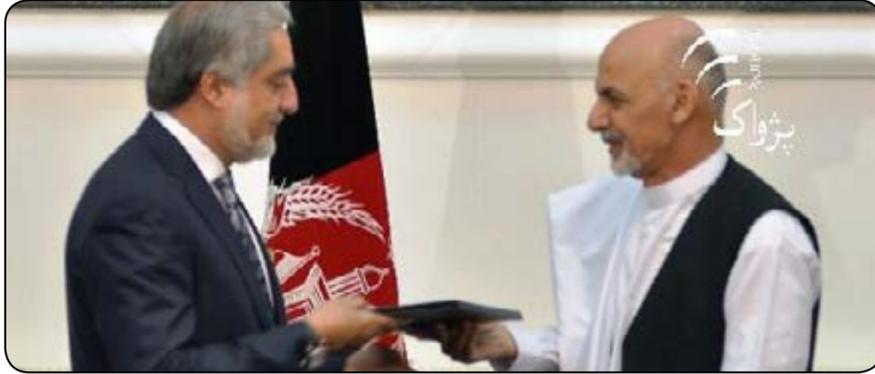


Desperate for Change, Masses Dub Unity Gov'ta Failure

KABUL - As Tuesday marked the completion of one year of the unity government, residents of different provinces said the regime had miserably failed to honour its pledges. After their inauguration, the unity government leaders made strong pledges to improve security, create jobs and lure investment. Mohammad Nawab, a university student, told Pajhwok Afghan News the government leaders had failed to materialise their election campaign promises. The 25-year-old lamented a majority of the educated youth were leaving the country after they were disappointed by the gov-



ernment. He warned if the situation did not improve, worst things would happen. Ahmad Batash, a bachelor's degree holder, said: "It seems the government doesn't have... (More on P4)... (13)

Fall of Kunduz City Part of a Big Plot, Believe Experts

KABUL - Some political analysts on Tuesday alleged the fall of Kunduz City, the capital of northern Kunduz province, into the hands of Taliban insurgents was a conspiracy involving local commanders. Hundreds of Taliban militants attacked the strategic city on the night between Sunday and Monday from three directions, overrunning a number of government buildings, including the police headquarters and the central prison. The rebels set free hundreds of inmates from the jail and captured the main civil hospital on Monday amid clashes with security

forces. Local officials on Monday said the entire Kunduz City had fallen, with security forces moving to the airport and Bala-Hisar area to prepare for a counterattack. A Pajhwok Afghan News correspondent reported at 7:00pm Monday that the insurgents took the majority of government buildings under their control, torching some buildings. Most of international organisations and government officials had arrived at the airport to depart from the province, he reported. But on Tuesday, the Afghan security forces

launched a clearing operation, retaking the newly-built police headquarters and the prison from the Taliban. The operation is ongoing. President Ashraf Ghani, who marked his first anniversary in office on Tuesday, vowed to retake Kunduz City from Taliban. EsmatQani, a political analyst, believed some elements who covertly supported the Taliban had a major role in the falls of Kunduz City. He said earlier some people had suggested the release of prisoners from the prison in Kunduz city would pave way for the ... (More on P4)... (14)

Taliban Claim Capturing 2 Takhar Districts

TALOQAN - Officials in northern Takhar province on Tuesday denied security forces had been defeated in two districts, saying fierce clashes were underway between militants and Afghan forces. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid earlier claimed the fighters had captured Yangi and Ashk-mash districts after inflicting heavy casualties on security forces during attacks. But Takhar police spokesman Abdul Khalil Asir said the Taliban at-



tacks on the two districts had been repulsed. He said a fierce fighting between police and insurgents still ongoing and he was personally leading the gun battle in Dasht-i-Qala locality. He did not say if security forces had suffered any casualties as claimed by the Taliban. Meanwhile, a resident of Darqud district said the Taliban had launched their attacks on that district as well. (Pajhwok)

Moon Condemns Taliban Attacks on Kunduz

WASHINGTON - The UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on Monday strongly condemned the Taliban attack on the city of Kunduz in northern Afghanistan. Such attacks on civilians and civilian facilities are a clear violation of international human rights and humanitarian law, said a statement attributable to the spokesman of the Secretary General. The assault on Kunduz follows a horrific attack by anti-Government elements on a volleyball game in Paktika province on 27 September, which killed at least 17 civilians, including 15 children, and injured at least 60 others. Ban conveyed to the Afghan Government his deepest sympathy and his deepest condolences to the families of all the victims and wishes a swift recovery to the injured. The Secretary-General emphasises the need for a peaceful settlement of differences, in the interests of building a stronger and stable future for the people of Afghanistan and the region as a whole. (Pajhwok)

Kunduz People Being Brutalized by Taliban: Former NDS Chief

KABUL - The former head of the National Directorate of Security (NDS) Amrullah Saleh on Tuesday told TOLONews that Taliban militants are terrorizing Kunduz residents, have killed civilians and torched government offices and looted properties in the city. He said the Taliban plans to leave behind a damaged city when government forces retake control. Saleh said the Taliban insurgents have brutally killed three young men after accusing them of siding with the government. He said reports indicate that the insurgents killed the victims by driving over them in their vehicles. He added that the militants also stormed a maternity hospital in the city and shot dead three nurses. According to him, at least 200 female patients in the hospital were badly traumatized by the incident. He said among the patients are 18 of whom are in critical condition. He also confirmed that the insurgents had freed 600 inmates from the Kunduz prison. Saleh believes that the Taliban militants used the opportunity to seize the city on the back ... (More on P4)... (16)

Mullah Mansoor Issues Contradictory Statement on Kunduz City Attack

KABUL - The newly appointed leader of the Taliban group Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansoor has issued a statement following a coordinated attack on Kunduz city. Mullah Mansoor's call to refrain from harming civilians and their properties while ruling out retribution of the government employees and security personnel provided that they abandon all negative thoughts, message of peace and full a credit of the fall of the city to Taliban militants, are some of the important points made in his statement.

However, the remarks by Mullah Mansoor comes as the Taliban militants have been blamed in a series of activities aimed at harming the civilians including an attack on a radio station apparently managed by women. The attack on Roshani Radio Television by Taliban militants sparked an outrage awfter the station was torched following the fall of the city. NAI Organization which supports open media in Afghanistan strongly condemned the attack on the Radio Station, calling it an evil and brutal act.

The organization expressed deep concerns regarding the security of the media workers and journalists in the city and called on the government to take all necessary measures to ensure their security. In parts of his state Mullah Mansoor called on the Afghan government to openly admit its failure and stepped forward to rule out the group was supported by any foreign intelligence in coordinating and conducting the attack. However, the senior security officials said the Afghan security forces ... (More on P4)... (15)

30 Daesh Fighters Killed in Fresh Operation in Achin District

JALALABAD - Local officials on Tuesday said that hundreds of Islamic State (IS) or Daesh rebels once again attacked security posts in Achin district of eastern Nangarhar province. Achin district chief Haji Ghalib told Pajhwok Afghan News that the militants attacked security posts in Shadal, Abdulkhail, Kushtal, Achen and some other villages around 3am last night. He said that around 600 IS fighters who were equipped on small and heavy weapons had participated the attacks.



Four security forces were wounded in an ambush of Daesh fighters, he added, but said that more than 20 militants suffered casualties in retaliatory attack of Afghan forces. More details about the incident to follow later. Daesh militants did not

comment on the incident yet. Three days earlier, the rebel group carried out armed attacks on several security posts in Achin district but defeated by Afghan forces and killed 100 of the militants and wounded 30 others. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Force Residents of Khanashin District to Poison Security Forces

KABUL - Taliban militants have forced villagers in Khanashin District of southern Helmand province to poison security forces. A local reporter of Killid Radio says that Taliban have warned people in areas under their control to vacate their home if they are not poisoning security forces. "Taliban would come and force us to poison security forces in the nearby security posts. Then they

would come and attack the security posts from our homes. When we complained, they told us for vacating our homes," a resident of the area told the news agency on condition of anonymity. Another resident who has left his home told the media that they were suffering from war. "We were suffering from war, we were suffering from gunfire, they told us you are government people, you are spies, and

they took the community elders with them who have not returned yet." He said. Local officials are not refusing the reports but say that Taliban have failed that is why they are bending to these acts. Several incidents have taken place in Helmand and in its neighboring Zabul and Urozgan provinces where police were poisoned or made unconscious and later martyred by the Taliban. (KP)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Hurrying to finish what you already started may be a hopeless cause, but you have to try your best anyhow. Or you could be feeling pressure to begin something new while there's still time. Either way, you are driven to act immediately as familiar surges of urgency wash over you. However, you might grow irritated with your own moodiness until the reflective Moon leaves your reactive.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Your daydreams could be so shocking now that you feel as if you're standing on unfamiliar ground. It's as if something is tickling your psyche today, yet it's difficult to decide whether or not you actually like it. You can't tell exactly what the energy is or where it's coming from, but you are captivated. Although you might not have a clear strategy on how to best apply your current creative genius.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You might believe there's no limit to what you can accomplish today, but actually there's only so much that you Twins can juggle at once. Unfortunately, overextending your energies quickly complicates your world now that mischievous Mercury is pedaling backwards. You must make difficult choices if you want something of lasting value to come from your current efforts.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Sticking with just one project is counter-intuitive today because your thoughts are running willy-nilly in several directions at once. Nevertheless, your smartest strategy is even less obvious. Rather than making yourself crazy by trying to focus on the most practical tasks at hand, let your fantasies take you where they will. Although a deadline might slip under the radar.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You Lions have been in demand for quite some time now and it is a delightful luxury if you can grab a catnap during an unexpected lull in the storm. However, the overall cosmic theme isn't about sleeping; it's all about dreaming. Your subconscious is sending powerful messages today, and you may learn something significant about yourself if you take the time to decipher the symbols and break the code.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Although you prefer to sit back and enjoy your day, you quickly grow anxious if you're idle for more than just a few minutes. Logically, you know you can schedule some quality time for yourself, but you can't help but worry about all the unfinished work that still needs to be completed. Instead of dreaming about what you would do with your spare time if you had it, concentrate on your immediate goals for now.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You hit the ground running today. You're psyched that you have a lot to do and are eager to get started. But you could bite off a bigger chunk of reality than you can handle with retrograde Mercury stirring up trouble in your sign. Everything seems to require more time and effort than you planned. Don't expect anyone to bail you out; just continue to move along at whatever pace feels sustainable.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Although your actions are well-intended and you enjoy the appreciation you receive, you still may feel overwhelmed if you assume too many responsibilities now. You might be afraid of the proverbial straw that could break the camel's back - and the camel is you. But there's no easy way out. Take a deep breath and follow through with your promises to the best of your ability.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

There's plenty of work on your plate today and, thankfully, you are brimming with enough have enough energy to do whatever is necessary. Your optimism is off the charts, making it increasingly tricky to separate the truth of the situation from your belief that everything will be fine. Don't fall asleep at the wheel of consciousness now or you could wake up to find yourself crashing into reality.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

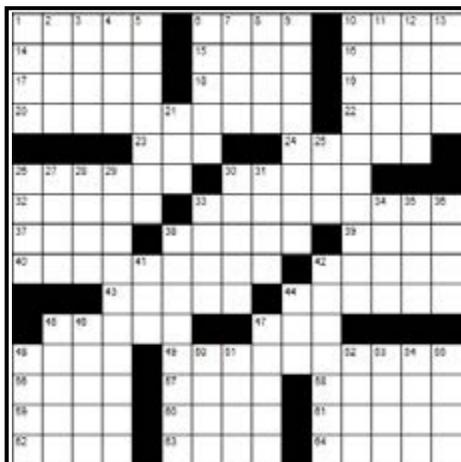
Unplanned events require your immediate intervention today. You are known for your organizational abilities, especially in the midst of dealing with minor crises. The problem is that your solutions may defy practical logic now. Make no mistake about it; this is a test and you can pass with flying colors if you run with your feelings and follow your intuition.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Oddly enough, your world seems a bit more settled today than it did yesterday. However, you might not even realize you have passed through the eye of a storm and are coming out the other side now. You are a survivor because your individuality prevents you from losing yourself completely to the confusion of intense cosmic weather. Don't be afraid to fight for what is yours.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

The currents of your emotions may be flowing too strongly for your liking today, especially if someone is making unfair demands on your heart. You might be anxious because you want to stand on solid ground now, but can't seem to easily discern the facts from your feelings. Don't panic; you'll be fine if you simply relax and trust the process. Just imagine you're a surfer effortlessly riding the waves that arise from the depths of your imagination.



Across

- 1. Young eel, 6. Horn sound, 10. Seedcases, 14. Axial, 15. Magma, 16. Type of sword, 17. Rope fiber, 18. Not under, 19. Anger, 20. Tending to vanish like vapor, 22. Gashes, 23. Donkey, 24. Swelling under the skin, 26. Grumble, 30. Waste matter, 32. Expire, 33. Freshwater fish of Central America, 37. Stake, 38. Lyric poem, 39. Small island, 40. Deface, 42. Iniquities, 43. Exhorted, 44. Bosom, 45. Minty drink, 47. Glass container, 48. Ripped, 49. Relax rules or guidelines, 56. Country pumpkin, 57. Air force heroes, 58. Leg bone, 59. "What a shame!", 60. Tidy, 61. Pieces, 62. Writing implements, 63. Sounds of disapproval, 64. Untidy.

Down

- 1. Convenience, 64 .2 in Roman numerals, 3. Brand of credit card, 4. Dash, 5. Set free, 6. Voting groups, 7. Overhang, 8. Not odd, 9. Theater area, 10. Insightful, 11. Codeine source, 12. Triangular formation, 13. Views, 21. South southeast, 25. Father, 26. Happy, 27. Hindu princess, 28. Chooses, 29. Utility, 30. Epee or saber, 31. Cypher, 33. Disgorge, 34. Largest continent, 35. Ailments, 36. In order to prevent, 38. Egg-shaped vegetable, 41. Fury, 42. Typographical error, 44. Tavern, 45. Unit of electrical energy, 46. Not rural, 47. Jokes, 48. Snare, 50. Frosts, 51. Nib, 52. Connects two points, 53. Nile bird, 54. Pimples, 55. Not difficult.

Yesterday's Solution



- advancement, alive, catch, charge, child, clean, couple, crack, crush, date, delicious, dreams, efficiency, extraction, favor, foes, fore, found, guard, halt, hood, house, juice, lass, notify, people, phones, photograph, potato, power, school, sheep.

