly, you're feeling connected to your friends one moment and quite isolated the next. Negative self-judgment, spawned by the lingering Mercury-Saturn conjunction, is counterbalanced by optimistic Jupiter. Author Steve Maraboli wrote, "When I accept myself, I am freed from the burden of needing you.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn Whatever you didn't say yesterday is today's fuel for the fire of conversation. Your willpower, along with your self-restraint, enabled you to stay quiet about your emotions, but now you happily push them to the surface for others to see. Luckily, discussions can be quite revealing while the reflective Moon is camping out in your 8th House of Deep Sharing.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

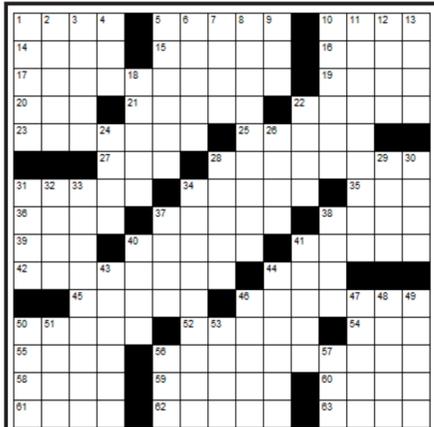


Aquarius Your primary interest today is to stay connected with your friends and associates. Four planets in your 11th House of Social Networking encourage you to team up with others for work and play. However, you're inclined to test your limits now, which could prompt you to go overboard and make promises you can't keep.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces You don't like an authority figure telling you what to do today. But you may need to acquiesce and simply perform as expected unless you want to make waves. Sometimes, you must set aside your immediate personal desires to make an investment in your long-term happiness. However, the cosmos is enticing you to envision a future that is tailored more to your preferences.



Across

1. Abundant, 5. A high-pitched woodwind, 10. Atop, 14. Ailments, 15. Unit of luminous flux, 16. Unusual, 17. Mollycoddle, 19. Bleat, 20. Pelt, 21. A low-mass chargeless particle, 22. Prisons, 23. Besmirched, 25. Eras, 27. Directed, 28. Intellectuals, 31. Propels oneself through water, 34. Mug, 35. East Indian tree, 36. Hearing organs, 37. Tolerates, 38. Abominable Snowman, 39. Stir, 40. Marine, 41. High, low and neap, 42. Intimate apparel, 44. Downturn, 45. Hoisting device, 46. Greek goddess of fertility, 50. Courtroom event, 52. Female ruff, 54. Ribonucleic acid, 55. Marries, 56. Fussy, 58. Midmonth date, 59. Church recesses, 60. A hamlet (South African, term), 61. Prying, 62. Not here, 63. Mimics

Down

1. Jazz ostinatos, 2. A part of the small intestine, 3. Emergency signal, 4. Eastern Standard Time, 5. Bent, 6. Sensational, 7. Part of an ear, 8. Adolescents, 9. Terminate, 10. Sophisticated, 11. Walled, 12. By mouth, 13. Catches, 18. Rabbits, 22. One of the 4 gospels, 24. Charity, 26. Auspices, 28. French for "Storehouse", 29. A romantic meeting, 30. Slaloms, 31. Secure against leakage, 32. Dry riverbed, 33. Men of great strength, 34. Silkscreen, 37. Brought into existence, 38. Cry of pain, 40. Cover with plaster, 41. Clocked, 43. Smooth, 44. Concoct, 46. Discourage, 47. A group of soldiers, 48. Habituate, 49. Woodworking tools, 50. Identical or fraternal, 51. Start over, 53. Anagram of "Sees", 56. Not thin, 57. Actress Lupino

Yesterday's Solution

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

adage, bounds, burrow
cairn, client, corrupt, diverse, engineer, feeling, gather, gold, great, hasp honor, incongruous, jester, knee, leak, machine, might, mistaken mixed, more, motel, mutual, neon, operator

