

## Sports

# Afghanistan's Rashid claims five wickets, pile misery on Bangladesh

## Debutant Zadran hit highest 87 off 208 balls for Afghanistan

### SCOREBOARD

**CHITTAGONG:** Scoreboard after the third day in the one-off Test between Bangladesh and Afghanistan at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday:

Afghanistan first innings 342	
(Rahmat Shah 102, Asghar Afghan 92, Rashid Khan 51; Taijul Islam 4-116)	
Bangladesh first innings (overnight 194-8)	
Shadman Islam c Zazai b Ahmadzai	0
Soumya Sarkar lbw b Nabi	17
Liton Das b Rashid	33
Mominul Haque c Asghar b Nabi	52
Shakib Al Hasan lbw b Rashid	11
Mushfiqur Rahim c Zadran b Rashid	0
Mahmudullah b Rashid	7
Mosaddek Hossain not out	48
Mehidy Hasan b Qais	11
Taijul Islam b Nabi	14
Nayeem Hasan lbw b Rashid	7
Extras (b4, lbl)	5
Total (all out: 70.5 overs)	205
Fall of wickets: 1-0 (Shadman), 2-38 (Soumya), 3-54 (Liton), 4-88 (Shakib), 5-88 (Mushfiqur), 6-104 (Mahmudullah), 7-130 (Mominul), 8-146 (Mehidy), 9-194 (Taijul), 10-205 (Nayeem)	
Bowling: Ahmadzai 10-2-21-1, Nabi 24-6-56-3, Zahir 9-1-46-0, Rashid 19.5-3-55-5, Qais 8-2-22-1.	

Afghanistan second innings	
Ihsanullah Janat lbw b Shakib	4
Ibrahim Zadran c Mominul b Nayeem	87
Rahmat Shah c & b Shakib	0
Hashmatullah Shahidi c Soumya b Nayeem	12
Asghar Afghan c Shakib b Taijul	50
Afsar Zazai not out	34
Mohammad Nabi c Mominul b Mehidy	8
Rashid Khan b Taijul	24
Qais Ahmad lbw b Shakib	14
Yamin Ahmadzai not out	0
Extras (b4)	4
Total (eight wickets: 83.4 overs)	237
To bat: Zahir Khan	
Fall of wickets: 1-4 (Ihsanullah), 2-4 (Rahmat), 3-28 (Hashmatullah), 4-136 (Asghar), 5-171 (Ibrahim), 6-180 (Nabi), 7-210 (Rashid), 8-235 (Qais)	
Bowling: Shakib 16-3-53-3, Mehidy 12-3-35-1, Taijul 24.4-5-68-2, Nayeem 17-2-61-2, Mominul 10-6-13-0, Mosaddek 4-1-3-0.	

**CHITTAGONG:** Ibrahim Zadran and Asghar Afghan hit half-centuries while Rashid Khan played a quick cameo after claiming five wickets in an innings, as Afghanistan took command in the one-off Test against Bangladesh in Chittagong yesterday.

The visitors — playing only their third Test in history — reached 237-8 at stumps on the third day, setting a huge target for Bangladesh by taking an overall lead of 374 runs. Debutant Zadran hit highest 87 off 208 balls for Afghanistan in the second innings while former skipper Afghan made 50 off 108 balls, his second fifty, adding to Bangladesh's frustration.

Rashid added 24 off 22 balls before wicketkeeper-batsman Afsar Zazai's unbeaten 34 runs extended Afghanistan's lead. "Our aim is to get a 400-plus lead. We are just 30-40 runs short, so it will not be easy for Bangladesh to achieve it," Zadran said. "We feel we are 70 percent hopeful of winning the game."

Bangladesh's Mehidy Hasan was hoping against hope. "Anything can happen in cricket... a team can lose from a winning position and also can win from a losing position," Mehidy said. "Our batsmen need to take the challenge. Our batsmen have to contribute in order to win the match," he said.

Skipper Shakib Al Hasan took three wickets for Bangladesh, including two in the first over of the innings, but Zadran and Afghan shared 108 runs for the fourth wicket to snatch the momentum back for Afghanistan.

Shakib trapped Ihsanullah Janat for four in the third ball of the innings and then dismissed first innings centurion Rahmat Shah for a golden duck in the next ball. Afghan, who also made 92 runs in the first innings, joined Zadran after off-spinner Nayeem Hasan removed Hashmatullah Shahidi for 12.

Taijul Islam dismissed Afghan, who hit four fours and two sixes in his second fifty of the game, before Nayeem ended Zadran's brilliant innings



**CHITTAGONG:** Afghanistan's cricketer Rashid Khan (2L) delivers a ball during the second day of the one-off cricket Test match between Bangladesh and Afghanistan at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong. —AFP

featuring six fours and four sixes. The spinner also dismissed Mohammad Nabi in the next ball after the all-rounder hit him for a six to revive some hope for Bangladesh.

Rashid then took the attack on Nayeem, hitting him for five boundaries in one over before Taijul bowled him finally. The Afghan skipper earlier completed his five-wicket to finish with 5-55 as Afghanistan bowled out Bangladesh for 205 runs in the first innings after the hosts resumed the third

day's play with 194-8.

Rashid, who scored 51 runs with the bat making his debut as youngest-ever Test captain, took the final wicket of Nayeem to wrap up Bangladesh's innings after Nabi gave a breakthrough in the first over of the day.

Nabi bowled Taijul without allowing him to add any run to his overnight 14 before finishing with 3-56 runs. Mosaddek Hossain was unbeaten on 48. —AFP

## Tributes roll in for Springbok 'icon' Chester Williams

**JOHANNESBURG:** As news of the death of South African World Cup winner Chester Williams at the age of 49 began to circulate, so the tributes rolled in for a pioneering player whose significance was felt both on and off the field. "Chester's name will go down with the greats of South African rugby as a player and for what he stood for in our country's history," said South Africa coach Rassie Erasmus from the team's hotel in Japan.

Williams died of a suspected heart attack on Friday in Cape Town, where he lived and worked as a rugby coach at the University of the Western Cape. Each tribute made mention of the winger's talent on the rugby field, made famous by the part he played in the Springboks' momentous victory in the 1995 Rugby World Cup, and all leant heavily on Williams' role off the field in breaking down the apartheid barrier within the sport.

"Chessie was an icon," Breyton Paulse, another black wing who followed Williams into the Bok side, told news channel eNCA. "He paved the way for us, especially the guys coming from underprivileged areas," said Paulse who went on to win 64 caps.

"He was a father figure. He is the reason so many players of colour today can walk into the Springbok team, it is because of players like Chester Williams and the late, great Tinus Linde."

Linde, who played with Williams at Western Province and was capped nine times by the Boks, died in 2014 from motor neurone disease. Williams' importance to the black people in South Africa as Nelson Mandela attempted to build his 'Rainbow Nation' cannot be underestimated.

"Chester Williams' death at this tender age leaves all South Africans bereft of a rugby hero and national role model," said current president Cyril Ramaphosa in a statement. "(He) inspired hundreds of thousands of South African children who had previously been excluded from rugby, to take up the game."

### WORLD CUP GLORY

When the World Cup came to South Africa in 1995, Williams was the poster boy for the tournament as the government of Mandela, elected a year earlier, tried to use the event to foster greater ties between the different races in the country.

Williams was the only black player in the squad, playing a sport that had long been associated with white rule. The Springbok itself was seen as a symbol of apartheid by many black South Africans who had either ignored the game or made a point of supporting the opponents of the Boks.

As the Clint Eastwood film *Invictus* accurately portrayed, Williams was the go-to star when the Boks visited the black townships to run training clinics with the kids. Williams did not seek a public relations role but he recognised the importance of the moment and responded with patience and charm.

"Who will forget '95 when Chessie had such a massive impact on people, millions of South Africans?" said Paulse. "He was a symbol of hope."

But it nearly did not happen as the Western Province wing was injured just before the event and was only brought back into the squad by coach Kitch Christie after Pieter Hendricks collected a suspension for his part in a fight in the 'Battle of Boet Erasmus' pool match against Canada. —AFP

## Starc at the double as Australia press for Ashes clinching win

**MANCHESTER:** Australia's Mitchell Starc took two wickets, including the prize scalp of Ben Stokes, as England desperately tried to avoid following-on in the fourth Test at Old Trafford. England were 278-8 at lunch on Saturday's fourth day, 219 behind Australia's first-innings 497-8 declared and needing 20 more runs to make the tourists bat again.

Left-arm fast bowler Starc, in his first match of this Ashes, had so far taken two wickets for 66 runs in 18 overs. Jos Buttler was 26 not out and Stuart Broad two not out.

Victory for Australia in Manchester would see them retain the Ashes at 2-1 up with one to play in a five-Test series. England resumed on 200-5, after Josh Hazlewood — a member of an impressive fast-bowling trio also featuring Starc and Pat Cummins — had rocked them with a burst of 3-15 late on Friday.

## Pakistan's PM remembers Qadir as 'genius'

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan yesterday remembered former spinner Abdul Qadir as a "genius" a day after the legendary cricketer died of a heart attack. Cricket hero-turned-politician Khan and Qadir had a long and eventful association as team-mates.

Qadir, who would have turned 64 on September 15, was a favourite of the former captain. "Abdul Qadir was a genius, one of

the greatest leg spinners of all time," Khan tweeted, as fans all over Pakistan mourned the player's death.

"And he was also the life of the dressing room entertaining the team with his wit & humour". Qadir made his Test debut against England in Lahore in 1977 and went on to play 67 Tests, taking 236 wickets with a best of 9-56 against the same side in 1987.

Those figures are still the best by a Pakistan bowler in a Test innings. He also took 132 wickets in 104 one-day internationals, with Imran using him as an attacking weapon in the 1983 World Cup held in England.

"Qadir's bowling statistics do not do



**MANCHESTER:** England's Stuart Broad (R) celebrates taking the wicket of Australia's David Warner (unseen) for no runs during the fourth day of the fourth Ashes cricket Test match between England and Australia at Old Trafford in Manchester, north-west England yesterday. —AFP

away when caught behind by Australia captain and wicketkeeper Tim Paine with a loose waft off Cummins, who had been unlucky to go wicketless in a 17-over spell Friday. Cummins, however,

got England closer to avoiding the follow-on with a bouncer that cleared both Broad and the leaping Paine for five wides, before Buttler square-drove him for four. —AFP

## All Blacks declare themselves ready for WCup defence

**WELLINGTON:** The All Blacks declared themselves ready for their record World Cup triple crown bid yesterday after a thumping 92-7 victory over Tonga in Hamilton. While Tonga are not a top 10 side and were never expected to pose a real threat, the size of the 14 try win ticked a lot of boxes for coach Steve Hansen.

"We're exactly where we want to be," Hansen said, adding that completing the match injury free was an added bonus two weeks before their opening World Cup match in Japan against South Africa.

He was even able to deliberately finish with only 14 players on the field to practice with a man down, should the occasion arise in Japan. The All Blacks, world champions in 2011 and 2015, are gunning for a third consec-

utive title. "We get on a plane on Monday to go and have a crack at something that's never been done before, and we're the only ones that can do it, so winning three in a row would be something really special," said Hansen.

Even when they lost recently to Australia and drew with South Africa during the Rugby Championship, Hansen rejected suggestions his squad was too old and maintained their World Cup plans were on track.

With a handsome win in the return game against Australia they showcased their fast-paced game, which was again on display against Tonga.

Most of the All Blacks' tries were long-range affairs and scored out wide as they stretched the visitors' defence.

### HIGH-OCTANE PERFORMANCE

It was an effort that employed all 15 players delivering a high-octane performance, with even tight-head prop Nepo Laulala producing one-handed off-loads in a quality impression of Sonny Bill Williams.

The tight forwards believed that "they can do a bit

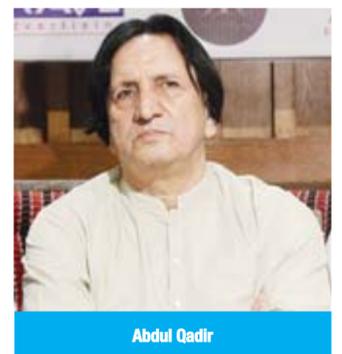
more than just push and shove in scrums and rucks," Hansen said.

"They've worked hard getting themselves really, really fit. They've dropped weight, some of them, muscle rather than fat... but we've worked out we don't need them bulky, we need them to be agile."

With the outside backs doing the finishing work, George Bridge scored four tries while Ben Smith and Ryan Crotty both touched down twice, with another try to right wing Sevu Reece and scrumhalf TJ Perenara.

Forwards Codie Taylor, Kieran Read, Matt Todd and Ardie Savea also scored while Beauden Barrett kicked seven conversions and Josh Ioane four. Tonga's sole try to captain and Bristol midfielder Siale Piutau came in the closing minutes when the Pacific islanders enjoyed a one-man advantage.

Until then, Hansen had been impressed with the All Blacks defence. "Although we didn't get tested that much, what we did see was good line speed, guys coming forward in good positions and getting up off the deck and getting reset in the line pretty quickly," he said. —AFP



Abdul Qadir