

The Parliament of Denmark

Christiansborg Palace
1240, Copenhagen.

The Afghan Evacuees
in Denmark

September 24, 2021

First and foremost, we express our deepest gratitude to the Danish authorities for successfully evacuating us from Kabul following the take-over of our country by the draconian forces of the Taliban. We are indeed in safe and caring hands of the Danish authorities and all our basic needs are being attended to as required. We remain grateful for this extraordinary humanitarian gesture.

Representatives from the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) visited to brief us on the draft law for the Afghan evacuees where we were informed that the draft law will be introduced to the Parliament of Denmark for discussion in the first week of October. Hereby, we write this letter to highlight the following issues and seek your support in this regard:

We recognize Denmark is known for human rights and welfare standards. While we were urged to leave behind all that we have invested in hugely both in terms of blood and tressure, we, however, came to Denmark with renewed hope to start a new and responsible life with our children. This is critical for us because with the Taliban in power, living in Afghanistan and practicing the values that we have fought for and flourished is no long an option. We are already deemed outliers in our society and serious security threats exist that could bear upon us and our family members. Therefore, we raise that measures which can ensure our future in the long term in Denmark be decided for us.

Afghan youth have been the key stakeholders during last 20 years particularly those who were affiliated with and engaged in the efforts made by the international community in Afghanistan; they paid a huge price as they have been the key targets of violence committed not only by the Taliban but also other militant groups operating in and from Afghanistan. Like in the past serious security threats to people like us are still a critical and relevant issue. We have received local accounts from our contacts on the ground which prove well that the Taliban's so-called amnesty is merely for the appeasement of the international community; however, on the ground they have continued with vengeance and tracked numerous individuals. On one hand, the Taliban sees us as enemies who cannot be reintegrated into the "ideal Afghan society" from their perspective; on the other, we are also seen as outliers by the mass as they believe we have worked for the "foreign invader" and that we in a way spied for them. Most in the society believe that the evacuation is a preplanned scheme to accommodate us for some time and then send us back to serve them and cultivate others in the Afghan society.

Children will live and educate in Denmark as per the Danish values and standards; upon their return to Afghanistan, they could sufferer not only a psychological shock but they will also face serious challenges in continuing their education. This could affect their future and with high likelihood they go astray.

As you are well aware of the circumstances at Kabul airport during the evacuation, some of us could not bring our dependent parents and other dependent family members who were living together with us and who are currently at the risk of persecution due to our work. Therefore, we seek your support in bringing them to Denmark. This may include unmarried siblings. We understand that we maybe able to apply for the family reunion after we are granted a status but given the critical circumstances in Afghanistan, it is highly significant that you consider this issue.

In view of the above and on the basis of humanitarian grounds, it is vital that these concerns are taken into serious consideration during the discussions on the draft law in the Parliament.

Hereby, we, the Afghan evacuees, desperately seek support from the Parliament of Denmark to pass a bill in favor of permanent residency for us in Denmark. This will address our stated concerns.

Sincerely yours