

Jalalabad Chance of Rain 33°C 26°C	Ghazni Partly Cloudy 31°C 17°C	Kandahar Clear 42°C 27°C	Mazar Clear 38°C 28°C	Herat Clear 37°C 22°C	Bamayan Clear 28°C 14°C	Kabul Clear 32°C 21°C
--	--	--	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---	---------------------------------------

Daily Outlook Weather Forecast

Pakistan Vows to Eliminate or Expel Taliban

WASHINGTON - Happy with the recent intelligence-sharing agreement with Afghanistan and significant improvement in relationship between Islamabad and Kabul, a top Pakistani official has said the government would either eliminate the Taliban or force them to leave the country.

"On the Taliban, or the terrorists, the militants, we shall either eliminate them or force them to leave," Tariq Fatemi, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, said at The Heritage Foundation, a top American think-tank.

"But there is the beauty of the new development. Because of our enhanced understanding with ... (More on P4)...(7)



National Museum Artifacts Unearthed at Ainak Copper Mine Project at Risk



KABUL - Artifacts Unearthed at Ainak Copper Mine Project at Risk: National Museum Mohammad Yahya Mohibzada, the acting chairman of Afghanistan's National Museum on Saturday reported that more than 1,000 historical artifacts have been transferred

to the national museum since Ainak Copper Mine, in Logar, started mining the area in 2009. But he said that a number of important relics, including large statues, are still at the mine and are at risk. Afghanistan - an ancient and ... (More on P4)...(8)

ALP Personnel Blasted for Torturing Jalrez Residents

MAIDAN SHAHR - Tribal elders have accused the Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel deployed to the Jalrez district of central Maidan Wardak province of harassing and torturing civilians. However, the ALP commander rejects the charge as groundless.

On July 3, at least 30 militants and 28 ALP members were killed in clashes on the Kabul-Bamayan highway clashes in Jalrez. The gunbattles erupted after hundreds of militants stormed ALP posts in Ismailkhel and Zewlat areas. A dozen checkpoints fell to the militants as a result of the coordinated assault.

Authorities say reinforcements from the provincial capital could not reach the site in time due to Taliban ambushes and roadside bombs planted by the fighters. The fatalities included a policeman from Bamayan province, who had been posted in violation of ALP rules to Ismailkhel to patrol the highway.

Under the ALP recruitment policy, each member should belong to the district where he is posted. The ALP official from Bamayan was assigned to guard the highway, along which 12 posts are located.

Complaints from elders: At a meeting, dozens of elders from Zewlat and Ismailkhel areas alleged that nearly 100 ALP personnel from Bamayan province had forcibly occupied 12 civilian houses bang in the middle of the two villages on the plea to secure the highway three years back. They would often harass the locals, the elders claimed.

Hailing from Zewlat, Ghulam Siddique said after the deployment of the ALP men, who belonged to another province, many schools in the areas had been closed. He blasted the policemen for firing at schoolchildren and thereby depriving them of education.

Another tribal chieftain from the same village, Khuda-i-Noor, complained they had been intimidated to the extent that they could not expose the ALP heavy-handed tactics. "The government doesn't listen to us; you (journalists) convey our voice to the authorities ... (More on P4)...(13)

MoI to Help Families of Dead Policemen: Ulumi



KABUL - He held out the assurance at a ceremony, at where cash was provided to relatives of three policemen killed by unidentified gunmen in northern Baghlan province two

week ago. Ulumi said the Ministry of Interior (MoI) planned to approach kin of dead and injured policemen, ensure the education of their children and resolve their socio-economic

problems. He said it was the responsibility of MoI to help those families and the process of providing assistance to them would begin after they were identified. (Pajhwok)

Pakistan Halts Cross-Border Attacks after Kabul Summons Ambassador

KABUL - Cross-border rocket attacks by the Pakistani military have halted after the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) summoned

week, hitting rural parts of Afghanistan's border regions in Nuristan and Kunar provinces. Although there are no exact

figures about the number of civilian casualties caused by the attacks, local officials have confirmed that there were some. MoFA officials have claimed four civilians were killed by the shelling. "People are quite concerned about the attacks, even



the Pakistani Ambassador in Kabul over the issue, members of the Nangarhar Provincial Council said on Saturday.

After several months of silence, the Pakistani military once again launched cross-border shelling last

though they were halted after the Foreign Affairs Ministry summoned the Pakistani Ambassador," Nangarhar Provincial Council member Zabiullah Ezmarai said on Saturday. "But people are quite distressed about the issue."

Ahmad Shekib Mustaghni, a MoFA spokesman, said the government is determined to settle the issue with Pakistan. "The attacks resulted in the killing of four civilians, including a woman, and two others were wounded," he said. "The Pakistani Ambassador promised the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs to share the concerns of Afghanistan with his respective government."

The Ministry of Interior (MoI) reiterated the government's ... (More on P4)...(10)

Afghan Refugees Set up Camp in Athens Park

ATHENS - Hundreds of migrants who fled the war in Afghanistan and arrived in Greece have set up camp in a central Athens square. Pedion Areos, a park in the centre of Athens, has become a makeshift migrant camp where more than 420 people are currently staying. According to Arash Himati, a representative of the Afghan community in Greece, at least 200 more are expected to arrive by Saturday. Many were hoping to move on to Germany and other countries in Europe. On Friday bread, tomatoes and melons were distributed to the people in the camp who were trying to beat the heat by sitting in the shade of the park's trees - including women and children.

Among the refugees is Jora Khan who said: "I made it this far, I don't know how but I will find a way to get to Germany."

Fahima Anwari, another migrant said: "We don't have food, my children are hungry, we don't have clothes, we don't have water and I don't have nappies for my baby."

The representative and spokesman for the community, Arash Himati, said: "For the past week, migrants and refugees have been arriving at this park. A week ago there were five or 10 families but two days ago, 50 more families arrived. Today we have 420 people that came from Afghanistan."

However, Nikitas Kanakis, ... (More on P4)...(9)

Logar Air Raid Findings to be Revealed Soon: MoD



KABUL - The Ministry of Defence (MoD) on Saturday said its investigations into an American airstrike on an army outpost in central Logar province have been completed and would be made public soon.

Eight Afghan soldiers were killed and another half a dozen wounded on Monday morning when two US helicopters bombed their outpost in the Baraki Barak district of Logar.

A senior army commander had said the airstrike involved two US helicopters that targeted the ANA outpost in Chaltan area. The helicopters attacked the post on which an Afghan flag was clearly visible.

Brig. Gen. Dawlat Waziri, MoD deputy spokesperson, told a press conference in Kabul their findings would be announced most probably on Sunday.

"The ... (More on P4)...(11)

In Nangarhar, Governance Reforms on the Cards

JALALABAD - Following security operations, local governance reforms would be introduced in remote areas of eastern Nangarhar province, the police chief promised.

Administrative reforms, nepotism, lack of access to local authorities and extensions granted to certain government officials are some of the local governance problems in the province.

Nangarhar police chief, Brig. Gen. Fazal Ahmad Sherzad, told Pajhwok Afghan News that, at a recent meeting with the governor, they had agreed on local governance reforms.

"We have decided to conduct security operations in certain restive areas before bringing about reforms. A number of local officials, who have been inefficient, may be sacked or replaced," he said.

Although Gen. Sherzad gave no clear timeframe, operations are already ongoing in certain areas of the province. Whether the security push is based on that decision remains unclear.

Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the governor's spokesman, also acknowledged local governance issues. "We have governance-related problems at the district level. At the meeting with security officials, the governor recommended reforms to deal with these irritants."

Dr. Nasir Kamawal, the provincial council deputy head, also admitted: "In Nangarhar, we have serious local ... (More on P4)...(12)

Hundreds of Security Forces Besieged by Taliban in Warduj

FAIZABAD - The Badakhshan provincial council chairman on Saturday said a base of the Afghan security forces in Warduj district remained under Taliban's siege, but the Ministry of Interior denied the claims.

The base, which daily comes under insurgent attacks, is located in Tirgran area, around five kilometers from the district centre, Abdullah Najji told Pajhwok Afghan News.

Around 200 Afghan National Police (ANP), Afghan Local Police (ALP) and border policemen were besieged in the area, he said, adding the security personnel had been resisting attacks over the past

three days. The facility could be overrun by Taliban if ground force were not provided air support in time, Najji warned, saying the Afghan National Army (ANA), ALP and Public Order Police personnel had arrived at the site.

However, it remains unclear whether they have faced attacks. He said part of Tirgran area was already under Taliban's control.

Roads leading to Ishkashim, Zibak, Shaghnan and Wakhan districts would be blocked and the district centre might face a high security threat if the Taliban captured the military ... (More on P4)...(14)

Khost Dweller Thirsty for Clean Drinking Water



KHOST CITY - The residents of southeastern Khost province on Saturday complained they had been faced with numerous problems, including a shortage of a potable water supply system.

Mud shops in Khost City have been converted into multistorey markets over the past decade but a proper water supply system is yet to be put in place, they said, stressing an early

resolution of the problem. Said Ahmad Shah, a resident of the provincial capital, told Pajhwok Afghan News the people living in Khost City had little or no access at all to drinking water. "I fetch water in cans in a handcart or I buy it from a tanker."

Sharif Jan, another resident, stressed clean water supply must be a top priority of the ... (More on P4)...(15)

NDS Arrest Taliban Group Commander

HELMAND - The Afghan Intelligence - National Directorate of Security (NDS) said Saturday that a Taliban group was arrested following a military operation by the Afghan intelligence operatives.



A statement by NDS said the Taliban commander was identified as Mullah Agha who was also famous as Haji Aka and was arrested along with three others. The statement further added that the other militants were identified as Mullah Faizullah also known as Faizi, Mullah Sardar and Mohammad Ikhlas. According to the

NDS, the group was involved in terrorist related activities in Lashkargah, the capital city of Helmand and Nahr-e-Saraj district. The detained militants confessed that they were involved in a roadside Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack in Lashkargah city which left two police officers wounded. (KP)