



ICC T20 Rankings: Afghanistan Move up to 7th Slot

KABUL - With 241 points, Afghanistan are in the seventh slot on the International Cricket Council (ICC) T20 table

Pakistan -- ICC T20 World Cup champions in 2009-- are at the top of the table, having 286 points, followed by South Africa (262), England (261), Australia (261) and India (260).

The ICC unveiled an expanded Men's T20I Team Rankings table in Dubai on Friday. Austria, Botswana, Luxembourg and Mozambique are among the 80 teams figuring on the first men's T20I ranking table.

The table includes all members meeting the criteria of having played six matches against other ICC members since May 2016.

The move to expand the table follows ICC's decision last year that all men's T20 matches between members from January 1, 2019 will be classified as internationals.

The qualification process for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup includes 58 T20I matches across five regional finals is likely to mean significant movements on the rankings over the coming months.

The first final was held in Papua New Guinea last month whilst the Africa final in Uganda (May19-24), the Europe final in Guernsey (June 15-19), the Asia final in Singapore (July 22-28) and the Americas final in the USA (August 19-25) are still to come.

Six of these teams will join hosts UAE, Hong Kong, Ireland, Netherlands, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Scotland and Zimbabwe in the global qualifier to improve their standings.

Afghanistan and Sri Lanka have moved up one place each to seventh and eighth positions respectively, with the West Indies falling to ninth position. (Pajhwok)

Six Taliban Insurgents Killed in Baghlan Airstrike



KABUL - At least six Taliban militants were killed in an airstrike conducted by the Afghan Forces in Dahana-i-Ghori district of Baghlan province, a military official said on Saturday.

Abbas Tavakoli an army commander in Baghlan told Ariana News that the air operation was conducted late on Friday night in Dahana-i-Ghori district, where at least six insurgents including three foreign fighters have been killed.

The Taliban militant group has not made a comment about the incident yet. Baghlan is among the insecure provinces in the northeast of Afghanistan where the Taliban militants are actively operating in a number of its districts including the capital city of the province. (ANT)



Will Forgive all if Peace Comes, Says Father Who Lost His Sons

KABUL - An Afghan veteran who lives in southern Helmand province has lost his four sons in ongoing conflicts, but he says he is ready to forgive everyone if peace comes to the country.

Saleh Mohammad, 80, said he has served in the Afghan army for 26 years - before 1992.

Mohammad said one of his sons were killed in an airstrike by foreign forces in Kajaki district in Helmand a few years ago and his second was killed by the Taliban when he went to the area to receive his brother's body.

He said that his two other sons were also killed in Taliban attacks in Helmand.

Mohammad has three sons right now.

"If peace comes, I will forgive all the sacrifices," Mohammad said. "These were incidents that happened, but our sons, youths and the next generation are alive and they are bearing the brunt of the brutal war. I will have no claim if the war ends and peace comes."

Out of the four killed sons, two of them were married and their sons and daughters' future are unknown, Mohammad said.

Some relatives and neighbors of Mohammad said his economic condition is has worsened following the death of his sons. ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Taliban Commander Kills Soldier's Wife, Son



GARDEZ - A Taliban commander has killed an Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier's son and wife in the Ahmadkhel district of southeastern Paktia province, an official said on Saturday.

Abdullah Hasrat, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the double-murder incident happened in the Hassankhel locality of the district late on Friday evening.

He alleged Taliban's local commander Qari Aziz killed the soldier's 13-year old son Nisar and his wife. The child and his mother were attending Qari Aziz's wedding party.

...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Uzbeks, Pakistanis Among 43 Rebels Killed in Kunar



KABUL - At least 43 Daesh rebels, including Uzbek and Pakistani nationals, have been killed as a result of two airstrikes by foreign forces in eastern Kunar province.

In a statement, the Ministry of Defense said the foreign forces, in coordination with the Afghan security personnel, targeted Islamic State (IS) training centres in Degal Sar area and Chapa Dara district.

It added Ismail, in charge of the Uzbek militants who were previously associated with Al-Qaeda before joining the IS, was also killed in the air raids. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

A friend may ask to borrow some money today, Aries. You may feel that he or she is asking for more than is really needed, and certainly more than you're willing to give. You might think this puts you in an awkward position. Try to talk to your friend and explain your situation. If you have to say no, just say it. A real friend will understand and look elsewhere for the money.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Some of your job responsibilities are too much for one person and they might weigh you down today, Taurus. The pile of work seems to get steadily bigger no matter what you do. Delegate if you can. Put the least urgent tasks aside and work your way steadily the rest. Your employer may or may not expect too much of you, but you're entitled to your sanity no matter what.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

A sudden fascination with metaphysical or spiritual concepts could have you wanting to read as much as you can on the subject, Gemini. Your enthusiasm could lead you in a dozen different directions, which could eventually lead to mental overload. It might be a better idea to take one subject at a time than try to learn about them all at once. Stay focused!

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

A business enterprise with a friend might seem a little shaky today, Cancer. You could alternate between enthusiasm and gloom regarding this project. It's probably a good one and could lead to the success you want. Don't make any negative judgments about its future based on what happens today. All should be progressing again within a few days. Hang in there!

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

A business deal that you may have been working to finish could require you to tie up a lot of loose ends today, Leo. You might be pulled in a lot of different directions. Don't panic! Get some help if you can. Make a list of what you have to do and cross each task off as it's completed. Stay focused and all should go well. You will achieve the results you want.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Accomplishing some important business might require touching base with many people who live and work far away, perhaps in other countries. This might require that you spend a lot of time on the phone, and it also would require allowing for the different time zones, which could be a drag. You will eventually make the contacts you need, even if they don't come until tomorrow.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

If you've been thinking about investing, Libra, this isn't the day to commit to anything. This is a great day to consider your options, study economic trends, and analyze what you want from investing. It isn't a good day to hand over the money. Land could be a strong possibility. Consult with professionals, read the papers, and look into all kinds of opportunities before committing to one.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Working at home could be difficult today, especially if you're finalizing a business deal, Scorpio. Other household members will be coming and going, slamming doors, asking questions, bringing their friends in. If you're doing household chores, forget it for now and return to it when it's quieter. If you're approaching a deadline, close the door and tell others to leave you alone for a while.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Today you might feel the urge to get all unfinished work done, Sagittarius. You could suddenly be in a frenzy to work quickly but perhaps not as conscientiously as you should. You may spend a lot of time going through paperwork and discarding what's outdated. It might be a better idea to slow down a little and look closely at what you're doing. You won't want to throw out something you may need later.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

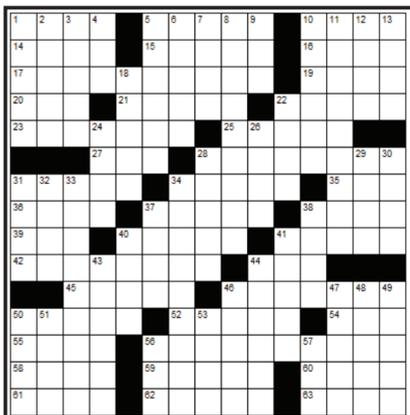
A sudden burst of inspiration for a creative project might keep you busy in the morning and afternoon, Capricorn. You will need information and materials you don't have at home, and finding them might require a larger expenditure of time, energy, and money than you initially thought. Don't give up on the idea. It's likely to be a good one and you will definitely want to pursue it.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Too many people may be vying for your attention today, Aquarius, both at work and home. You will want to make them all happy, so you may feel a little frazzled. Your temper might also be on edge. It would be better to put off the less urgent demands than work yourself into a frenzy. Those who matter would rather have you enjoy life than tire yourself out for their sake.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Communications coming your way today may be more plentiful than useful, Pisces. You could receive lots of confusing phone calls. At first you will be excited by the mailbox full of letters, but then you'll find that some are junk while others are addressed to people you've never heard of. Hang in there. This tendency should pass by tomorrow!



Across

1. Exploded star, 5. Provide, 10. Very, 14. Desiccated, 15. Persons, places or things, 16. Cause surfeit through excess, 17. A small scar, 19. At the peak of, 20. Furrow maker, 21. Urgency, 22. Produce a literary work, 23. Performing, 25. Beside, 27. Female sheep, 28. A card game, 31. Approaches, 34. Sharpens, 35. A Hebrew letter, 36. Astrigent, 37. Pariah, 38. Stubborn beast, 39. Dada, 40. Plank, 41. Player, 42. Large arboreal boa, 44. Mug, 45. Encrypted, 46. Chest of drawers, 50. Anagram of "Diary", 52. Debauchees, 54. Large, flightless bird, 55. Black, in poetry, 56. Sad feelings of gloom, 58. Color of the sky, 59. Take forcibly, 60. Initial wager, 61. Check, 62. An analytic literary composition, 63. D D D D,

Down

1. Tortilla chip, 2. Heavenly hunter, 3. Transgressions, 4. American Dental Association, 5. Infuriate, 6. Clamor, 7. An enclosed conduit, 8. Uneducated, 9. East southeast, 10. Dung beetle, 11. A final peremptory demand, 12. Codger, 13. Hoopla, 18. Defrosts, 22. Nets, 24. School session, 26. Casket, 28. Dried coconut meat, 29. Storm, 30. Pitcher, 31. Nil, 32. Dash, 33. Dauntless, 34. Clothing for the head, 37. Solitary, 38. Geographic illustrations, 40. Corpse, 41. Estimate, 43. Horn, 44. Offensive, 46. Indian millet, 47. A river through Paris, 48. Overact, 49. Graphic symbols, 50. Liability, 51. Competent, 53. Creative work, 56. Fitting, 57. Unhappy,

Yesterday's Solution

ETHIC, BRAD, MOPE, SWISH, LOOT, TIGER, AISLE, OARS, CESS, UNSER, SIONED, RATE, FAD, AEGONS, REFLEX, SUITS, ERROR, BARNACLE, ALGO, CELLS, DILLY, OGDRELLS, SPILLE, ELUTE, SNEISIS, SURFS, BAA, PARTITION, ALAB, DRAW, PARGE, TOGA, LEAVE, EXERT, USED, REED, RITISES

among, Asia, beagle, bloat, bore, boxer, brae, breakfastcloud, defuse, donate, dwarf, edition, extra fallow, flack, flower, foal, footprint, force, fudge, knead, ole, parrot, perform, playground, prententious,

