

The Persian Post

12TH JULY 1764

ANNIE BABA AND THE THIEVES

Treasure Trove Revealed

An amazing haul of treasure has been discovered in a cave on the outskirts of town. On Monday morning, Palace Guards acting on the information provided, opened the cave. Inside, they found a trove of wealth. Witnesses reported seeing gold coins, a variety of gems, precious pearls and more.

Annie Baba (22), the local woodcutter who first alerted the palace of the find, has been allowed to keep a small selection as a reward. According to our sources, the collection is the work of a local group of thieves who have been operating in the area for a long time. Local law enforcers remain hopeful that the bandits will be apprehended soon.

The Persian Post reached out to Miss Baba for further information. "I was out cutting wood one morning when I overheard a group of men talking in hushed tones in a clearing. Concerned for my well-being, I crept as close as I could to listen. They were discussing their treasure and where it was kept!" she told our reporter yesterday. Annie went on to tell our reporter that the cave required a magical phrase to get it to open. When asked, she refused to tell us what this was. Unfortunately, the Palace Guards have been equally quiet on this matter.

Large hauls of treasure are certainly something new for this small village. Magic carpets have been flying in all week as reporters from around the country travel to get a piece of the action. Public discussion has now turned to what will happen to the find.

At a press conference this morning, the chief Palace Guard pointed out that it was still very early in their investigation. They haven't managed



Just some of the treasure recovered at the scene.

to identify any of the bigger pieces of jewellery. Once they have, they will attempt to return them to their owner. He asked that anybody who has had a valuable item stolen in the last five years get in contact. Members of the public were also encouraged to contact the palace if they have any information about the group of thieves and their whereabouts. They are likely hiding low in the woods, but they should be considered armed and dangerous at all times.

Citizens have also been reminded that the cave is an active crime scene and that further thefts will not be tolerated. This came after Annie Baba's own sister, Cassie (29), tried to enter the cave after her sister told her how. Unfortunately, in her greed, Cassie forgot the magic words to re-open the cave and was caught and brutally murdered by the thieves. Her gruesome death wasn't discovered until the guards opened the cave again on Monday.

If you have any further information regarding this ongoing story, please contact The Persian Post or the Palace Guards directly.

By M. Withers - **Local News Correspondent**

VOCABULARY

1. What is a “haul” of treasure?
2. What does the term “hushed tones” tell us about how the men were talking?
3. Which word tells you that the police want victims of theft to get in touch?
4. Which word tells you that any more thefts from the cave will be considered a crime?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

R

What did witnesses report seeing?

R

How old is Annie Baba?

I

What does the chief Palace Guard think people might try to do? How do you know?

E

Explain what Miss Baba was doing when she heard about the treasure.

I

Why are reporters travelling to the village?

Answers:

1. A large amount
2. Whispering/quietly
3. Encouraged
4. Tolerated
5. Burden

R: Coins, gems, pearls and more

R: 22 years old

I: Steal more treasure. He reminds them that any other theft will be treated as a crime.

E: Cutting wood in the forest

I: It is exciting and rare news