

Taliban Commander Allegedly Involved in Jamal's Murder Held

JALALABAD - A militant commander allegedly involved in the assassination of former governor for central Logar province has been detained during a special operation by security forces in eastern Laghman province, an official said Thursday.

Arsala Jamal, the former governor, was assassinated when a bomb hidden in a microphone exploded as he spoke at a mosque in Pul-i-Alam, the provincial capital, on October 17, 2013.

But later, an investigation by the National Directorate of Security (NDS) found that the bomb was placed inside a copy of the holy Quran in the mosque.

Some officials were accused of involvement in the high-profile assassination.

However, Sarhadi Zwak, the governor's spokesman for Laghman province, told Pajhwok Afghan News that militants' commander alleg-



edly involved in Jamal's murder was arrested during an operation conducted by the NDS.

He added that the operation was launched in Qarghaio district in which commander Mohammad Din also known as Shahab along with three others detained. Zwak added that three militants and three policemen were wounded during a clash in Chinchar area of Alingar district this morning. (Pajhwok)

Prices of Flour, Ghee Down, Fuel up

KABUL - The price of flour has dipped but that of fuel has jumped while other items remain steady during the outgoing week in the capital Kabul, market sources said on Thursday.

Abdul Saboor, a fuel tank owner in Wazirabad area, told Pajhwok Afghan News that one litre of petrol increased from 42 Afghani to 44 Afghani and the price of diesel surged from 44af to 46af. But one kilogram of liquefied gas was sold at the rate of 32af and 40af in different areas of the city. Mohammad Sharif, a gas seller in Taimani area, sold one kilogram of gas for 40af, the same price of last week.

But Sebhathullah, another gas seller in Zaman Khan area, said that he sells one kilogram of gas for 32af. Farid Sherzai, petroleum control director, said that diesel and petrol should not be sold above 40af in Kabul tanks.

He said that anyone violates the law should be taken to task and the ministry of industry and commerce should ban the sellers charging extra money. However, the price of flour and oil edged down.

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Anti-Militants Offensive Progressing Well: Official

LASHKARGAH - In order to avoid civilian casualties, military anti-militants operation in southern Helmand province is progressing well but slowly, a senior security official said on Thursday.

Police Chief Nabi Jan Mulakhel told reporters that heavy casualties had been inflicted on militants and several localities were purged of anti-state elements. He said some security forces suffered injuries but civilian escaped unhurt



in the ongoing offensive codenamed codename Zulfiqar.

Jan said that the offensive had been planned for long-term; with special security forces had conducted raids on suspected militants' hideouts in the night. Around 200 mines have been defused so far, he informed.

Meanwhile, Ghulm Farooq Parwani, deputy commander of 215th ... (More on P4)... (18)

Kidnapped NGO Worker Found Dead

MAIMANA - An abducted employee of a Non-Government Organization (NGOs) has been found dead in the Almar district of western Faryab province, the organization said on Friday.

Taliban abducted three employees, including driver, of the NGO some three weeks back from Katakam locality close to the provincial capital.

Mohammad Saleh, the district administrative chief, confirmed to Pajhwok Afghan News that a dead body of one



of the employees was recovered from Teemar Koprak area late Thursday night. The slain employee had gun shots on his head, he said, adding that Afghan security forces had shifted the dead body to a clinic in Almar district.

Hayatullah Bakhtar, head of the NGO, said that the slain employee, Sayyed Mukhtar, was the resident of Balkh province. (Pajhwok)

Policeman among 4 Dead in Suicide Bombing

KANDAHAR - Four persons, including a policeman, were killed and ten others wounded on Thursday in a suicide bombing in the Spin Boldak district of southern Kandahar province, an official said.

Zia Durrani, police spokesperson, told Pajhwok Afghan News the attack took place around 1:00 pm in the main district's bazaar.

A huge blast jolted the

area causing injuries among civilians, which was followed by fire-fight between security personnel and two assailants.

According to Durrani, the assailants then blew themselves up killing a policeman and three civilians and injuring eight other policemen.

Ali, shopkeeper in the area, said he heard a huge explosion followed by gunshots. (Pajhwok)

Violence in Claims 3 Lives

HERAT - Three children were killed by unidentified armed men in western Herat and northern Baghlan provinces, officials said Thursday.

Mohammad Rafiq Sherzai, spokesman for Herat Civil Hospital, told Pajhwok Afghan News dead body of a kid aged one-and-a-half-year and another child were found on the Khwaja Abdullah Ansari road near 8th police district this morning.

Sherzai said that identity of the slain children could not be ascertained. He said it also could not be ascertained immediately who was behind the killing.

According to another

report a child was killed and a woman and three other children wounded by militants in Baghlan province. A 10-year-old boy was killed and another kid among two other children and a woman were wounded, when illegal armed men stormed a home in Doabi village of Nahrain district on Wednesday night, district police chief Col. Mohammad Nasar Asadi said. He said that the wounded were evacuated to a local hospital for treatment.

The motive behind the incident is unclear but police have launched investigation into the incident. (Pajhwok)

Man Burns Himself Alive Because of Injustice

KABUL - Last week, 23 year old Feroz set himself on fire in front of the Presidential Palace in Kabul in protest to the injustice and harassment of women in the country.

Feroz was a law student at Rahnoward University in Mazar-e-Sharif who was in love with 19 year old Zohra a college student in Kabul. Both had promised to settle down as soon as they had graduated, but on January 25 the love story took a turn. Zohra, who studied at



Ariana University located in the fourth district of Kabul, was abducted by a group of unknown gunmen in a governmental vehicle and taken somewhere outside of Kabul.

She was captive and reportedly raped for 15 days and returned home. Officials at Ariana University confirmed the incident. Hearing the news, ... (More on P4)... (19)

2 Dead, 9 Hurt in Road Crash

TARINKOT - Two passengers were killed and nine others wounded in a head-on collision between two cars on Kabul-Kandahar Highway in the Shajoi district of southern Zabul province on Friday, a senior police official said.

Jilani Farahi told Pajhwok Afghan News the accident took place at around 9:30 am near Hassankhel area of the district. All victims had ... (More on P4)... (20)

Eloped Girl Dead After Taking Poison

KUNDUZ CITY - The girl died instantly and her fiancée has been discharged from hospital after initial treatment in southern Kunduz province after they eloped from Kabul to tie the knot, a doctor said on Friday.

Dr. Abdul Qadoos Mikhel told Pajhwok Afghan News that Waheed 22 and Lail 19 fled Kabul for Kunduz to marry and the pair was living in Imam Sahib district for days. Waheed and Laila were living with their

relatives in the district but all in a sudden both decided to take poisonous substance to get rid of the tense situation.

The girl died on her way to hospital but the boy was shifted to hospital in a state of coma, he added.

After initial treatment, Waheed had been discharged from the hospital, he said. "I was in love with Laila for nine years but Laila's parents did not allow her to marry me despite repeated requests from my parents," ... (More on P4)... (21)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Cooperation from your friends is a blessing in disguise now because it might also make you anxious if you believe the support comes with conditions. Nevertheless, you are able to work together to solve just about any problem -- even longstanding stubborn ones. You may bring this same productive attitude to organizing social events as well.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

This may not be the best time to share your feelings; in fact, it might seem as if you missed your chance to take a conversation further. However, emotions have a sneaky way of surfacing over the next couple of days. In the meantime, reflect carefully before going out on a limb and expressing what's in your heart. Avoid getting lost in a negative space by optimistically looking to the future.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

There are no limits as to where your innovative mind might travel today. Although intelligent people provide the social stimulation that you need now, you don't want to be stuck with those who are overly serious. Instead, you prefer to hang out with friends and associates who can match your clever repartee and fast wit. You shine the brightest when others appreciate the mental games that you love to play so much.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Drama in a close friendship or intimate relationship may turn your world upside down today. Your emotions are unpredictable and you may not feel like you're standing on solid ground. However, it's possible that the game is changing right before your eyes, so it's not a sensible time to glorify the past. Be brave and cultivate ways of authentically connecting with others.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Don't fall into the trap of believing you are on your own just because others are giving you wide berth today. Use this time to create a new vision of the future without trying to meet everyone's expectations. Fortunately, an individualistic Sun-Uranus alignment allows you to consider unorthodox behavior if it helps you find more freedom.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You are eager to try ingenious approaches to your work, a favorite hobby or a domestic chore. But first you must toss out the old rules today so you're free to create new ways of executing a familiar task. Keeping an open mind prevents you from becoming bogged down in needless discussions of which method is better. Getting the job done now is more important than being right.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Pursuing playful encounters, romantic interests and artistic endeavors are appropriate expressions of today's cosmic energy. Whether you are interacting with children or just having childish fun, the word of the day is play. However, if you feel as if you're under pressure now, take a short walk to get revitalizing oxygen into your lungs and fresh hope into your life.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Complex issues could slow you down at home today, but only if you let them. You actually have more choices than you realize now, though it might not feel like it. Don't worry if you aren't thrilled with your current options; it's just a temporary loss of perspective. Everything is about to change, so do whatever you can to bring new energy into your life.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Put your current state of restlessness to good use today by investigating uncharted territory. You have a taste for the unusual now, so get off the beaten track and discover new pleasures. You can enjoy the fruits of your activities if you consciously seek out fresh stimulation. Be thankful for the unique experiences you encounter that sweep away the cobwebs from the corners of your imagination.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

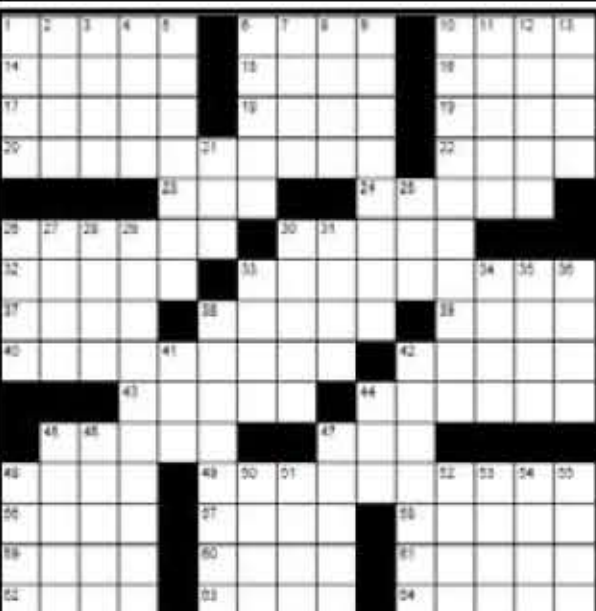
You might resent the notion that others are free to be weird and off the wall while you Goats are often left behind to be the central core of reason. It's like going through life as the designated driver; the truth is your dependability encourages others to lean on you when times are tough. Luckily, today's cosmic energy provides you with an opportunity to explore the edges of reality and bring back a few wild ideas of your own.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You are still in the throes of wide emotional swings now, especially if you're not happy with some aspect of your personal story. However, someone may offer enough hope today that you start to itch for change. It's more advantageous to choose what will happen than wait for it to choose you. If you attempt to hide inside your cocoon of old habits, something will likely come along to shake up your world.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

There are tempting goodies all around you but it seems as if you're not allowed to have them yet. It's like standing in front of a store filled with beautiful things and no way to get inside. Naturally, this dilemma can heighten your frustration, but you have the power to turn the entire situation around now by collecting and storing the images in your mind for future reference.



Across

1. Relative of a giraffe, . Radar signal, 10. Highest point, 14. Smooth brown oval nut, 15. Roman moon goddess, 16. Killed, 17. Small slender gulls, 18. Boats, 19. Arid, 20. Drowsiness, 22. Makes a mistake, 23. Writing liquid, 24. Annoying, 26. Present-day, 30. Double-reed instruments, 32. American aloe, 33. Decoration, 37. Bristle, 38. Submarine, 39. Decorative case, 40. Adolescents, 42. Serpent, 43. Fish respiratory organs, 44. Shred, 45. Lacquer ingredient, 47. Unhappy, 48. Angle of a leafstalk, 49. Mediator, 56. French for Finished or Done, 57. Beige, 58. Climb, 59. Beers, 60. Store, 61. Half of six, 62. Lease, 63. Scatters seeds, 64. Church council

Down

1. Chooses, 2. Ship part, 3. Unit of land, 4. Piece of glass, 5. Exhort, 6. Void of expression, 7. Attraction, 8. Writing fluids, 9. Travel document, 10. Appraisal, 11. Office worker, 12. Joyous, 13. Female sheep (plural), 21. Hotel, 25. Poetic dusk, 26. Spar, 27. Curved molding, 28. A romantic meeting, 29. A preacher, 30. Smells, 31. Feathery scarves, 33. Cain's brother, 34. French for "State", 35. Microwave (slang), 36. Layer, 38. Hideousness, 41. Ambition, 42. They love to inflict pain, 44. Make lace, 45. Banish, 46. Flax fabric, 47. Broths, 48. A long way off, 50. Reflected sound, 51. Get bigger, 52. Sore, 53. Mountain pool, 54. Margarine, 55. Marsh plant

Yesterday's Solution

absorb, after, angle, bank, broker, buried, carry, cease, choice, claim, corner, could, cure, early, feel, fresh, gear, guard, heal, houses, information, little, medal, never, number, ogle, paws, pocket, potato, raise, share, sheet, slide, small, straight, sweep, sweet, their, tight, towel

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