

Page 2 | NATIONAL
Revival of Ancient Chinese Wisdom in People-Centered Philosophy

Secrets Tumble Out of Afghan War Closet

Even a month before the 9/11 attacks, the US administration under President George Bush had finalized a strategy to overthrow...

Page 3 | ECONOMY
An Oxygen Production Machine Activated in Sheikh Zahed University of Khost



Kabul
34° / 15°



Herat
34° / 20°



Nangarhar
44° / 24°



Balkh
35° / 25°



Heart of Asia

Your Gateway to Afghanistan & the Region

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

Issue No. 978

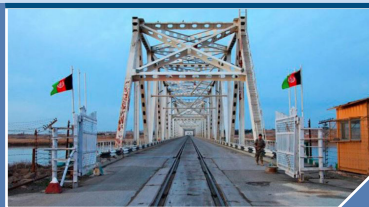
www.heartofasia.af

10 afs



UN human rights chief voices concern over sharp increase in violence

UN Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet has voiced her concern over the sharp increase in violence and harm to civilians in Afghanistan. In a statement issued after the 47th session of the UN Human Rights Council, Bachelet said the recent attack on "a school in Kabul - which killed 85 children, most of them girls - was especially shocking." She stated that in the six months since talks began between the Afghan government and the Taliban, civilian casualties increased by 41 percent compared to the same period one year previously. "The withdrawal of international forces, which...

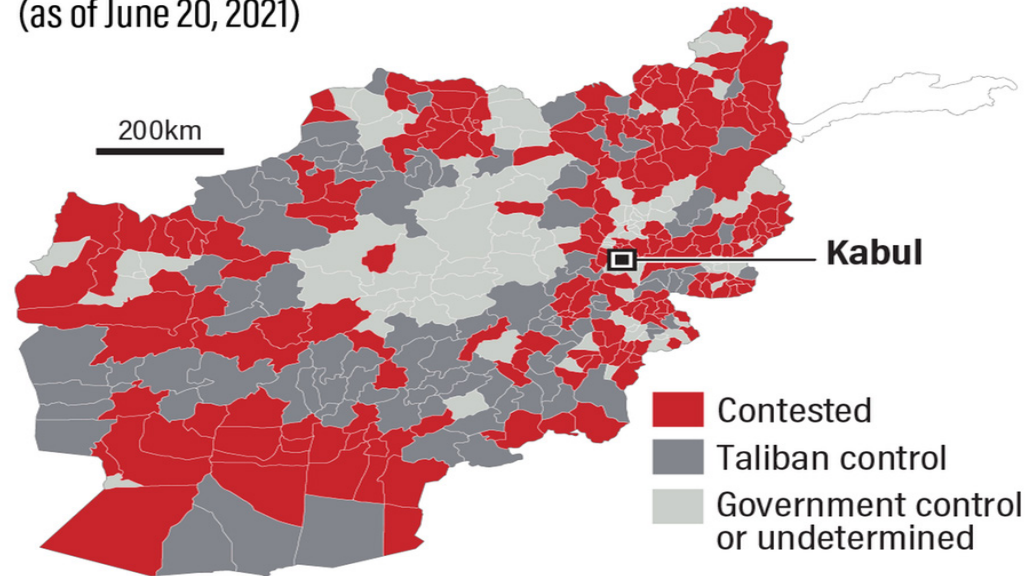


Uzbekistan Closes Border with Afghanistan Amid Covid-19

The exacerbation of the epidemic situation in Afghanistan has led to the suspension of movement across the Afghan-Uzbek border, Uzbek Health Ministry announced. Uzbekistan announced closure of its borders with Afghanistan due to Covid-19, Uzbek authorities announced on Tuesday. According to the reports, the Uzbekistan embassy and consulates in Afghanistan will not issue tourism visa for the Afghan nationals until a future notice. Afghan or Uzbek citizens will be granted permission to return to their home countries, crossing the border, however, Coronavirus infection will be checked on all persons entering the border at the Termez checkpoint, sources said. Workers from diplomatic missions, consular agencies, foreign organizations, and their families, and international truck drivers, are permitted to cross the border into Uzbekistan, exceptionally. Foreign nationals suspected of being infected with the coronavirus will be refused to enter Uzbekistan. This comes at a time when the recent confirmed Covid-19 cases in Afghanistan and the death tolls have increased.

Taliban Control 107, Government 92 Of 398 Districts: Long War Journal

CONTROL OF AFGHANISTAN'S DISTRICTS (as of June 20, 2021)



According to the Long War Journal, the Taliban now control 107 of Afghanistan's 398 districts, the government 92, and the remaining 199 are contested.

According to the journal, the vast majority of Afghans live in government-controlled areas (nearly 12 million), Taliban-controlled areas (around 6 million),

and contested areas (around 15 million).

Since US President Joe Biden announced a September departure date for American troops, Afghanistan has seen a surge in deadly Taliban attacks across the country, resulting in rising mounting casualties on all sides. At least 50 Taliban were killed in an

air raid by the Afghan security forces in the western province bordering Iran, officials said on Tuesday, as a deadly turf war rages across Afghanistan.

A spokesman for the Herat governor, Jailani Farhad, told Anadolu Agency that dozens of Taliban planned to storm the Pashton Zarghon district with an explosive-laden vehicle.

However, the Afghan forces targeted them with an airstrike before they could carry out their plan.

"Intelligence reports suggest that at least 50 armed Taliban insurgents were killed and a number of others injured in this raid," he said.

The Defense Ministry in a series of tweets on Tuesday claimed to have killed nearly 300 insurgents in counter-terrorism offensives in the past 24 hours.

"234 #Taliban terrorists were killed and 103 others were wounded as a result of #ANDSF (Afghan National Defense and Security Forces) operations in Logar, Nangarhar, Paktika, Khost, Kandahar, Zabul, Faryab, Balkh, Samangan, Helmand, Takhar, Baghlan, Parwan, Kunduz and Kabul provinces during the last 24 hours," one tweet read.

Taliban rejects Kabul claims, insists on capturing 5 more districts. For their part, the advancing Taliban on Tuesday claimed to have taken control of the districts of Chahar Dara, Imam Saheb, Chora, Nahreen and Maiwand.

In a tweet, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahed rejected claim by the government that its forces have recaptured...

4 Czech Soldiers Charged Over Afghan Man's Death

Czech military police have charged four soldiers over the death of an Afghan man who had killed a Czech dog handler in 2018, a prosecutor said Monday.

The Respekt weekly said Wahidullah Khan shot Czech soldier Tomas Prochazka dead and wounded another two soldiers at the Shindand air base in western Afghanistan in October 2018. He gave himself up at once, he was questioned by Afghan, Czech and American soldiers and died in hospital shortly afterwards.

Respekt cites a 2019 report by the US Army Criminal Investigation...



Imran Khan Says Taliban Cannot Win Over the Whole of Afghanistan

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in an op-ed published by The Washington Post has said that his country opposes any military takeover of Afghanistan and that "the Taliban cannot win over the whole of the country, and yet must be included in any government for it to succeed."

Taliban has intensified their attacks on Afghan forces over the last two months, especially when the US President Joe Biden announced the withdrawal of American forces from the country by September 11. At least 50 districts have either fallen to the Taliban or have remained contested between the two sides over the last two months - many of them without resistance by security forces. Sources told TOLONews that many districts have fallen due to delay in deployment of



reinforcements.

Khan said Pakistan is ready to be a partner for peace in Afghanistan with the United States - but as US troops withdraw, "we will avoid risking further conflict."

Similar remarks were made by Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi in an interview with TOLONews last week. He said

Pakistan wants to partner with Afghanistan in the peace process.

"Our countries have the same interest in that long-suffering country," Khan said.

"In the past, Pakistan made a mistake by choosing between warring Afghan parties, but we have learned from that experience," Khan reiterated in the op-ed...

4 Czech...

Command saying Khan had been brutally beaten up during the interrogation. It quotes an Afghan interpreter as saying Khan was heard crying in pain during the Czech interrogation and that he was beaten by the American soldiers too.

"We are supervising the criminal proceedings," Hynek Olma, a prosecutor at the regional prosecution office in the second Czech city of Brno, told AFP without giving any details.

"The case of the four charged soldiers is being handled by criminal authorities," Defence Minister Lubomir Metnar said in a tweet.

"Until a legitimate decision is passed, I will honour the presumption of innocence and will not give any further comments on the case," he added.

Respekt said two of the four Czech elite soldiers were charged with violent blackmail and disobedience, and the other two with negligence and breach of duty.

It added eight US soldiers were also being investigated over the incident, but they have not been charged yet.

Czech soldiers are deployed in Afghanistan within the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission. NATO said earlier it would withdraw its troops from Afghanistan by September 11. Over two decades of military involvement in Afghanistan, US-led foreign forces have faced allegations of torture, illegal killings and war crimes by rights groups.

In November, an Australian military inquiry found that the country's special forces deployed in southern Afghanistan had "unlawfully killed" 39 Afghan civilians and prisoners. Such revelations had often been used by the Taliban to demand the withdrawal of foreign forces from the country.

By: CGTN Insight

Revival of Ancient Chinese Wisdom in People-Centered Philosophy

British Conservative MP Tom Tugendhat gained fame recently in China after unintentionally extolling the merits of the Communist Party of China (CPC). His comments were described by many Chinese netizens as bestowing "the highest praise."

In an interview with the BBC's Chinese Service, Tugendhat said that the CPC is "not afraid of America or Britain," but is "only afraid of one thing, and that's the Chinese people." He had intended to knock the CPC but ended up highlighting its recipe for its successful governance of the country, namely a people-centered philosophy. To a certain degree, a fear of failing the Chinese people gives power to the Party.

Origin of the philosophy
People-centered thought has long been integrated into China's traditions. Confucius and his disciples preached the idea to the local rulers over 2,000 years ago. They compared rulers to boats and the common people to water. "Water not only can keep a boat afloat but can also sink it," was the way they put it. Events that occurred during dynastic changes in China over the next two millennia proved the insightfulness of this philosophy. It is why the CPC has kept people-centered thought as its guiding principle since its founding.

Founded and thriving on a people-centered approach
In the early days of the CPC following its establishment in 1921, the Party made the "mass line" its lifeline, championing close Party-people relations by listening to people and meeting their needs. In the late-1920s, the CPC outlined for its troops, later known as the People's Liberation Army, detailed principles, such as "do not take a single needle or a piece of thread from the masses," with the aim of treating and serving the country's citizens properly and wholeheartedly. Such a philosophy helped the CPC win increasing popularity and support from Chinese at home and abroad, including rubber magnate Tan Kah Kee. The village boy-turned-business tycoon concluded that "the future of China lies in Yan'an" after the squandermania



he saw under the Chiang Kai-shek and his Kuomintang in Chongqing. Just one welcome dinner cost the Kuomintang over 500 times the money spent by Mao Zedong and the CPC under his leadership in Yan'an. The extravagance came at a time when hundreds of millions of Chinese were suffering from hunger and turmoil caused by Japanese aggression.

After the defeat of Japan in World War II, Tan Kah Kee said that "the CPC has won the support of the Chinese people and the support is deeply entrenched. Neither the Kuomintang army can destroy the CPC, nor any foreign suppression with money or weapon is capable of bending it."

His judgment turned out to be correct. By sticking to its "mass line" and putting people first, the CPC, a latecomer, became the leading stakeholder on China's modern political stage and successfully championed the establishment of a people's republic for the first time in the nation's 5,000-year history.

That's the power of the people. Staying true to the original aspiration Since the founding of the People's Republic, the CPC, with whom the people imbue with the power to lead the governance of the country, has been making plans for development in line with the needs of the people. It doesn't mean there were no mistakes or regrets.

But as Mao Zedong, the founder member of the Party, once said: "If we

have shortcomings, we are not afraid to have them pointed out and criticized, because we serve the people. Anyone, no matter who, may point out our shortcomings. If he is right, we will correct them. If what he proposes will benefit the people, we will act upon it... If, in the interests of the people, we persist in doing what is right and correct what is wrong, our ranks will surely thrive."

With this approach, the Party has managed to steer the nation away from high-risk social movements like the Cultural Revolution. It was also able to withstand the financial crises of 1997 (Asian) and 2008 (global). All the while, it has kept China on the right track towards reform and opening-up, improving living standards, reducing the rural-urban income gap, stamping out corruption, and pursuing green development, technological innovation and fairer competition. Keeping in mind the original aspiration of serving the people, the CPC also led the nation in achieving a relatively quick containment of the COVID-19 pandemic. The free testing and treatment of everyone in need and the quick replacement of unqualified and derelict officials won wide acknowledgment from the Chinese people during the epidemic.

All these actions explain why the CPC-led government has seen increased satisfaction and support among Chinese citizens over the last year (according to a survey conducted

by researchers at Canada's York University), or over the past decade (according to a 2003-16 study carried out by researchers at Harvard University).

Recipe to keep the Party resilient
"Never forget why you started, and your mission can be accomplished." When Xi Jinping, the CPC's top leader, reminded Party members in 2016 of the Party's original aspiration at the 95th anniversary of its establishment, he once again stressed the importance of serving the people, as "winning or losing public support is an issue that concerns the CPC's survival or extinction."

The collapse of the CPC government has long been predicted and yet we have only witnessed China going from strength to strength.

On the 100th anniversary of the Party, it is worth once again, highlighting its people-centered philosophy. This can help reinforce this way of thinking, which is a prerequisite to translating these thoughts into actions. Adhering to the nation's ancient wisdom has been the secret to maintaining the resilience of the Party's governance and the system it adopted. Persistence in staying true to its commitment to the Chinese people will help the Party ensure the ongoing rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Tu Yun is an editor at China Plus and China Radio International's former correspondent in London.

By: Iftikhar Gilani

Secrets Tumble Out of Afghan War Closet

Even a month before the 9/11 attacks, the US administration under President George Bush had finalized a strategy to overthrow the Taliban regime by using direct action.

Referring to a meeting of top national security officials in August 2001, Steve Coll, an American journalist and author of Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001, wrote that the US had effectively decided to provide covert military aid to anti-Taliban groups, more particularly to the group in Northern Alliance affiliated with Ahmed Shah Massoud. "The meeting decided to present an ultimatum to Taliban to hand over bin Laden and other al-Qaeda operatives. If the Taliban refused, the US would provide covert military aid to anti-Taliban groups. If both those options failed, the officials agreed to overthrow the Taliban regime through more direct action," Coll wrote.

This was in marked contrast to Bill Clinton's administration's policy, which had tended to believe that the Taliban will be able to bring peace

and stability to Afghanistan.

In her book Massoud: An Intimate Portrait of the Legendary Afghan Leader, author, and translator Marcela Grad mentioned that in 1997, Assistant Secretary of State Robin Raphel had advised Massoud to surrender to the Taliban to bring peace to the country.

But Massoud had responded that "as long as he controlled an area the size of his hat, he would continue to defend it from the Taliban".

Former diplomats believe that Masooud's confidence stemmed from the fact that till then the major regional power India had agreed to support him. India had established bases at Farkhor and Ayni in Tajikistan housing a military hospital and other assets.

Indian diplomat recalls support to Masooud
Indian Ambassador Bharath Raj Muthu Kumar, who served in Dushanbe from 1996-2000, coordinated military and medical assistance to Massoud and his forces. Quoting Kumar, a senior Indian journalist V. Sudarshan writes in prominent Indian daily The Hindu,

that the contact with Masooud was established just a week after the Taliban took over Kabul in September 1996.

Amrullah Saleh, currently first vice president of Afghanistan who was then posted in Tajikistan's capital Dushanbe on behalf of the deposed Kabul administration, rang up the Indian ambassador and sought a meeting for "commander". He had used the word commander for Massoud, who had arrived in Dushanbe early morning after dodging the Taliban.

Kumar after taking permission from his higherups in New Delhi walked to Massoud's home in Dushanbe, where he was hosted with tea and dry fruit. Political leadership in New Delhi had advised the envoy, to "listen carefully, report back faithfully, and play it by ear."

Sipping a cup of tea, Massoud asked for India's help to unseat the Taliban and defeat al-Qaeda.

Kumar said short of sending heavy equipment, India provided extensive assistance to the anti-Taliban alliance, which included uniforms, ordnance, mortars, small armaments,

refurbished Kalashnikovs seized in Kashmir, combat and winter clothes, packaged food and medicines via Tajikistan. The funds, however, were routed through Massoud's brother Wali Massoud, who was stationed in London. India also helped to maintain 10 helicopters owned by Northern Alliance with spares and service and also gifted two Mi-8 helicopters. It also spent \$7.5 million to set up a medical facility at Farkhor, 130 kilometers (81 miles) southeast of the capital Dushanbe, where Massoud breathed his last when he was brought after an assassination attempt on him on Sept. 9, 2001, at Khoja Bahauddin, in the Takhar Province of Afghanistan.

Five months before he died, Massoud was in New Delhi on a four-day visit. India's former Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh in his book, titled A Call to Honour, wrote: "This had to be a closely guarded visit, as any number of terrorist groups from Afghanistan and Pakistan were vying to take his life."

He noted that "India's co-operation with the Northern Alliance is still largely an untold account. A more complete narration of it has to wait." More US secrets coming out

As Afghanistan is reaching an end game, more secrets are tumbling out of the closely guarded closets. In hundreds of confidential interviews that constitute a secret history of the war, US and allied officials have admitted that their fatally flawed warfighting strategies had veered off in directions that had little to do with al-Qaeda or 9/11.

After interviewing more than 600 diplomats and military commanders, the Washington-based Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) in its seven declassified reports struggled to answer whom they considered enemy and allies in Afghanistan.

The study - entitled Lessons Learned - highlights the US government's botched attempts to curtail runaway corruption and failure to build a competent Afghan army and police force, and also to put a dent in Afghanistan's thriving opium trade. Bob Crowley, an army colonel who served as a senior counterinsurgency advisor to US military commanders in 2013-2014, told SIGAR that surveys were conducted to reinforce that everything was going right.

In an interview to The... **P3**

An Oxygen Production Machine Activated in Sheikh Zahed University of Khost

The provincial head of Public Health said an oxygen production device has been activated in Sheikh Zahed University of Khost Province.

Habibullah Ansari said the device has the capacity to produce 20 cylinders of oxygen a day.

"This is a great initiative as we are facing a shortage of oxygen in the province. We need an estimated 120 cylinders of oxygen every day. Following the third wave of the coronavirus epidemic in Afghanistan, most hospitals are facing oxygen shortages.

Last week, the Afghan Ministry of Public Health said it needed 10,000 oxygen cylinders a day. The



private sector can only produce half of what is needed. The official and registered number

of positive cases of coronavirus in Afghanistan has exceeded 105,000. The official death toll is estimated

at more than 4,000. But the main morbidity and mortality rate is thought to be much higher.

Taliban...

several districts. "The mercenary enemy has repeatedly claimed that it has recaptured Doshi in Baghlan, Bangi, and Khaja Ghar districts of Takhar and Balkh in Balkh province.

We received updates from all areas, the enemy is propagandizing, it has not occupied any place," he said. Mujahid stated in another tweet, "The enemy has failed to take practical action, while only propagating imaginary and Facebook recapturing of the districts."

Last week, Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani appointed new defense and interior ministers, while the Taliban claimed to have taken control of seven more districts. However, the security forces on the other hand announced killing 260 insurgents amid ensuing violence.

"The Taliban must choose: do you want to be in the future based on a lasting and just peace based on a political solution with dignity or do you want enmity, to which this nation will give a strong response? No one should doubt this," Ghani said on the occasion.

UN human...

is expected to be completed by September, is creating fear for the future – particularly among women, minority communities, human rights defenders and journalists – with deep concern about the risks of losing gains hard-won over the last twenty years," she said.

"I urge all parties to resume the stalled peace talks and to urgently implement a ceasefire to protect civilians. The independent role of the courageous Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission must be protected.

"Given the rapid deterioration of this situation, I encourage the Council to increase its monitoring and to consider mechanisms for an effective prevention response," she said.

Facts...

where the head of household is White, according to a report released by the Social Metrics Commission in June. People in Black and ethnic minority families are also between two to three times more likely to live in persistent poverty than people in White families, the report added.

Moreover, the number of hate crimes against Chinese in Britain has soared. Sky News revealed at least 267 hate crimes were recorded against Chinese people in the first three months in 2020 amid the COVID-19 crisis, almost three times the number in the same period in 2018 and 2019.

Increasing Islamophobia is also seen in the country. According to a report released by the British Islamic Human Rights Commission in March, prejudice and discrimination are occurring in Britain and are gradually being institutionalized on a regular basis.

Also, COVID-19 has led to an education deficit. Based on teacher estimates, on average, the gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers had increased by 46 percent, according to the National Foundation for Educational Research in September 2020. Over half of teachers in the most deprived

schools reported pupils were four months or more behind, compared to 15 percent of teachers in the least deprived schools, the report added.

Britain has been stricken by more severe poverty. In the 2018/2019 year, a total of 14.4 million people were living below the poverty line, 100,000 people more than in the previous year.

Britain's human rights issues also include a record number of new crime rates, the deep-seated problem of modern slavery and its massive war crimes, including civilian casualties it caused in Afghanistan.

Imran Khan...

Back in Kabul, there are doubts among analysts and lawmakers in Pakistan's approach towards Afghanistan especially when it comes to bringing the Taliban

to the table of negotiations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Sunday told TOLONews that Pakistan should use its leverage on Taliban as an essential tool to help the Afghan peace process.

The ministry said there is a need for Pakistan's sincere cooperation and the implementation of its commitments to Afghanistan to achieve peace in the country.

Secrets...

Washington Post, John Sopko, the head of SIGAR, the agency which conducted the interviews, acknowledged that "the American people have constantly been lied to."

According to an estimate calculated by Neta Crawford, a political science professor and co-director of the Costs of War Project at Brown University, various arms of the US administration have spent \$934 billion-\$978 billion in Afghanistan since 2001.

In public, US officials insisted they had no tolerance for graft. But in the Lessons Learned interviews, they admitted the US looked the other way while Afghan power brokers plundered with impunity.

"I like to use a cancer analogy. Petty corruption is like skin cancer; there are ways to deal with it and you'll probably be just fine. Corruption within the ministries, higher level, is like colon cancer; it's worse, but if you catch it in time, you're probably ok. Kleptocracy, however, is like brain cancer; it's fatal," Christopher Kolenda, an army colonel who had been

deployed to Afghanistan several times, told SIGAR researchers. US officials told interviewers that by allowing corruption to fester, the US and allies helped destroy the popular legitimacy of the wobbly Afghan government. With judges and police chiefs and bureaucrats extorting bribes, many Afghans soured on democracy and turned to the Taliban to enforce the order.

Mission to eradicate opium failed. One unidentified US soldier said Special Forces teams "hated" the Afghan police whom they trained and worked with, calling them "awful". "Thinking we could build the military that fast and that well was insane," an unnamed senior USAID official told government interviewers. The report further mentions that the US has spent about \$9 billion to fight the problem of opium cultivation over the past 18 years. But Afghan farmers are cultivating more opium poppies than ever. Former officials said almost everything they did to constrain opium farming backfired.

At first, Afghan poppy farmers were paid by the British to destroy their crops – which only encouraged them to grow more the next season. Later, when the US government eradicated poppy fields without compensation, it infuriated farmers and encouraged them to side with the Taliban. Back in June 2006, Barry McCaffrey, a retired army general, who was on a fact-finding mission to Afghanistan had reported the Taliban had made an impressive comeback and predicted unpleasant surprises in the coming 24 months.

"The Afghan national leadership is collectively terrified that we will tip-toe out of Afghanistan in the coming few years – leaving NATO holding the bag – and the whole thing will collapse again into mayhem," McCaffrey wrote. A 40-page classified report drafted by Marin Strmecki, a civilian advisor to then-Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld, said "enormous popular discontent is building" against the Afghan government because of its corruption and incompetence. It also said that the Taliban was growing stronger.

Exchange Rates

79.30	\$	79.40
94.10	€	94.20
108	£	108.10
495	Rp	505
21.40	درهم	21.50
1070	₹	1080

Contact Numbers

Kabul Police -119

Kabul Ambulance - 112

Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital

0202301360

Ata Turk Hospital

0202500312

Corona call center - 166



Aksos
Aksos Book Store

Add a Book
to
Your Life



Dehbori Crossroads in front of Park Kabul

0798 98 9696, 020 250 46 52

aksosbookstore@gmail.com

www.aksosbookstore.af

Aksos Book Store

Aksos Book Store



WAYGAL Printing Co.

OFFSET PRINTING

- Logo Design
- Business Card
- Books
- Letterheads
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- File Folders
- Brochure
- Flyers
- Calendars
- Posters
- other...

+93 (0) 704 734 984
+93 (0) 782 98 9696

+93 (0) 202512626

Dehbori Crossroads in Front of Park Kabul

waygalprinting.co@gmail.com

Heart of Asia

Chief Editor: M. Hamid Hamdard

Reporters: Safiullah Nasary, Shafiq Amirzay,

Jawad Temori & Hameedullah Hamidi

Design By: Haseeb Ur Rahman Sahel

Phone: +93-202502100 - +93-777989696

Website: www.heartofasia.af

Email: heartofasiadaily@gmail.com

Address: Behind Rahman Baba High School

- Opposite to 3rd District,

Kabul - Afghanistan

Print: Waygal Printing .Co - +93 - 202512626

3 People Killed in Shooting in U.S. Colorado

Three people were killed Monday in a shooting in the City of Arvada, U.S. state of Colorado, authorities said.

The Arvada Police Department tweeted at noon that there was a shooting in Olde Town Arvada. The department described it as an "active situation" and "very large-scale scene." A police officer was killed in the square near the Arvada Library, and his identity will be released after the family is notified, KUSA-TV, an NBC-affiliated television station, reported, citing the Arvada Police Department.

Police said the suspect was killed by police and will be identified by the coroner's office. Another person, police believe, was shot by the gunman, and died after he was transported to the hospital, the news outlet reported.

Arvada, with an estimated population of 120,000, is located around 10 miles (16 km) from downtown Denver.

"We are closely monitoring the troubling

situation in Arvada. My thoughts are with the family and friends of the officer who was tragically killed in the line of duty while swiftly and bravely responding to protect civilians in the area," said Colorado Governor Jared Polis in a statement.

"It's a horribly sad day for the city of Arvada," Arvada Mayor Marc Williams was quoted as saying by KCNC-TV, a CBS owned-and-operated television station, noting that the community has been very safe for many years and "only lost two officers on duty in the history of the city." The City Hall was closed for the remainder of the day to ensure resources are available to assist the Police Department and other public safety partners in responding to the event. The shooting came after two high-profile mass shootings in Colorado this year. Seven people, including a gunman, were killed after a mass shooting at a birthday party in Colorado Springs in the state on May 9. Ten

people, including one police officer, were killed in a mass shooting at a supermarket in Boulder on March 22. There have been 297 mass shootings and more than 20,800 people

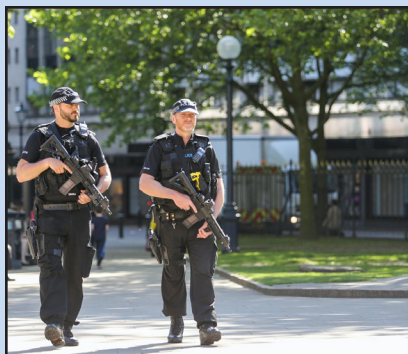
died from gun violence so far in the United States this year, according to data from Gun Violence Archive, an online site that collects gun violence statistics in the country.



A look at the world

Facts on Britain Breaching Human Rights

Touting itself as an "international standard-bearer" for the protection of human rights and a "world human rights leader," Britain actually has a terrible record of human rights violations, especially since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Britain has indeed infringed upon human rights, among which is a blatant disregard for the right to life and health. As of 0000 GMT Tuesday, Britain has reported 4,656,535 confirmed COVID-19 cases, ranking seventh worldwide and the second in Europe, according to data from



Johns Hopkins University. Vulnerable groups have been marginalized or even abandoned amid the pandemic. British media reported that during the peak of the epidemic in the country, many care centers and clinics issued DNACPR to elderly patients, requesting the latter to promise to give up first aid if they contract the coronavirus.

Besides, ethnic minorities have suffered from higher infection rates and mortality rates in the pandemic. An analysis of survival among confirmed COVID-19 cases showed that people of Bangladeshi ethnicity had around twice the risk of death when compared to people of White British ethnicity, and people of Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, other Asian, Caribbean and other Black ethnicity had between 10 and 50 percent higher risk of death when compared to White British people, according to a report released by Public Health England in June.

The economic living conditions of these groups have further deteriorated due to the pandemic. Nearly half of all people living in families where the household head is Black, African, or Caribbean are living in poverty, compared to just 19 percent of those living in families... P3

Nearly 1,600 Illegal Migrants Rescued Off Libyan Coast in Past Week



Nearly 1,600 illegal migrants were rescued off the Libyan coast and returned to Libya, the International Organization for Migration said Monday.

"In the period of 13-19 June, 1,594 migrants were rescued/intercepted at sea and returned to Libya," the organization said.

In 2021, 14,388 illegal migrants, including women and children, have been rescued, while 194 died and 492 went missing off the Libyan coast on the Central Mediterranean route, according to the organization. Libya has been suffering insecurity and chaos since the fall of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, making the North African country a preferred point of departure for illegal migrants who want to cross the Mediterranean Sea to European shores.

Rescued migrants end up inside overcrowded reception centers across Libya, despite repeated international calls to close those centers

Travel Restrictions Will Cost UK \$890 Million A Day, Group Warns

The travel restrictions imposed by the UK government will cost the country almost \$900 million each day if they remain in place during the summer vacation season, a lobby group has warned.

The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTTC) has written to UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson urging him to relax the stringent requirements placed on travelers and airports. Almost 220,000 jobs are at stake, they say.

The UK currently advises against all but essential travel to everywhere with the



exception of a handful of mostly small nations on a so-called green list.

Most of the world is included on an amber list, which means anyone returning from those destinations must quarantine for 10 days and take two private coronavirus tests costing around \$100 each.

Countries particularly badly affected by COVID-19 are placed on a red list, meaning UK residents returning home must pay to stay in isolation in a designated hotel for 10 days.

These rules come on top of destination countries' requirements and no exceptions are in place for vaccinated travelers.

The WTTTC is demanding a relaxation of the testing regime to reduce costs, exemptions from quarantine for those who are fully vaccinated and a plan to remove the bulk of the rules altogether.

"Stalling the resumption of international travel until August could cost the country dearly. We simply can't afford any further delay - we are running out of time and money, with many businesses facing going bust if international travel doesn't resume in July," said Virginia Messina, WTTTC senior vice president.



Shigal

English Academy

AMERICAN
ENGLISH FILE



Western Street of
Kabul University Close to
Dehbori Park.



+93 (0) 789 98 9696



shigal.edu@gmail.com



Shigal English Academy