

Two Afghan Athletes to Make History at Winter Olympics



KABUL - Alishah Farhang and Sajjad Hussaini will represent Afghanistan at the 2018 Winter Olympics in skiing. For the first time in history, two Afghan athletes

will take part in the 2018 Winter Olympics, officially known as the XXIII Olympic Winter Games and commonly known as Pyeong Chang 2018, in February. Alishah Farhang and Sajjad Hussaini will be

the country's first skiers to represent Afghanistan at a winter Olympics.

Mohammad Zahir Aghbar, head Afghanistan Olympic Committee, who signed an agreement for these players with Kim Un-yong, chairman of the South Korean National Olympic Committee, at the twenty-second meeting of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC).

"At the meeting which we had with the head of Korea's Olympics Committee we registered two Afghan athletes for the Winter Olympics. I hope that Afghanistan does well in this competition," Aghbar said.

"We are the first Afghans who will represent the country in the Winter Olympics. We are the messengers of peace and we hope that we return with success," said Sajjad Hussaini one of the athletes.

"We have been skiing here in Korea for the past three years. We hope to be successful at the Winter Olympics on behalf of Afghanistan," said Ali Shah Farhang the other athlete.

The Winter Olympics were first held in 1924 by Baron Priodico Coubertin, the father of the contemporary world Olympic Games, the founder of the Summer Olympics in 1896. Afghanistan has participated at 13 Summer Olympics but never at a Winter Olympics. (Tolonews)

Militants, Civilians Suffer Casualties in Kunduz Offensive



KUNDUZ CITY - Taliban insurgents and civilians have suffered casualties during an air-and-ground operation by foreign forces in northeastern Kunduz province, officials said on Saturday. A member of provincial council, Maulvi Khosh Mohammad Nasratyar, told Pajhwok Afghan News the operation was conducted in the Ghroqchlaq area of Chahar Dara district on Friday night. He said Afghan and foreign forces have been conducting the air-and-ground offensive for the past few days and they carried out the bombardment last night. Nasratyar claimed casualties were also inflicted on civilians. Naik Mohammad, a resident of the area, confirmed many casualties were inflicted on militants. "The Taliban told residents ... (More on P4)...(17)

Diesel, Sugar Prices up, Ghee down in Kabul



KABUL - Prices of diesel and sugar have increased, but the rate of ghee dipped during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Saturday. Abdul Hadi, a worker at the Wazirabad Filling Station, told Pajhwok Afghan News the price of a litre of diesel increased from 45afs to 46afs and the rate of petrol remained unchanged. Gas prices also stayed stable. Sharif Ahmad, a gas dealer in Kolola Poshta area confirmed the rate of gas remained steady at 60afs a kilogram. Food Traders Union head Fazal Rahman said a 49-kg sack of Pakistani sugar rose in value from 1,700afs to 1,780afs. The price of a 16-kg tin of Khurshid ghee, however, fell from 1,080afs to 1,060afs. He said the rates of other food items remained stable. The wholesale price of a 50-kg Kazakhstani flour bag remained unchanged at 1,160afs and a 24-kg bag of Pakistani rice at 1,850afs. Meanwhile, Noor Ahmad Khairkhwa, a tea seller in Kabul Mandavi, said a kilogram of Indonesian green tea cost 280afs and the same amount of African black tea 300afs - same prices as last week's. Ahmad Wali Panjsheri, ... (More on P4)...(21)

A-29s Pound Foreign Hideouts of Foreign Terrorists in Kunar Province

KABUL - The Afghan Air Force carried out a series of airstrikes on the hideouts of the foreign terrorists in eastern Kunar province of Afghanistan, the Afghan military said Saturday. The airstrikes were carried out in the vicinity of Marwara district of Kunar, leaving at least three foreign insurgents dead. The 201 Silab Corps officials in the East said the Afghan Air Force A-29 fighter planes pounded the hideouts of the terrorists and as a result at least one hideout and a heavy machine gun of the terrorists were also destroyed. The anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the report so far. Kunar, located in eastern ... (More on P4)...(18)

Baran Modelling Group Showcases Traditional Afghan

KABUL - The Baran Modelling Group on Saturday held a fashion show displaying traditional Afghan clothes in a bid to promote national unity among the nation. The models said they want to introduce another face of Afghanistan to the world by wearing traditional clothes from regions around the country. "When I was gathering information on modeling, lots of people did not know about it," said Angila, the head of Baran Modelling Group. "I want to show the world that we have such culture," Arash Amiri, a model said. The models said introducing traditional clothes from different tribes would help united the people. ... (More on P4)...(19)

Huge Losses as Fire Guts 15 Curtain Shops in Kabul

KABUL - A blaze swept through curtain shops in capital Kabul on Saturday, leaving one person injured and at least 15 shops gutted, police said. The fire caused 'huge' financial losses to many shopkeepers, said Basir Mujahid, 101st Asmaee zone police spokesman. Blaming the fire eruption on shopkeepers' carelessness, Mujahid told Pajhwok Afghan News firefighters were able to douse the fire after two hours of efforts. The incident took place at 7am in the Timor Shahi Street, when a shop caught fire and spread to others. Mujahid said an investigating team had reached the area to assess the damage. According to eyewitness, firefighters reached the site half an hour after the fire had erupted. The fire brigade department is located a kilometer away from the blaze site. (Pajhwok)



Nangarhar: 67 Criminals Held, Abducted Boy Rescued

JALALABAD - Police arrested 67 alleged criminals and rescued a child from his kidnapers in the past two weeks in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Saturday. Nangarhar police chief Lt. Gen. Abdul Rahman Rahimi told reporters here joint ground and air raids in Jalalabad, the provincial capital, and six districts killed 12 militants and injured two others. In the past two weeks, he said, 26 different

kinds of weapons and ammunition were confiscated and more than 60 crime suspects arrested. Of the detainees, 29 persons were held over different criminal charges, nine on terrorist activities and three for links with Daesh rebels. The police chief said six Pakistani citizens had also been arrested by police during the period for lacking stay documents. Rahimi handed ... (More on P4)...(20)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries Although today is a day of rest for some people, you're too busy to think about relaxing. The Moon's shift into your 3rd House of Communication keeps you hopping with an endless flow of phone calls, emails and texts. Everyone seems to enjoy their interactions with you now because of your optimistic outlook and enthusiastic response.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus Your friends might seem a bit flighty today but you want them to come back to Earth for a serious conversation about an important topic. You wish they would react with passion from the heart rather than hiding behind cool rationality. Nevertheless, other people's intellectual idealism is so reassuring that you want to believe them.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini Focusing on one thing at a time is challenging today. You want to do everything in the present moment and cannot understand why this is impossible. Someone might try to show you the folly of your ways, but you may need to learn for yourself. In the meantime, you could thoroughly enjoy indulging every whim, even if you seem scattered to others.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer Your thoughts are racing through your mind and they seem to have a life of their own. You might try to ignore them, but the more you shift your focus to other things, the louder they become. Instead of burying your ideas - however irrelevant they may seem - try sharing them with a friend and see where the conversation goes.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo You're less interested in what you do today than you are in planning for your future. However, you don't feel any pressure to come up with a specific strategy; you are content to dream about all the possibilities that stretch out before you. Still, some idea might be exciting enough that you want to initiate action immediately.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept 22)



Virgo You may feel as if you're in a poem by Robert Frost, standing at the divergence of two roads. You're not sure which one will further your success, but the dualistic Gemini Moon's visit to your 10th House of Status makes it difficult to eliminate either. Although you might be required to make a choice now, there is no reason to squelch the other dream. You can follow one path while keeping the other alive in your heart.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra The walls that normally keep you on course have suddenly disappeared. The Moon's move into your 9th House of Faraway Places pulls your attention away from the most pressing concerns and far into the future. Although it might seem frightening at first because there's nothing to prevent you from making a wrong move, you have the freedom now to explore options.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You possess the ability to analyze your emotions with logic rather than passion today. Thankfully, this objective approach paves the way for you to tackle a complicated issue. Taking a philosophical look at those things that are the most important to you enables you to dig right to the core of your beliefs. Just remember that overconfidence doesn't serve you well because you might forget the gravity of a situation.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius Your cavalier approach to a relationship may not sit well with the other person. Don't try to avoid an in-depth discussion just because it could bring up an uncomfortable topic. If someone wants to talk things over, your job now is to create safe space for the conversation. Communication isn't always easy, especially when there is a real and defined difference of opinions.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You can think of so many little ways you can improve your health today that you might feel unable to make up your mind and do any one of the them. Ironically, you're often a master of developing successful strategies, but you can't seem to settle on even the simplest of plans now.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

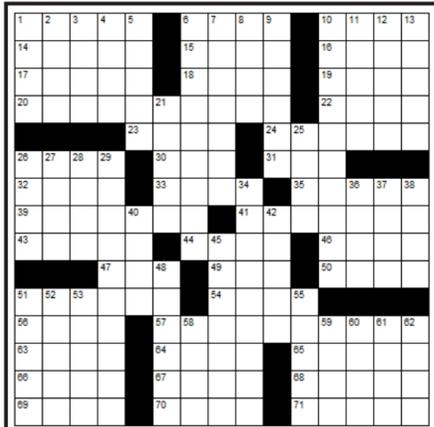


Aquarius Your communication skills enable you to say exactly what you mean today, leaving little doubt in anyone's mind about your true intentions. Thankfully, you can easily win people over to your side of an argument by ignoring convention and taking a creative approach to sharing whatever is on your mind. Don't stop to think about someone's reaction now.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces You may do your best thinking at home today, even if you're devising a strategy to reach your objectives at work next week. Although you're envisioning the future, your effective planning range now can be measured in days, not weeks. You realize that the more specific you are now, the more effective you will be. Nevertheless, don't lose sight of the bigger picture; your daily routine will only make sense once you see it in light of the greater whole. Perspective changes everything.



Across

- Small open pies, v
- Devil tree
- Average
- In progress
- Anagram of "Seek"
- Church alcove
- Optical maser
- Orange pekoe
- Schnozzola
- Praiseworthy
- Breezed through
- Diva's solo
- Not days
- Hindu princess
- Hotel
- Foot digit
- Again
- Foliage
- Small drum
- Fluffy egg dish
- High-spirited horse
- Discussion group
- Rescue
- Not first
- Mug
- Put clothing on
- Being
- A Christian celebration
- Anagram of "Star"
- Against
- Unmixable
- Novice
- Food from animals
- Shot from a bow
- Brother of Jacob
- Feudal worker
- Rental agreement
- Recent events
- Rodents
- Fruity-smelling compound

Down

- After-bath powder
- At a distance
- Thorny flower
- Pigeon
- Stripes
- Captives
- Japanese flower arranging
- Blue-green
- Nod
- Controllable
- Historical period
- Something of value
- Requires
- Quaver
- Greek letter
- Coarse file
- Dwarf buffalo
- Person, place or thing
- Contagious
- Preferred choices
- Partiality
- Young girl
- Pot
- Chimney channel
- Leases
- Hard
- An introductory textbook
- Consumed
- Licorice-like flavor
- Chaff
- Climb
- Plateau
- Angers
- Rascal
- Fail to win
- Pitcher

Yesterday's Solution

E	N	D	R	A	G	O	N	E	R
W	O	L	D	E	V	E	N	I	N
E	V	A	N	E	S	C	E	N	T
S	A	L	A	M	I	N	E	E	R
A	S	S	U	R	D	R	A	I	S
H	E	R	I	E	S	S	A	S	O
U	L	L	I	A	T	E	P	A	E
M	A	N	U	R	E	G	A	R	E
S	N	E	E	R	E	D	P	L	A
S	T	R	O	N	I	T	O	H	O
M	O	A	T	E	S	S	N	I	C
O	M	I	T	R	E	S	I	S	T
T	E	L	L	O	N	U	S	A	D
E	S	S	I	E	S	T	E	R	E

Across

- beep
- brand
- bundle
- center
- chase
- cream
- creep
- deer
- dynasty
- everyone
- fanatical
- flesh
- frenzied
- ground
- hasten
- house
- hurry
- league
- locate
- loss
- mewl
- mote
- official
- peat
- people
- pound

