Afghan officials confirmed that 61 Taliban militants and 11 policemen had been killed on Thursday in ongoing gunfight with security forces, as Taliban forces tried to make control of its lost territories in the restive Helmand province.

KABUL — Early Thursday morning, militants launched a massive attack on two police checkpoints in the southern Helmand province, said police.

Abdul Salam, spokesman for the provincial police, said one policeman was killed and five others were injured in the attack.

This is the first time the militants have used armored vehicles — which were matched from the security forces during previous clashes — for suicide attack in Afghanistan.

Clashes also broke down in the nearby Garmser district.

Abdal Rafee, police chief for the district, said that Afghan forces are engaged in gunfight with militants who attacked Paktia on Dec. 27.

Annual Poetry Session ‘Nakhtar’ Held in Pakhta

GARZE — An annual poetry session ‘Nakhtar’ was held in the capital of southeastern Paktia province.

Col. Abdul Halim Baig, the chief of police in Paktia, said the police department had always been a source of good conveying message.

The event was supported by the local council, which ensures enough space to the people to express their thoughts.

Six rockets were fired near the residence of Abdul Rauf, police chief for the nearby Garmseer district.

A statement from the Ministry of Law and Order said two Taliban attackers were killed and two others were captured during the ongoing battle.

The governor’s spokesman, Omar Zwak, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Daesh rebels did not commit local clashes between Daesh and local residents.

Abdul Hakim, a police officer, said that the rockets caused no casualties.

He said the rockets were fired from the province capital, officials said yesterday.

Demand of Afghan Anglican church for Independent State of Afghanistan

JALALABAD — An 18-year-old girl from Afghanistan’s Helmand province has refused to marry a man she did not love.

Her family was worried about her decision, but the girl rejected it.

A statement quoted Afghan National Army Col. Abdul Karim Mohammad, who heads the ANA 201 Selab Military Corps, as saying that the clashes between Daesh and local residents continued until 5am.

He said two Taliban attackers were killed and two others were wounded.

Durand border gates were opened in Tangi, Asadab and Malamai areas.

A resident of the area, who wished anonymity, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Daesh rebels were not in contact with local residents.

He said the clashes between Taliban and Daesh rebels erupted yesterday and they had killed three policemen.

Outlook Horoscope

You’re on the edge of a resurgence of your creative energies that will turbocharge your situation and bring more life into your role. Or, you’re stepping into a new and entirely different path that opens up the possibility of your work and your attitude toward your work, but you will likely feel more positive day by day as the radiant Sun and expansive Mars collaborate in your 5th House of spontaneity.

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