

Petition to Tony McNulty, Minister for Immigration, requesting he allows Shah Wali Mohmend to remain in the UK

Dear Mr McNulty

Re: Shah Wali Mohmend Home Office Reference W1040532



We ask that you allow Shah Wali Mohmend, an Afghan, to stay in Britain with his wife, Heather, who is a British Citizen.

Shah met Heather in Liverpool and they married in July 2004. At his asylum hearing in May 2005 it was requested that their rights to a family life be taken into account in the decision. His application was refused in July 2005, and he was told that Heather can accompany Shah or settle in Afghanistan if she wishes.

This was an astonishing statement by the Home Office and is a decision that would put them both in danger. The Foreign Office advises British Citizens against travel to Afghanistan due to the high risk of terrorist attacks or criminal violence. There is no facility at the British Embassy for issuing visas, which would pose an insurmountable obstacle to Shah applying to return to the UK. Heather has no knowledge of Afghanistan's language or culture and she would be unable to find employment in her current field.

Shah has integrated well and been an active member of the community. He has learned English. He is not permitted to do paid work but volunteers at Citizen's Advice Bureau on a weekly basis. Heather fully supports him and he receives no government support. Heather is a senior Occupational Therapist in a key role in the NHS that directly impacts on waiting list figures and patient discharges. This decision by the Home Office therefore does not make sense.

Given the fact that the Foreign Office advises British Citizen's against travel to Afghanistan, and given the obstacles to Shah being able to make an application to return to the UK, we, the undersigned urge you to allow Shah to remain here with his wife on compassionate grounds. An appeal is now pending and will take place on 9 August 2005.

Name	Address (& email)	Signature

Please return to, 'Keep Heather and Shah together in Britain'
C/o C. Bullen, The JobBank, 4 Tunnel Road, Kensington, Liverpool. L7 6DQ