

# Tarakhel Reminds Ghani of His Promise

KABUL - A Kuchi tribe representative in the Wolesi Jirga or lower house of parliament on Thursday reminded President Ashraf Ghani of his election campaign promise to shorten distance between mosque and the Presidential Palace.

Maulvi Tarakhel Mohammad was addressing a graduation ceremony for 200 students of a religious seminary belong-



ing to Ahl-i-Sunnah Al-Jamat in Kabul.

The lawmaker said the government should give importance to seminars to enable Afghans to avoid going to neighbouring countries in pursuit of religious studies.

Tarakhel said President Ghani during his election campaign had promised he would narrow the distance between mosque and the Presidential Palace and he should fulfill

his promise.

"The president should give importance to religious institutes and I believe if the president did so no Afghan will send his children to a foreign country for Islamic education."

"Those who graduated today are asking me will their certificates be acceptable to the government or not? How can I make them believe yes it is... (More on P4)... (14)

# Mother, Daughter Gunned Down in Faryab

MAIMANA - A woman and her teenage daughter were shot dead inside their house by a group of gunmen in the Shirin Tagab district of northern Faryab province, an official said on Thursday.

The district chief, Syed Luqman Guhrik, told Pajhwok Afghan News 10 armed men broke into a house last night.

The gunmen wanted to kill the head of the family, but their firing left his wife and a 15-year-old daughter dead and an eight-year-old son injured. The injured boy had been taken to the civil hospital in Maimana, the provincial capital.

"The mother was shot dead after she attempted to flee through the house roof," the official said.

Her husband, who escaped unhurt, had registered a complaint with police, who had arrested one person, the district

chief said. Guhrik said the arrested person had earlier sent suitors to the family, seeking hand of their daughter, but the proposal had been rejected. "It may be a reason behind this attack."

Samiullah, a neighbour, said the surviving man was a poor salesman, who could not even afford the burial of his slain family members.

"The bodies of his wife and daughter remained in the open as the man cannot afford their burial." Last month, a 50-year-old woman and her 20-year-old daughter were killed in the same district as a result of domestic violence. The Independent Human Rights Commission office in Faryab says 24 women and girls have been killed by their spouses, family members and unknown gunmen this solar year. (Pajhwok)

# 15% Rise in Nimroz Customs Revenue

KABUL - The customs department of the western Nimroz province has recorded 6.5bn AFN in revenue for this year, seeing a 15% increase over the previous year.

Customs Director Wais Sultani attributed the boost in revenue to the improvements that were brought by establishing various facilities.

In an interview with the Pajhwok Afghan News (PAN), Sultani said eight warehouses were built and 29,000 square meters land were concreted at



a total cost of USD 2mn with financial collaboration from the World Bank. One of the facilities created allows for swift processing of imported goods, he added. Computerization and installation of laboratories are other improvements.

Sultani complained that the Iranian government banned the entry of some transit trucks coming to the port. According to PAN, the customs department lost 15-18mn AFN on a daily basis last year as a result of the ban. (Wadsam)

# Female PC Member Shot Injured in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - A female provincial council member received multiple injuries on Friday when suspected militants attacked her in front of her home in southern Ghazni province, the governor's spokesman said.

Shafiq Nang told Pajhwok Afghan News bike riders opened indiscriminate fire at Zakya Rahimi in Qala Shada, a hamlet on the outskirts of Ghazni City, the provincial capital, shortly after 11am. The gunmen were armed



with pistols, he said, adding security officials had started investigation to identify the attackers.

Abdul Jami, deputy head of the provincial council, confirmed the incident and said Zakia Rahimi was in stable condition.

Dr. Baz Muhammad, head of the Civil Hospital in Ghazni City, said Rahimi had been brought to the hospital and she was under treatment.

There has been no claim of responsibility for the attack. (Pajhwok)

# 5 Civilians Dead in Logar Airstrike

PUL-I-ALM - Five civilians were killed and as many wounded in a NATO airstrike in the Baraki Barak district of central Logar province, the town's administrative chief said on Friday.

Eng. Rahim Amin told Pajhwok Afghan News the air assault took place late on Thursday night in Abjosh area.

The airstrike came amid an ongoing offensive by Afghan security forces in the area, he said. Amin said he could not confirm if foreign forces had conducted the airstrike on their own or it had been requested by Afghan forces.

Acting Governor Niaz Muhammad Amiri said: "Foreign forces wanted to target a group of militants but unfortunately they hit a house inflicting casualties on civilians." Ahmad Sohail, a resident of Abjosh locality, said the airstrike completely leveled two houses. However, foreign forces have so far said nothing about the airstrike. (Pajhwok)



# Young Girl Raped in Kapisa

KABUL - A 16 year old girl was raped in her home in Najrab district of north-eastern Kapisa province last night.

The incident took place in the Kalan Dara area of the district where a group of unknown gunmen attacked the girl's house.

Saifora Kohistani, who heads the Women Affairs department in the province, says gunmen were six and one of them sexually abused the girl.

It is still unknown who the attackers were. Provincial Police Headquarters has confirmed the report and states that an investigation was initiated into the incident.

The girl has been admitted to the hospital. (KP)

# Teenage Boy Held with Suicide Vest in Kunduz

KUNDUZ CITY - An 18-year-old boy has been arrested with a suicide vest before to detonate his explosives in northern Kunduz, police sources said.

Mohammad Nasir, the would-be suicide bomber, told police during his investigations that he was trained suicide bombing in a religious school (madrasa) in Pakistan, said the Kunduz Police Chief Gen. Abdul Saboor Nasrati.

He added the bomber, who was a resident of district Imam Sahib, had plotted to attack a branch of Kabul Bank on Thursday in Kunduz City.

But the bomber said he was deceived in the Paki-



stani school after he completed his preliminary courses. "My parents sent me to Pakistan to receive religious education but after eight months when I completed my course, they [madrasa officials] sent me to another place where they taught me suicide bombing," the detained bomber said.

He added he was assigned to explode his explosives inside the Kabul

Bank branch.

"They gave me a fake ID card through which I could enter the bank," Nasir claimed.

Asking the government to pardon him, he said, "I regret joining insurgents because I was deceived."

But the Kunduz security officials said Nasir would be tried in the court after the intelligence investigations are completed. ... (More on P4)... (15)

# Rates of Food Items & Fuel down in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of fuel, flour, rice and cooking oil declined while the rates of gold stayed stable during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Thursday.

Abdul Saboor, in charge of a pump station in the Wazirabad area of the capital, told Pajhwok Afghan News the price of one liter of petrol fell from 54 to 53 afghanis, and diesel from 59af to 49af. He linked the price fall to the current international market trend and abundant imports in recent weeks.

Generally, the fuel prices soar in the harsh Afghan winter. The present drop represents a sign of relief for consumers. Fazel Rahman, the Food Traders' Union head, said a 50-kilogram sack of Pakistani flour accounted for 1,280 afghanis, compared with 1,300 afghanis last week.

A 24-kg bag of rice sold for 1,600 afghanis, against last week's price of 1,700af. A 16-litre bot-

tle of ghee decreased in value from 1,070af to 1,050af.

A 50-kg sack of sugar sold for 1,720af, a kg of black African tea for 210af and the same amount of green tea for 180af -- the same prices as last week's. But a retailer in Dahan-i-Bagh area, Khan Ali, sold a 24-kg sack of rice for 2,050af, a 50-kg bag of flour for 1,300af, the same amount of sugar for 1,850af and 16-kg tin of ghee for 1,100af.

Mohammad Fawad, a jeweller in Timor Shahi area, sold one gram of Arabian gold for 2,000af and the same quantity of the Iranian variety for 1,650af, the same prices of last week's.

Moneychanger Ahmad Shah said the buying rate of one US dollar was 58.20af, while 1,000 Pakistani rupees accounted for 577af. Last week's exchange value of the dollar stood at 58.05af and 1,000 Pakistani rupees at 576af. (Pajhwok)

## Outlook Horoscope

### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)

You're often the one who waits until the absolute last minute and then squeaks in under the deadline.

But every moment counts now so make a concentrated effort to find your stride early in the day. The sooner you begin a project today, the longer you can sustain a high level of productivity.

### Taurus (Apr. 21-May 20)

You're so eager to finalize the planning for an upcoming adventure that you could create problems later on by rushing the process today. Fortunately, there aren't many limits on what is possible if you are methodical in your research prior to initiating action. There's no need to fear big thinking as long as you keep bringing your ideas down to earth.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You are very determined to get to the source of a feeling that has shaped your desires for a while.

But this compulsion is no lighthearted passing whim; you're committed to understanding your psyche no matter how long it takes. Although you could be motivated by irrational drives today, there's no reason to let go of anything that adds meaning to your life.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Your boss may be critical of your easygoing attitude at work today.

However, you're wise to listen to what you're told, even if you're tempted to ignore the advice.

Learning a lesson from someone who is a harsh taskmaster can be challenging because you might want to withdraw and avoid what feels like a personal attack.

### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Although you're tempted to escape into a lovely dreamworld now, you need to be more focused than ever when it comes to your work. Your unrestrained fantasies fuel your confidence, but they also act as distractions from the serious tasks at hand. You might not want to pay attention to so many details today, but overcoming your own resistance is the first step toward achieving your goals in the weeks ahead.

### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Establishing a methodical work pace is crucial now, for uneven progress sets you up for failure. Luckily, your perceptions are extremely sharp and you are able to accurately estimate the time and resources required to finish a task. Prioritizing your goals is a good place to start today. Once you have a practical strategy in mind, forge ahead with all the determination you can muster.

### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

It feels uncommonly good to be so certain about your goals today. You have a strong sense of purpose and you know what needs to be done next. Luckily, encountering a minor setback or two won't prevent you from reaching your destination. Still, you must tread carefully or an emotional melodrama might lure you off your path. Avoid complex strategies; the simpler your plan now, the more you can trust your intuition.

### Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

Your ideas can be so outrageous now that it's impossible to tell if they are grounded in any semblance of reality.

Nevertheless, it's essential to distinguish between what is real and what is not. Set aside any unattainable goals so you can accomplish something tangible that has lasting value.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 20)

Applying the proper amount of control may be tricky business today, but overmanaging a situation could lead to an emotional quagmire. Taking a back seat now motivates others to play a more significant role in the decision-making process. Allowing your coworkers to share leadership responsibilities can make tough obstacles easier to overcome in the days ahead.

### Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan 19)

Nothing is simple today with five planets crowded into your conscientious sign. You can feel the weight of the world sitting squarely on your shoulders and you're growing weary of supporting everyone around you. The good news is you don't have to accept the authoritative role that's being placed on you now. Demonstrate your wisdom by encouraging others to discover their own paths to success.

### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb. 18)

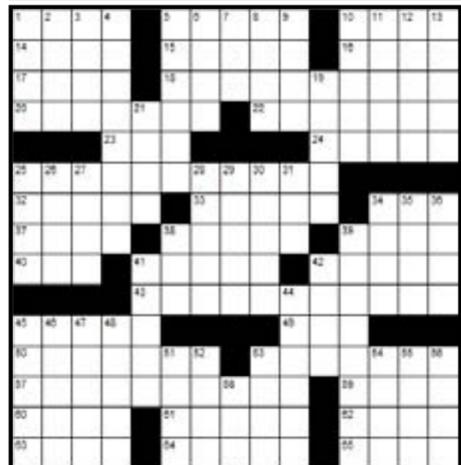
Your most memorable dreams are steering you toward practical solutions today as the pragmatic Capricorn Moon visits your 12th House of Imagination, bringing your fantasies down to earth.

But clinging to old assumptions could stand between you and any future success you might envision.

### Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

You long to dream about the distant horizon while the Moon moves through your 11th House of Long-Term Goals.

But there's no time now to relax and let your imagination take you on a magic carpet ride. Instead, be proactive and rebuild your life one concrete step at a time. Planning is only useful as long as you are willing to get to work right away.



**Across**

1. Hard punch, 5. Great fear, 10. British title, 14. Old stories, 15. A shoulder firearm, 16. Holly, 17. A Freudian stage, 18. Unmanly, 20. Vixen, 22. Physical, 23. Skirt's edge, 24. Iron, 25. Not accidental, 32. Unit of weight for gems, 33. Sidekick, 34. Gorilla, 37. Gave the once-over, 38. Prevaricators, 39. Render unconscious, 40. South southeast, 41. Verse writers, 42. A grasp of something, 43. Road illumination, 45. Demolish, 49. Unhappy, 50. It points north, 53. Spray can, 57. Obese, 59. Be dressed in, 60. Satisfactory, 61. Chills and fever, 62. Border, 63. Celebration, 64. Verse, 65. Beams

**Down**

1. Ho-hum, 2. Solitary, 3. By mouth, 4. A structure built over a well, 5. Imagined, 6. Break in friendly relations, 7. F. 8. Beers, 9. Audition tape, 10. Kuwaiti monetary unit, 11. Winged, 12. Anagram of "Smite", 13. Administrators, 19. Suggest 21. 1/100th of a dollar, 25. Frosts, 26. Negatives, 27. Tall woody plant, 28. Less friendly, 29. Give a speech, 30. Like the Vikings, 31. Autonomic nervous system, 34. "Smallest" particle, 35. A mixture of cellulose fibers, 36. Terminates, 38. A parcel of land, 39. Tail 41. "Hogwash!", 42. Winglike, 44. Sleeping sickness carrier, 45. Speak derisively, 46. Film, 47. Catkin, 48. Binge, 51. Char, 52. Audible exhale, 53. Throat-clearing sound, 54. Fizzy drink, 55. Unrestrained revelry, 56. Dregs

**Yesterday's Solution**

affair, alternate, array, author, avenue, better, chase, create, enjoy, entry, excellent, flourish, handle, inspire, level, modern, phenomenal, previous, retail, rile, sees, sequel, series, slot, stories, tales, threat, thrown, worth, writer, years

